



THE SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR

Advent: Anticipation

Christmas: Incarnation

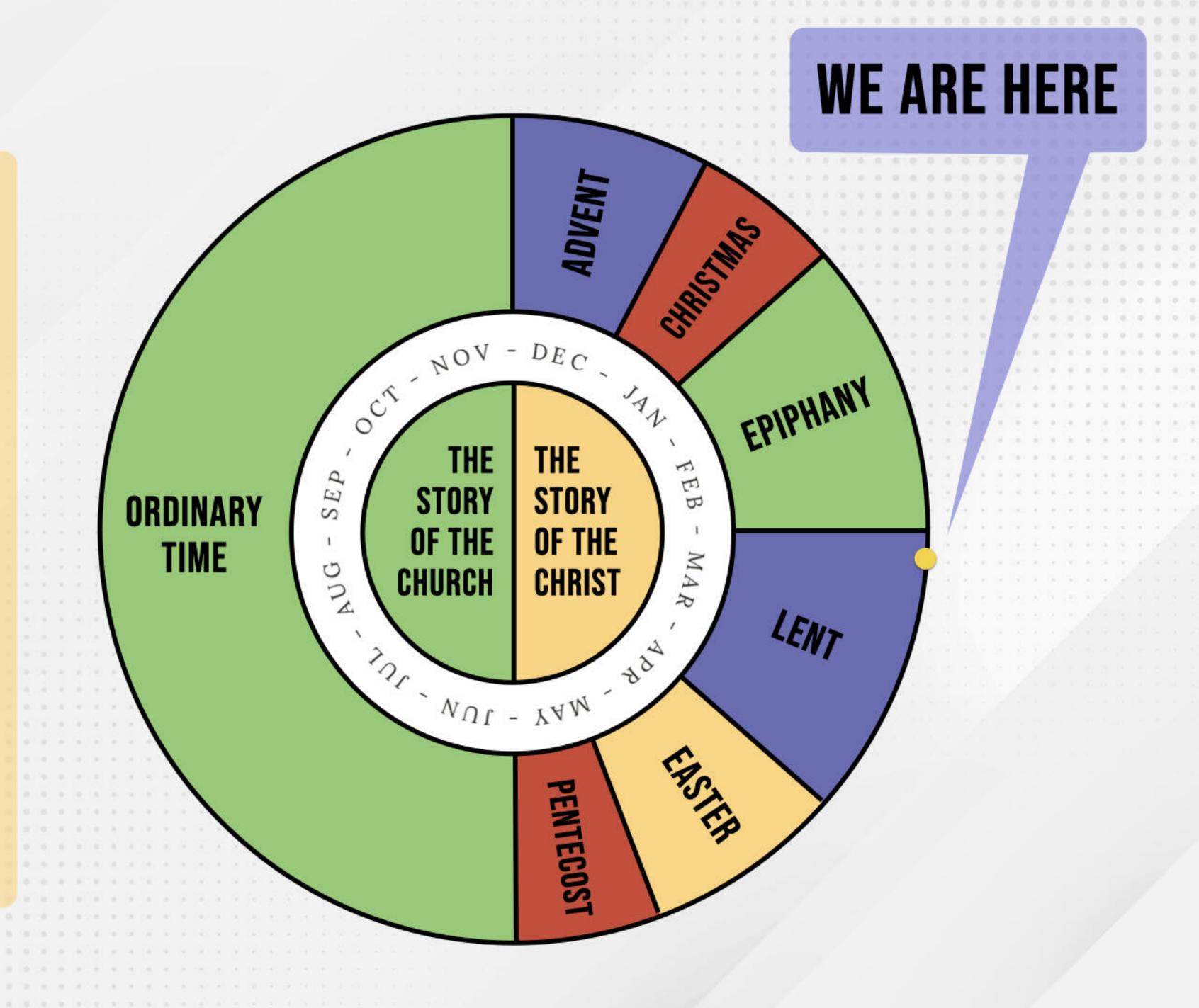
Epiphany: Revelation

Lent: Crucifixion

Easter: Resurrection

Pentecost: Ascension

Ordinary Time: Mission



Pastor Eugene Peterson once spoke of our desperate need for "uncluttered time and space to distance ourselves from the frenzy of our own activities so we can see what God has been and is doing." The church season of Lent is an invitation to that uncluttered time. It is a chance to act deliberately, and to put some space between ourselves and the frenzy of our busyness.

It is a call to be quiet and to see what our busyness so often keeps us from recognizing. Namely, that we are dust, that we are creatures and not the Creator, and that we are as finite and fragile as the grass and flowers in the fields. At Lent, we remember that all flesh withers, falls, and fades.

