

# MINOR FESTIVALS

## Minor Festivals

The Christian Church has also observed Minor Festivals throughout the Church Year. Minor Festivals usually focus on the grace that God bestowed upon his saints. These saints serve as examples for us who strive today to imitate their faith and their lives. (Hebrews 12:1)

*For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
All who their faith before the world confessed,  
Your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine,  
Yet all are one within your grand design.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! (Christian Worship 551:1,4)*

When a Minor Festival falls on a Sunday, we may celebrate it at Good Shepherd. The importance of a date or season in the Church Year may trump the use of a Minor Festival. When that happens, the Church may transfer the celebration to the Monday that follows or to another date. The hymnal issued by the WELS and used at Good Shepherd, *Christian Worship*, has the following as the schedule for Minor Festivals.

January 1	The Circumcision of our Lord / The Name of Jesus
January 18	The Confession of St. Peter
January 24	St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor
January 25	The Conversion of St. Paul
January 26	St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor
February 2	The Presentation of Our Lord
February 24	St. Matthias, Apostle
March 19	St. Joseph
March 25	The Annunciation of Our Lord
April 25	St. Mark, Evangelist
May 1	St. Philip and St. James, Apostles
May 31	The Visitation
June 11	St. Barnabas, Apostle
June 24	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
June 25	Presentation of the Augsburg Confession
June 29	St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles
July 22	St. Mary Magdalene
July 25	St. James the Elder, Apostle
August 15	St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord
August 24	St. Bartholomew, Apostle
September 21	St. Matthew, Apostle

September 29	St. Michael and All Angels
October 18	St. Luke, Evangelist
October 23	St. James of Jerusalem
October 28	St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles
October 31	Reformation Day
November 1	All Saints' Day
November 30	St. Andrew, Apostle
December 21	St. Thomas, Apostle
December 26	St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr
December 27	St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
December 28	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

The Christian Church recognizes other Minor Festivals outside of these, so this list is neither an official list nor exhaustive. While saints may serve as examples of grace, they are not the object of worship or prayer, as these are reserved for God alone.