

Zion's Stained Glass Windows

When worshippers gather at Zion, they are surrounded by an array of "silent sermons" witnessing to the faith we profess. To the right and to the left of the altar, the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion are given their place of honor. On the South wall of the Nave, one can witness characters of the Old Testament. On the North wall, one can trace the story of Jesus from the Annunciation to the Resurrection. And if you lift your eyes to the clerestory windows above, you will identify the words of the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles Creed. As you leave the sanctuary, look up and you will be the recipient of the resurrected Christ's blessing.

If you walk the stairs to the choir loft, you will find yourself face to face with a witness to our Lutheran heritage. As you move into the lounge on the Northeast corner of the educational unit, you will discover a striking image of the four Evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The windows were installed in the 1950's when the sanctuary was built. Rev. Walter Pedersen, pastor at the time, selected and arranged for the purchase of the windows, which were designed, manufactured, and assembled at the Conway Universal Studio of Stained Glass in Winona, Minnesota.

The artist who designed the windows, Eugene Margraff, came from Germany and worked for the Conway Studio for many years.

Whereas stained glass made in the United States is machine rolled, the glass in Zion's windows is European glass coming from either France or Germany. It is mouth-blown glass. Small bubbles can be seen in the glass, the result of this method. The painted work, or shading, is done by using ground glass, mixing it with oil and fusing it onto the glass piece at 1300 degrees Fahrenheit.

Mr. Larry Conway of Conway Studios estimates that, at the time the windows were installed, the cost was approximately \$10 per square foot. Today, he said, they would cost \$275 per square foot. Using those figures, the total value of all of Zion's stained glass windows would be at least \$150,000. Yet, how can you put a value on the treasures of the faith they depict. Our thanks to those who made it possible.



**"Luther's
Coat of
Arms"**

Donated in
memory of
Erick
"Sonny"
Simonson



"Christ the King"

Donated by
Rev. & Mrs. Walter Pedersen

*Printed in memory of Joe Armstrong
by family and friends*



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Thief River Falls, MN 56701-1996
Phone (218) 681-3296
Web Site www.ziontrf.org

The Chancel Sculpture

The chancel sculpture was a major part of the 1999 renovation of the sanctuary. Designed by Potente & Associates of Kenosha, Wisconsin, it bears a silent witness of the God who breaks into our world in Christ to all who worship here.

Though not exclusively, the sculpture is reminiscent of the Baptism of Jesus. What is perhaps most familiar as we look at it, is the image of the dove, the mark of the Spirit of God. The sunburst represents the splendor of the living God breaking into our world. The heavens have been opened and the Kingdom of God is at hand. The curved lines in the background make it unmistakable. God is answering our prayers. He is coming down. He is tearing open the heavens to be an Emmanuel, a God with us.

Below the sculpture is the altar from which the bread and wine of Holy Communion is served. The sculpture serves to remind the community of faith, that as it gathers around the table of the Lord, He continues to break into our world in these common, ordinary elements to be present among His people. The dominant cross superimposed over the entire sculpture reminds us of the shape of His intervention.

"Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited; but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name. So that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- Philippians 2:5-11

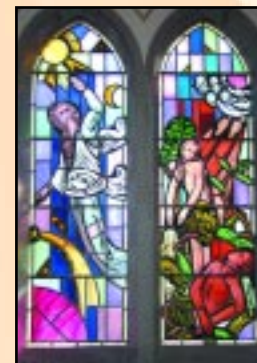


"David"

Donated by
Miss Clara Olson,
Mr. & Mrs.
Orton Olson,
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Olson,
Mr. & Mrs.
James McCrum

"Isaiah"

Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Martin C. Gulbranson
& family



"Creation of Earth"

Donated in memory of
Mrs. E.O. Iverson

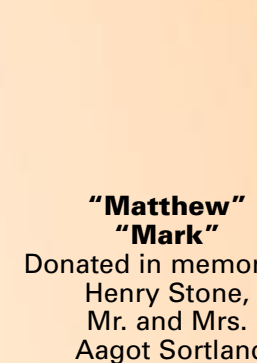
"Creation of Man"

Donated by
Inga Olson



"Abraham" "Moses"

Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Kenneth J. Wendel
& family



"Matthew" "Mark"

Donated in memory of
Henry Stone,
Mr. and Mrs.
Aagot Sortland



"Luke"

Donated by
Harlan Elseth

"John"

Donated in memory of
Leon Lendobeja

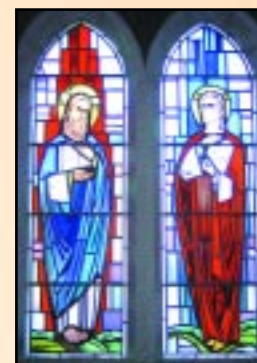


"Fall of Man"

Donated in honor of
Paul Quindlog

"Noah"

