The windows within the sanctuary, chapel and the cloister (the long hallway running parallel with Maple Road) tell the story and basic beliefs of our faith. We have two types of windows: stained glass and faceted glass. Stained glass is composed of thin, carefully cut colored glass held together by strips of grooved lead. Faceted glass is composed of think colored glass shaped to the pattern which is chipped or faceted in conchoidal shapes. These pieces of glass are then connected with a matrix of epoxy resin.

### The Story begins in the Red Sea Cinema

The Birth of Christ: the star of Bethlehem shines on Jesus, the newly both Christ our Savior, Emmanuel which means God with us. Jesus begins his earthly life with May and Joseph who have been prepared for his birth by the Holy Spirit. Read Luke 2:10-20





<u>Jesus Blessing the Children</u>: Jesus blesses the children because they are humble and have the loving trust needed to enter the Kingdom of God.

### The Story Continues in the upper windows of the Sanctuary

We begin with the upper windows on the pulpit side of the sanctuary moving from front to back (toward the balcony) and the return on the far side.

In Christ All Are Made Alive: depicts our fall from grace and the need for and promise of a Savior. Adam and Eve are being drive from the Garden of Eden by an angel with a flaming sword. In the background is the tree of knowledge of good and evil. At the base of the window the serpent crawling along the ground is being crushed by a Chi Ro (XP), a symbol of Christ. Read I Corinthians 15:20-28



By Faith Abraham Offered up Isaac: shows God's testing Abraham's faith. The angel of the Lord arrests the hand of Abraham as he is about to slay his son Isaac. One cannot save themselves; God will provide the sacrifice. In the background, the ram is caught in the thorny thicket. Read Genesis 22:1-14

<u>As Moses lifted up the Serpent</u>: shows Moses, the lawgiver. When the children of Israel were in peril of dying by means of serpents in the wilderness, Moses made a serpent of brass and raised it up on a pole so that those who looked upon it could live. Read Numbers 21:4-9

Restore unto me the joy of Thy Salvation: contains the penitent King David in prayer, seeking forgiveness of his sins after the prophet Nathan used an analogy of the one little ewe lamb to point out the error of his ways. The window quotes a verse from the Psalms that speaks of the efficacy of prayer for one with a contrite heart. Read Psalm 51:10-14; II Samuel 12:1-15





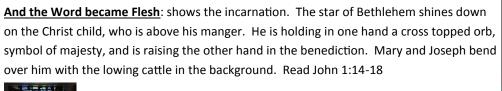
It shall come to Pass: depicts the great prophet Isaiah as a young man, leaned and princely. The Seraphim is touching his lips with a live coal to take away his guilt and to commission him to prophesy to the people of Israel for their unjust acts. The Sorrowing Servant is treading the winepress alone thus symbolizing Christ our Savior. Read Isaiah 6:1-13; Isaiah 63:1-3

<u>Go ye into all the World:</u> shows Christ sending out the disciples with the "Good News," the Gospel, which is symbolized by a large book behind him. The escalloped shell with the three drops of water is also shown, symbolic of baptism in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Read Mark 16:140-20





<u>And they shall be filled with the Holy Ghost</u>: shows the start of the Apostolic Church with the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus' disciples at Pentecost. Read Acts 2:1-42







**Follow Me**: is the window depicting discipleship. Peter and Andrew are leaving their nets to follow Jesus and become "fishers of people." Read Matthew 4:12-20



<u>He taught them Saying:</u> depicts Jesus' ministry as epitomized by the Sermon on the Mount which is considered to be the greatest of all of his sermons. Read Matthew, chapters 5-7

<u>Truly this was the Son of God:</u> shows Jesus vicarious sacrifice on the cross. He is attended by his mother Mary and by John, the beloved disciple. Kneeling before the cross is the centurion making his confession of faith. Read Matthew 27:50-54





<u>I am the resurrection and the Life</u>: illustrates the victory over death and the assurance of immortality. The stone having been rolled away from the grace by an angel, our Lord steps from the tomb, holding aloft the banner of the Church Triumphant. Read John 11:17-27

# The story continues in the lower level of the sanctuary

The lower windows on the west side of the sanctuary are grouped in threes. The window at the center of each grouping contains an "I AM" medallion which describes Christ in different ways. A pair of descending hands – the hands of God – appear at the top of each "I AM" medallion. On either side of each grouping are windows representing Jesus' disciples.