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey D. Heine

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.









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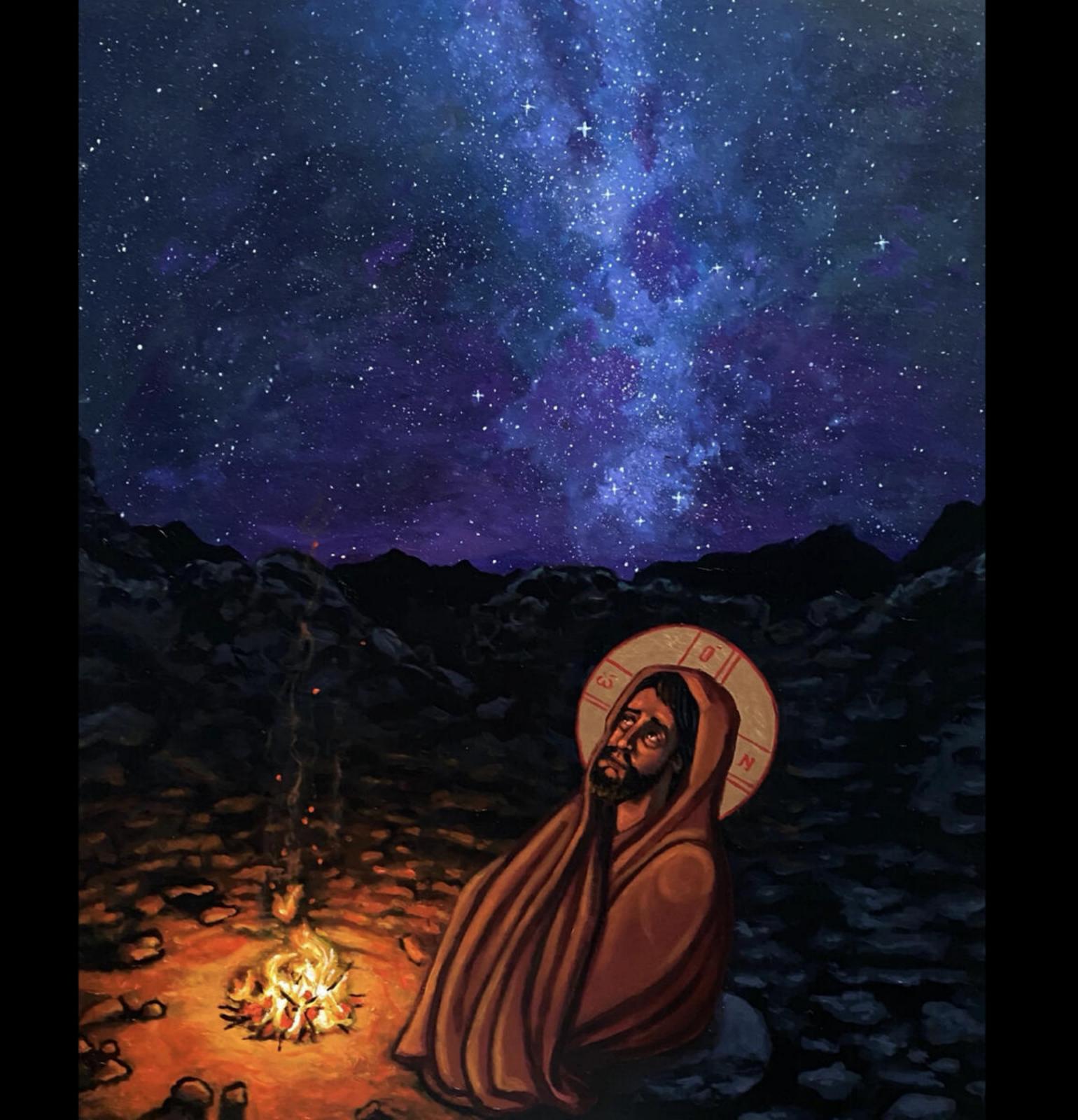
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(2 Samuel 1-24)

After 40 years of kingship, Solomon falls.

(1 Kings 1-11)



ISAIAH 53:2-3

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

Dustsceauwung (Old English):

Contemplation of the fact that dust used to be other things — the walls of a city, the chief of the guards, a book, a great tree, the world's most famous statue: dust is always the ultimate destination.

If you would like personal prayer today, please meet with a Prayer Team member in the Care Room in the back of the Worship Center at the end of the service.



