



# ADVENT

GOOD NEWS *of* GREAT JOY



# THE SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR

Advent: Anticipation

Christmas: Incarnation

Epiphany: Revelation

Lent: Crucifixion

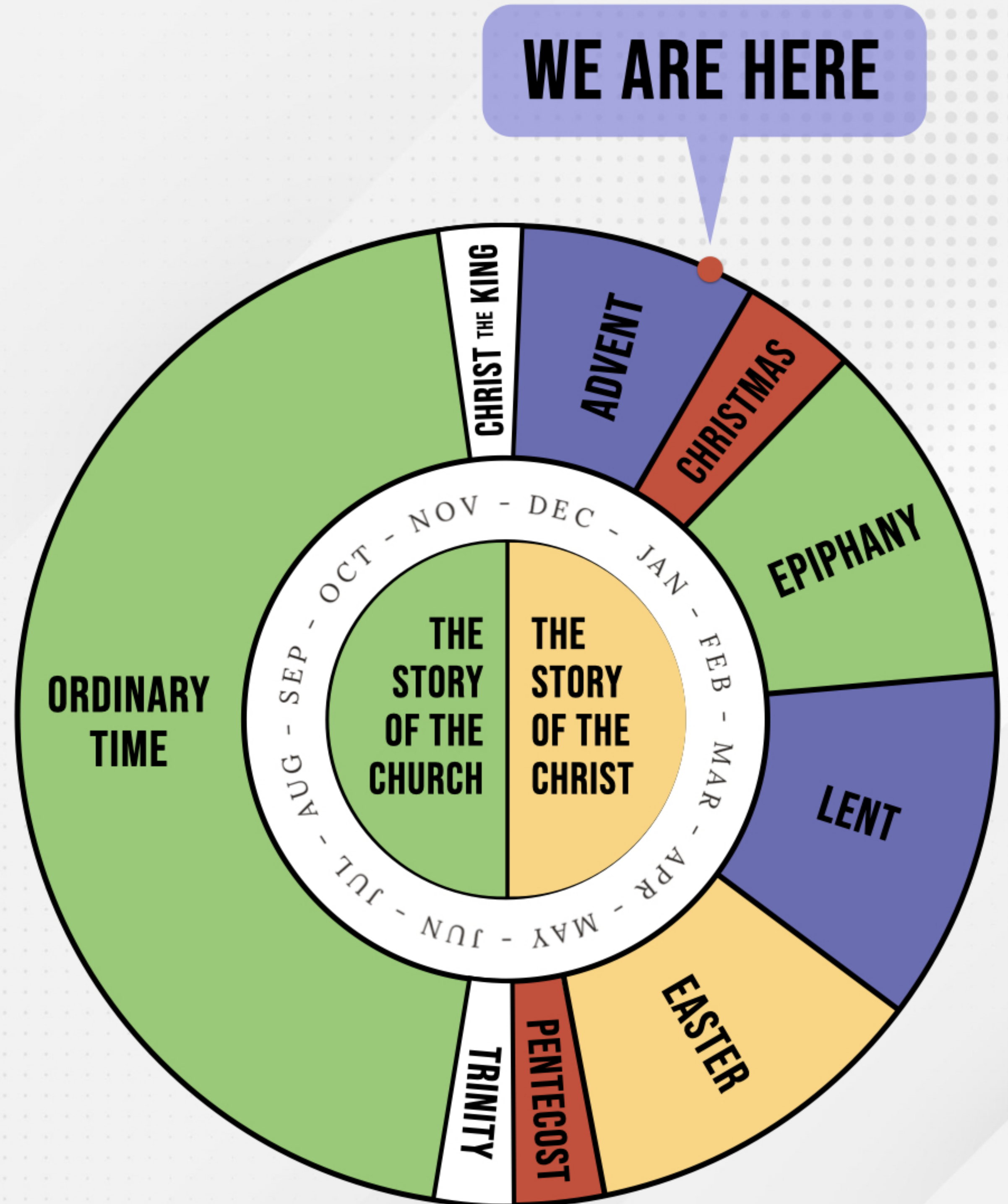
Easter: Resurrection

Pentecost: Ascension

Trinity: Magnification

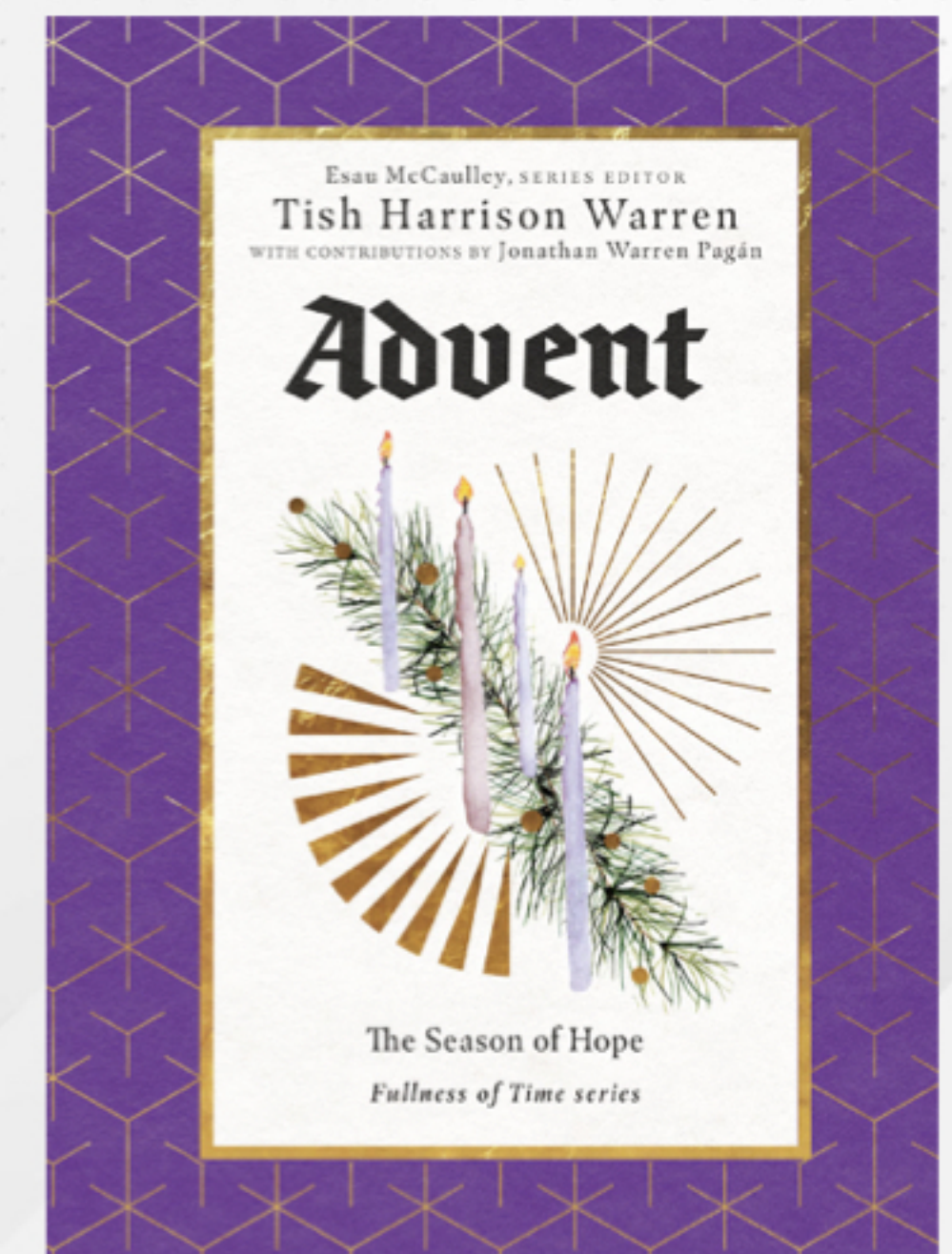
Ordinary Time: Mission

Christ the King: Conclusion



“The holidays in America are marked by mass consumption. Stuff, stuff, and more stuff. But Advent tells us that wealth and possessions are not our rescuer. We cannot find salvation through buying power. Instead we wait for restoration and redemption. American Yuletide celebrations insist on revelry and at times debauchery. Advent calls us to reflection, repentance, and at times self-denial. The holiday season with its crowds and festivities moves at warp speed. I have to rush just to keep up. But Advent asks us to decelerate, be still, and rest.”

~ **Tish Harrison Warren**





**DEMOLITION OF OLD  
SANCTUARY WILL BEGIN  
SOON: PLAN FOR  
INCONVENIENCE &  
UNSIGHTLINESS**



# ADVENT

GOOD NEWS *of* GREAT JOY



# LUKE 1:39-45

---

**At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed:**

# LUKE 1:39-45

---

**“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”**



# ADVENT

GOOD NEWS *of* GREAT JOY





# LUKE 1:57-64

---

When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, but his mother spoke up and said, "No! He is to be called John."

# LUKE 1:57-64

---

**They said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who has that name."**

**Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, "His name is John."**

**Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God.**



# ADVENT

GOOD NEWS *of* GREAT JOY



The Bechdel Test, named after artist Alison Bechdel, is a measure of female representation in stories. The test has three criteria:

- (1) at least two [named] women,
- (2) have a conversation,
- (3) not about a man.

---

**Ruth & Naomi**  
Ruth 1:6-22

**Women at the Tomb**  
Mark 16:1-8

**Mary & Elizabeth**  
Luke 1:39-56



# ADVENT

GOOD NEWS *of* GREAT JOY