<u>Peter</u>: When questioned by Christ, Peter was the one disciple who recognized that Jesus was the messiah, the Son of the Living God; thus Peter's proclamation becomes the foundation of the church which holds the keys to heaven (the Good News).

I AM the Bread: Crossed sheaves of wheat handed down from God and a loaf of bread with a knife remind us that Jesus said, "I am the bread of Life. The one who comes to me shall not hunger and the one who believes in me shall never thirst." Read John 6:35-39



<u>Andrew</u>: Represented by two crossed fishes,, Andrew was a fisherman called by Christ to be a "fisher of men." He brought his brother Simon Peter to Christ saying, "We have found the Messiah."

<u>James</u>: James was the son of Zebedee, and his brother John affirmed to Christ, "We can drink of this cup." James's missionary travels are represented by the pilgrim's staff and wallet and by the three escallop shells which tell us that he took a pilgrimage to sea.





<u>I AM the Light</u>: The hands of God give us Christ, His Son, and the Holy Spirit who is the inspiration for the ecumenical church; thus Christ says. "I am the light of the world." Read John 8:12

<u>John</u>: The other son of Zebedee, John, was the beloved disciple of Jesus who was turned from being a "son of thunder" into the apostle of Love by Jesus. A Chalice from which a serpent rises represents the legendary attempt made on John's life through a poisoned chalice of wine.





James Minor: A saw is often used to symbolize James Minor because, after he was martyred, his body was sawn into pieces. James, son of Alphaeus and a brother of Matthew, was a Zealot, one of a band of fiery Jewish nationalists.

**I AM the Living Water**: Christ is the flowing water of life. Read John 4:5-14



<u>Jude:</u> Jude's profession is represented by the carpenter's square and boat hook. Like his brother James, he was a Zealot, who sought political independence for the "chosen people."

<u>Philip:</u> This disciple is represented by a basket and a Tau cross. He discovered the power of Christ's message to change lives and shared it with others. He invited doubters to "come and see."





I AM the Good Shepherd: The shepherd's staff is used to draw the lost lamb back to the fold. Read John 10:11-18

<u>Bartholomew or Nathanael:</u> A knife at the center of an open Bible represents this disciple. The knife was an instrument in his martyrdom. Nathanael, recognized by Jesus as a sincere man of prayer and a searcher of scripture, declare Jesus to be the "Son of God" and the "King of Israel."





<u>Matthew</u>: He is the tax-collector, Levi, Son of Alphaeus, represented by three money bags. He left his job to follow Christ who renamed him Matthew. Legend has it he wrote the Gospel of Matthew.

<u>I AM the Vine:</u> Christ is the vine and we are the branches. Without him we bear no fruit and wither away. In the window, a grape vine reaches upward from a communion cup. Read John 15:1-17





<u>Thomas:</u> legend records that Thomas was a skilled carpenter and stonemason. A leather girdle appears as his symbol. Because tradition records that he was stoned to death, he is also symbolized by three stones. A man of tremendous courage, he learned that nothing is impossible through the power and presence of Christ. He addressed Jesus as "my Lord and my God."

## The next step in our journey is the Cloister; the long hallway along the front of the church.

As one stands facing the windows, one should look from left to right to see the parables depicted. Jesus used the parables to give us an image of the Kingdom of God.



