Early Christian Art:

Catacombs- function and images inside
Function: place for Christians to gather/bury their dead without being discovered by the polytheistic romans and killed.
- good shepherd fresco shows christ as “shepherd” (leader) (sun god) of the christian people.
- Orant figure: woman shown 3 times, marriage, praying in orant pose, and in motherhood.

Clerestory: type of lighting where light enters from above (near ceiling)

How is Christ depicted? Christ is depicted as a shepherd who leads the christian people to salvation, saving wayward “sheep” (followers) from hell.

What is fresco? A painting done (quickly) on wet plaster. The colors bond with the plaster (lasts a long time).

What is an Orant figure? A figure with his/her hands raised above their head in prayer.

Church of Santa Sabina- ground plan and function
Ground plan: basilica
Function: place for Christians to worship bc christianity was legal.

How and why is spolia used? Columns from Temple of Juno in Rome

Vienna Genesis- Content, Context, Form, Function.
Content: Rebecca gives water to Eliezer at a well, Jacob crosses a river with his many wives/children and wrestles with an angel, written in greek
Context: made for a wealthy patron (purple color and silver letters show this)
Form: purple vellum and silver letters, illuminated manuscript
Function: religious text made for a wealthy christian who can read

List classical elements, List Royal Elements:
- Classical elements: columns, roman bridge, nude figure as representation of river goddess.
- Royal elements: purple color represents royalty, silver letters were extravagant/expensive

Byzantine:

Icons: usually made of wood, painters were monks who rarely signed their work, often handled and kissed, depicted sacred images
Iconoclasm: banning of religious imagery

Describe mosaics from this period
Virgin and Child between Saints Theodore & George
- 6th or 7th cent. Found in Egypt
- Mary, baby christ, theodore + george, and angels.

How is Christ depicted? How is Mary depicted?
- Mary is mother of god
- Christ as a baby

San Vitale form: octagonal plan, central plan, brick + marble + stone veneer, mosaic

Justianian & Theodora mosaics
On the apse of San Vitale
- Justiniian and his attendants: mix of clergy + military
  - Halo represents head of church and state