

5. Easter: **Matthew 28:6** [The angel said about Jesus] “He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said.”

- Color:** _____
- Theme:** *Jesus is _____!*
- Statement:** *God the Father raised Jesus from the dead to confirm ♦His teachings, ♦His acceptance of Jesus’ saving work, and ♦the certainty of our own resurrection!*

The Time of the Church:

6. Pentecost / Trinity: **2 Corinthians 5:15** [Regarding Jesus] ...He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

- Color:** _____
- Theme:** *For Jesus we _____!*
- Statement:** *Since Jesus lived and died to save us, we now live for Him!*

Challenge

Receive and use a church year bookmark to help you **remember the church year and stay focused on Jesus!**



The Time of Christmas:

1. Advent: We **prepare** for Jesus’ coming.

2. Christmas: We **celebrate** Jesus’ birth.

3. Epiphany: We **discover** who Jesus is.

The Time of Easter:

4. Lent: We **focus** on Jesus’ saving work.

5. Easter: We **celebrate** Jesus’ resurrection.

The Time of the Church:

6. Pentecost/Trinity: We **live** Christ-centered lives.

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Let Us Pray

Dear Father, *we thank You for the gift of the church year!* Use it in our lives *to keep us focused on Jesus!*

Text: Selections from the NAS Bible, 1995

Answers: blue, coming; white, born; green/white, God; purple, sins; white, risen; green, live

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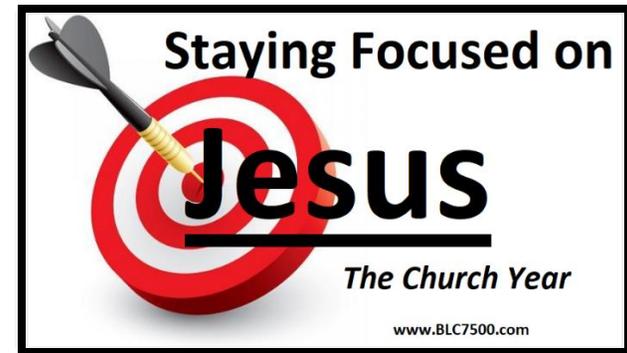
YouTube and Podcast: Benefit from the Bible

Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma

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Introduction

In this brochure we are thinking about years, times, and seasons, *and how they point to Jesus!*

- We understand the calendar year: *January – December.*
- We understand our four weather-related seasons: *winter, spring, summer, and fall.*

This brochure takes a simple look at the church year. As we move through this topic, notice how **following the church year** is a good way to keep us **focused on Jesus!**

The Church Year

It’s a 12-month period, *but it does NOT follow the calendar year.* To determine the beginning, find 12/25 on the calendar, then count backwards four Sundays. For example, in 2022, those Sundays are 12/18, 12/11, 12/4, and 11/27.

The Three Times

The times point to the three MAJOR themes in the church year:

1. The time of Christmas: It includes the first three seasons:
 - a. We **prepare** for Jesus' coming.
 - b. We **celebrate** Jesus' birth.
 - c. We **discover** who Jesus is.
2. The time of Easter: The next two seasons:
 - a. We **focus** on Jesus' saving work.
 - b. We **celebrate** Jesus' resurrection.
3. The time of the Church: The final season:
 - a. We **live** Christ-centered lives.

The Six Seasons

Fill in the blanks:

The Time of Christmas:

1. Advent: **Matthew 1:21** [Gabriel to Joseph] "**She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.**"
 - a. **Color**: _____

- b. **Theme**: *Jesus is _____!*
- c. **Statement**: *We get ready to celebrate His first coming and remain ever ready for His second coming!*

2. Christmas: **Luke 2:7** [Mary regarding Jesus] **...she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.**

- a. **Color**: _____
- b. **Theme**: *Jesus is _____!*
- c. **Statement**: *We rejoice in Jesus who was ✦long-ago promised, ✦Holy Spirit conceived, and ✦Virgin born!*

3. Epiphany: **Matthew 2:11** [The Magi] **After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him.** Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

- a. **Color**: _____
/ _____
- b. **Theme**: *Jesus is _____!*
- c. **Statement**: *Through Jesus' miraculous birth, Magi visit, teaching with authority, amazing miracles, and heavenly transfiguration, we know He is the promised Savior of the world!*

The Time of Easter:

4. Lent: **John 19:30** [Jesus on His cross] **...when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.**
 - a. **Color**: _____
 - b. **Theme**: *Jesus died for our _____!*
 - c. **Statement**: *Now that we know who Jesus is from Epiphany, He completes His mission by being ✦arrested, ✦beaten, and ✦crucified, then ✦bearing our sins and our punishment and ✦laying down His holy innocent life!*