<u>The Pearl of Great Price</u>: The kingdom of heaven is like a pearl that is of such worth that a merchant sold all of his goods in order to possess it. Read Matthew 13:45-46

<u>The Prodigal Son:</u> The Kingdom of God is represented by the hands of the forgiving father which are outstretched to welcome his lost son who is carrying a ragged bundle. In the background is their home and the fatted calf to be prepared for the homes-coming feast. Read Luke 15:11-32





<u>The Pharisee and the Publican</u>: The kingdom of God is the place which welcomes the humble. We see the proud Pharisee is shown boastfully praying that he is not a sinner like the publican. The publican, upon whom the blessing of God shines as a ray of life, bows his head and prays with humility. Read Luke 18:9-14

The Barren Fig Tree: The Kingdom of God is a place for those who are nurtured by Christ. The owner of the fig tree, finding no fruit upon it, orders his servant to cut it down. The servant however, pleads with the owner to give him a chance to save the tree. Read Luke 13:6-9





<u>The Lost Coin:</u> The Kingdom of God is like a coin, which when lost by a woman, causes her to light a lamp and search for it. When she finds it she calls together all of her friends and celebrates. Read Luke 15:8-10



<u>The Leven</u>: The Kingdom of God is like leaven which is hidden in three measures of meal. The leaven causes everything to rise up, as does the Kingdom. Read Matthew 13:33

<u>The Wise and Foolish Maidens</u>: The kingdom of God comes for those who are ready. The lamps represent the maidens. The five that are lighted belong to the wise (prepared) maidens. The five unlighted lamps belong to the foolish (unprepared) maidens. Read Matthew 25:1-13





<u>The mustard Seed</u>: The kingdom of God begins in the smallest ways, like a mustard seed. However it grows into a home (tree) for all of God's creatures.

<u>The Houses Built on Rock and Sand</u>: the Kingdom of God is as sure and safe as a house built upon a rock. The Kingdom of this world is as unsure as a house built upon sand. Read Matthew 7:24-27





<u>The Draw Net</u>: The Kingdom of God is like a net which gathers in all kinds of fish (people). The fisherman will then keep those who are ready for the Kingdom. Read Matthew 13:47-50

New Wine in Old Wineskins: the Kingdom of God is like new wine, full of life, which is poured into an old broken bottle. The New wine will leak out. At the top is a bunch of grapes. Read Matthew 9:14-17



<u>The Good Samaritan</u>: The Kingdom of God is composed of those who show love to their neighbors. We see the hands of the Samaritan ministering to the victim of the thieves, while the priest and the Levite walk by. Read Luke 10:27-37



<u>The Wheat and the Tares</u>: The Kingdom of God belongs to those who are ready. Here is shown the sickle of the reaper cutting the grain. The wheat is bound into sheaves to be stowed in the barn while the tares are set on fire. Read Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

<u>The Talents</u>: The Kingdom of God is place in which each person is expected to use their gifts wisely. We see some servants increasing their talents while the unprofitable servant buries his talent in the ground. Read Matthew 25:14-30





**The Rich Fool**: The Kingdom of God comes when least expected so we are to use our gifts well. In this parable we see the rich fool build a large barn to hose his rich harvest. However in the night his soul is required of him (he dies) which is represented by a sword piercing a heart.

### The final stop on our trip is the Chapel

These windows contain symbol medallions. The four windows on the north (closer to Maple) express Praise, Prayer, Preaching and Marriage. The two windows on the south side (close to the courtyard) represent the sacrament of Baptism and Communion.



<u>Praise</u>: The lyre is the symbol of praise. It reminds us to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. The XP symbol in the window is taken from the first two letters of Christ's name in Greek, Chi and Ro. Read Psalm 100 and 150.

<u>Prayer</u>: The open Bible and a censer which holds incense are the symbols of prayer. Read Luke 11:1-13



<u>Preaching</u>: The open Bible is repeated in the preaching medallion, along with a symbol for the Trinity. Read John 17:20-26



**Marriage**: two flames with entwining rings represent marriage. Read Ephesians 5:21-32

<u>Baptism</u>: the River Jordon, in which Christ was baptized and a dove which descended upon him at his baptism, representing the Holy Spirit, help us remember Baptism.





<u>Communion</u>: IXOYC means "fish" in Greek. The Greek letters represent the first letter of each of these names: Jesus Christ God's Son Savior. As Passover is a celebration that commemorates the Israelite's exodus from Egypt, so communion is a celebration which reminds us that God in Christ is the Savior of the world.

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