

What Is the Season of Creation?

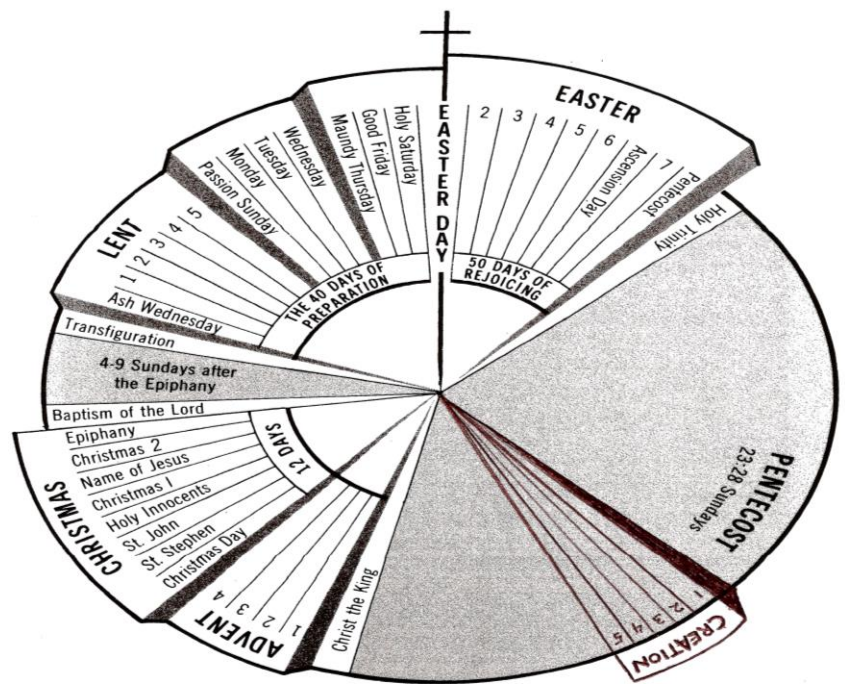
In the seasons of Advent, Epiphany, Lent and Easter we celebrate the life of Christ. In the season of Pentecost we celebrate the Holy Spirit. Now, in the season of Creation, we have an opportunity to celebrate God, the Creator.

For four Sundays in September, prior to St Francis of Assisi Day, we join in celebrating with Christ the wonders of creation.

In the liturgy, we follow the lead of the psalm writers and celebrate with creation — with the forests, the rivers and the fields, which praise the Creator in their own way.

Bible readings focus especially on the story of Earth, which complements the story of God and the story of humanity in the Scriptures.

We commit ourselves to a ministry of healing Earth, with Christ and creation as our partners.



THE CHURCH YEAR

Why a Season of Creation?

There is growing concern in Christian communities about the ecological crisis and the way human beings are treating God's Earth. Planet Earth is in peril. All creation is suffering.

An effective way to focus these concerns is through worship. By concentrating our worship on God's creation and our relationship with creation, we can seek ways to heal rather than exploit creation. The season of Creation helps us care for our planet home rather than destroy it.

A Charter for the Season of Creation

In our worship during the season of Creation we:

- **Celebrate** Earth as a sacred planet filled with God's vibrant presence.
- **Unite** with all creation in praising the God of creation.
- **Confess** our sins against creation and empathise with a groaning creation.
- **Embrace** our kin in creation as our extended family.
- **Proclaim** the good news that the risen Jesus is the cosmic Christ who fills and renews all creation.
- **Gather** at the Eucharist to receive the healing power of Christ that extends to all creation.
- **Go forth** on a mission to be partners with Christ in the healing of creation.

For more information, visit the Season of Creation website at:
<http://www.seasonofcreation.com/index.asp>

Season of Creation Readings Overview

A

First Sunday

Forest Sunday

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17
Baruch 5:5-9
Acts 17:22-31
Matthew 23:37-39;
24:32-35

Second Sunday

Land Sunday

Deuteronomy 8:6-18
Psalm 37:3-11
Acts 13:16-23
Matthew 21:33-46

Third Sunday

Wilderness Sunday

Joel 1:8-12, 17-20
Psalm 18:6-19
Romans 8:18-28
Matthew 3:13-4:2 or
Mark 1:9-13

Fourth Sunday

River Sunday

Genesis 2:4b-14
Psalm 104:27-33
Revelation 22:1-5
Matthew 28:1-10

Fifth Sunday

World Communion

Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 96:1, 6-13
2Corinthians 5:14-20;
13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

B

First Sunday

Planet Earth Sunday

Genesis 1:1-27, 31-
2:4a
Psalm 33:1-9
Romans 1:14-25
John 1:1-14

Second Sunday

Humanity Sunday

Genesis 1:26-30; 2:4b-
8, 15-25
Psalm 8
Philippians 2:1-8
Mark 10:41-45

Third Sunday

Sky Sunday

Jeremiah 4:23-28
Psalm 19:1-6
Philippians 2:5-15
Mark 13:24-27; 15:33-
39

Fourth Sunday

Mountain Sunday

Isaiah 11:1-9
Psalm 48:1-11
Romans 8:28-39
Mark 9:2-9

Fifth Sunday

World Communion

Gen. 8:20-22; 9:12-17
Psalm 50:1-15
Ephesians 4:1-6
Mark 16:14-15

C

First Sunday

Ocean Sunday

Job 38:1-18
Psalm 104:1-9, 24-26,
31
Ephesians 1:3-10
Luke 5:1-11

Second Sunday

Fauna Sunday

Job 39:1-8, 26-30
Psalm 104:1a, 14-23,
27-31
1Corinthians 1:10-23
Luke 12:22-31

Third Sunday

Storm Sunday

Job 28:20-28; 29:1-2;
30:16-31
Psalm 29 or Psalm
107:1-3, 23-32
1Corinthians 1:21-31
Luke 8:22-25

Fourth Sunday

Cosmos Sunday

Proverbs 8:22-31
Psalm 148
Colossians 1:15-23
John 6:41-51

Fifth Sunday

World Communion

Jeremiah 51:15-19
Psalm 98
Colossians 1:3-10
Luke 21:25-36

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