Donated in memory of
Mrs. Paul Quindlog



The Lord's Prayer



**"Resurrection"
"Crucifixion"**
Donated by
Henry Stenbergs



**"The
Creator"**
Donated in
memory of
Mrs. Caroline
Dicken



Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
A. Clifford
Larson

**"Agony in the
Garden"**
Donated in memory of
Mr. & Mrs.
Albert Sjolsvard
by Mr. & Mrs.
Albert Sjolsvard
& Darlene
**"Christ Blessing
Children"**
Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Ole Offerdahl



Donated in
memory of
G.B. Tveit
&
Mr. & Mrs.
Glen Arhart



Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Melvin Joppru



**"Sermon on the
Mount"**
Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Adolph Erickson
& Rose Lord

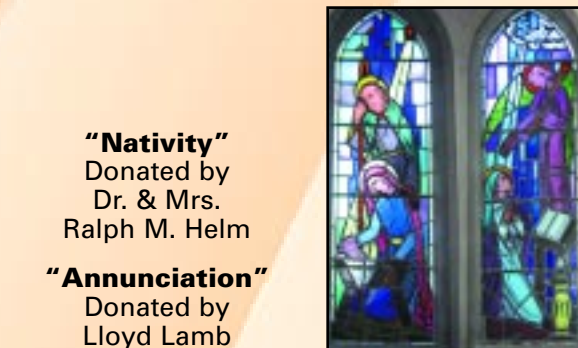
"Baptism of Christ"
Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Dayton J. Silk



Donated in
memory of
Mrs.
Clara O. Arhart
&
Mr. & Mrs.
Glen Arhart

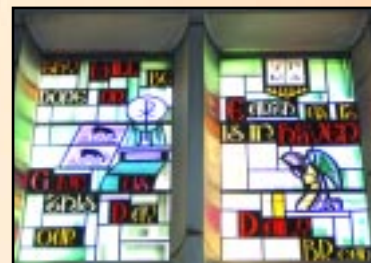


Donated by
Noran Olson



"Nativity"
Donated by
Dr. & Mrs.
Ralph M. Helm
"Annunciation"
Donated by
Lloyd Lamb

Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Kenneth J.
Wendel
& family



Donated by
John
Jacobson



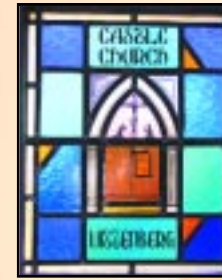
The Apostle's Creed



Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Durvin Davis
Deihl



Donated in
memory of
Mrs.
Carl Green
by Carl Green



**"Castle Church
Wittenberg"**

Donated by Elsie Bugge



"Luther"

Donated by
Mrs.
Albert
Johnson

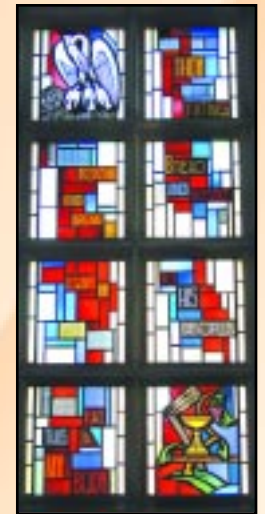


Donated in
memory of
Mr. & Mrs.
G.O. Vigness
&
Mrs. Belle Lass
by Vigness &
Daughter

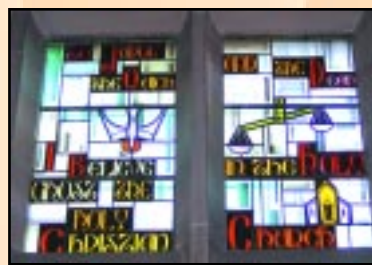


**"Symbols of the
Lord's Supper"**

Donated by
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Morris Odegaard
& family

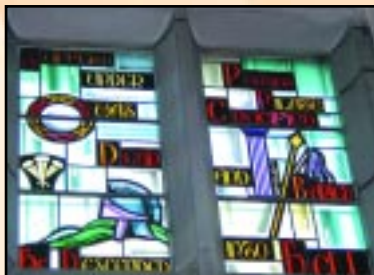


Donated by
Charles Dicken

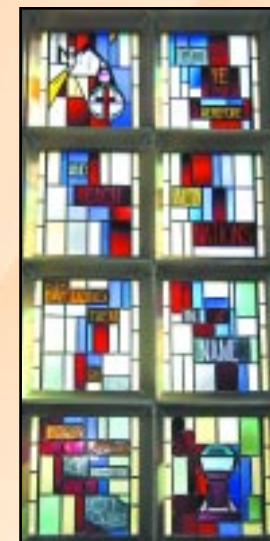


Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Soren
Sorenson

Donated by
Jim McCrum



Donated by
Mr. & Mrs.
Alfred
Hammarsten



**"Symbols of
Baptism"**

Donated in memory of
Mrs. T.J. Reiersen
by
T.J. Reiersen