



**The Liturgical Calendar For 2023-2024 For Sunday Worship and Special Celebrations**

**Liturgical Year: B**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Celebration</b>	<b>Liturgical Color</b>
December 3, 2023	First Sunday in Advent <i>Lighting the Prophecy Candle or Hope Candle</i>	Purple or Blue Advent Emphasis Candle: Purple or Blue
December 10, 2023	Second Sunday in Advent <i>Lighting the Bethlehem Candle, Candle of Preparation or Love Candle</i>	Purple or Blue Advent Emphasis Candle: Purple or Blue
December 17, 2023	Third Sunday in Advent <i>Lighting the Shepherd's Candle or Candle of Joy</i>	Purple, Blue or Rose Advent Emphasis Candle: Pink
December 24, 2023	Fourth Sunday in Advent <i>Lighting the Angel's Candle, Candle of Love or Candle of Peace</i>	Purple or Blue Advent Emphasis Candle: Purple or Blue
December 25, 2023	The Nativity of Our LORD Jesus Christ Christmas Eve <i>Lighting the Christ Candle</i>	White or Gold Advent Emphasis Candle: White
December 31, 2023	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	White or Gold
January 7, 2024	The Second Sunday in Christmastide or The Epiphany of the LORD	White or Gold Advent Emphasis Candle: White

January 8, 2024	The Baptism of the LORD <i>Season of Christmas Ends</i>	White or Gold
January 14, 2024	The Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Green
January 21, 2024	The Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Green
January 28, 2024	The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany	Green
February 4, 2024	The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	Green
February 11, 2024	The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany	Green
February 14, 2024	Ash Wednesday	Purple
February 18, 2024	The First Sunday of Lent	Purple
February 25, 2024	The Second Sunday of Lent	Purple
March 3, 2024	The Third Sunday of Lent	Purple
March 10, 2024	The Fourth Sunday of Lent	Purple
March 17, 2024	The Fifth Sunday of Lent	Purple
March 28, 2024	Maundy Thursday	Purple
March 29, 2024	Good Friday	Purple
March 24, 2024	Palm Sunday (Sunday of Passion)	Purple
March 31, 2024	Resurrection Sunday	White

April 7, 2024	The Second Sunday after the Resurrection	White
April 14, 2024	The Third Sunday after the Resurrection	White
April 21, 2024	The Fourth Sunday after the Resurrection	White
April 28, 2024	The Fifth Sunday after the Resurrection	White
May 5, 2024	The Sixth Sunday after the Resurrection	White
May 12, 2024	The Ascension of the Lord	White
May 19, 2024	Pentecost Sunday	Red
May 26, 2024	Holy Trinity	White
June 2, 2024	The Second Sunday after Pentecost	Green
June 9, 2024	The Third Sunday after Pentecost	Green
June 16, 2024	The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
June 23, 2024	The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
June 30, 2024	The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
July 7, 2024	The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	Green
July 14, 2024	The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
July 21, 2024	The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	Green

July 28, 2024	The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
August 4, 2024	The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	Green
August 11, 2024	The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
August 18, 2024	The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
August 25, 2024	The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
September 1, 2024	The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
September 8, 2024	The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
September 15, 2024	The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
September 22, 2024	The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
September 29, 2024	The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
October 6, 2024	The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
October 13, 2024	The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	Green
October 20, 2024	The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost	Green
October 31, 2024	Reformation Sunday	Red
November 1, 2024	All Saint's Day	White or Gold
November 3, 2024	The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Green
November 10, 2024	The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	Green

November 17, 2024	The Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	Green
November 24, 2024	Christ the King	White

### **Notes:**

All Altar work and liturgical preparation should be done in quiet prayer and reflection as the work we do at the Altar of the LORD is Holy, Sacred, Reverential, and most important.

All Funerals, Baptisms, Baby or Child Dedications, and Weddings are White or Gold.

All Ordinations, Consecrations, Celebrations, and Anniversaries are Red.

**During Advent and Lent, there are to be NO flowers in the Sanctuary.** As these are penitential seasons, we refrain from flowering or decorations in the presence of the congregation. The only Sunday in both seasons that flowers are permitted are the Third Sunday in Advent and the Fourth Sunday in Lent, as these are said historically to be breaks from the season or joyous times within the season. The Season of Christmas runs 12 days, from December 25 through January 6. After January 6, the Advent wreath is no longer lit. It is customary for some congregations to change the colors of the Advent Wreath from Purple or Blue candles around the wreath to all white as we celebrate the Nativity of our LORD Jesus Christ.

During Lent, there is a practice of veiling (or shrouding) the cross before the congregation. You may choose to do this with a purple fabric, crimson fabric, or flax-colored fabric.

On Good Friday, the cross should remain at the forefront of the service and be shrouded or veiled in black.

### **Keep a few things in mind:**

The colors on the altar announce the season or celebration the church is currently observing. For example, anytime you see purple, white, or gold on the altar, you know the church is in a high, holy season (i.e., Advent, Christmas, Easter, Holy Week, Pentecost, etc.). Green represents "ordinary time," a season of reflection and growth.

The Liturgical Years are represented as A, B, and C. This is to simply encourage the reading of the Gospels. In year A, the Gospel of Matthew is emphasized, in year B, the Gospel of Mark, and in year C, the Gospel of Luke is emphasized. John's Gospel is usually reserved for high, holy celebrations because it is the gospel that emphasizes the divinity of Jesus.

The way liturgical years are determined is by adding the digits of the year to see if they are divisible by 3. If they are, that would be liturgical year C. For example,  $2+0+2+2=6$ ; 6 can be divided by 3, so 2022 would be liturgical year C, which automatically means 2023 would be liturgical year A, and 2024 would be liturgical year B.

Finally, the liturgical calendar always begins with Advent (the coming of Christ) and ends the following year on the Sunday before Advent begins. That is why the Liturgical calendar you have received starts November 29, the first Sunday in Advent.

The purpose of changing the altar coverings (paraments) is to "create" an atmosphere that stimulates the senses of where the church currently is during various times of the year.

If you have any further questions, feel free to reach out

God bless, and Happy New Year to you!!

Should you have any other questions or need guidance on a particular celebration, please reach out to us! We are more than happy to assist you!

We can be reached at [info@calvaryforward.org](mailto:info@calvaryforward.org).