

Architectural Notes

The building is in the spirit of the fifteenth century Gothic. This was the golden age of architecture in England and on the continent. Gothic is the one great architectural style which owes its entire impulse to our Christian faith. It is, structurally, one vast unit of aspiring arches, buttresses, piers and vaulting; all attaining their highest point in pinnacle or spire. This is symbolical of the one unifying principle or purpose which is the constructive element in our faith. This whole framework of pier and arch and vaulting stands in its own strength. Thus it has no need of support from walls. This gives the large open spaces for windows. "If thine eye (thy purpose) be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." These windows are to be set with glass, which will remind men that even Heaven's light is most glorious when it is imprisoned and comes to us through some fitting medium; as God's most Holy Light was given to men through Jesus while the Light of the World dwelt in a body. "There is one mediator between God and man." So far the only permanent glass is in the chancel window.

The material is Indiana limestone throughout.

The deep recessed front doorway has the dignity and beauty which befit the entrance to this "Palace Beautiful." Each of the heavy wood doors is built of three panels, to remind our hearts that we know God as Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Going in by the main entrance, you observe the austere narthex. There is a gallery above. Leaded doors opening into the nave allow broken glimpses of the triple lancet windows in the chancel, the Holy Table, the pulpit, the lecturn and choir stalls. The wood carving in the Holy Table and reredos, pulpit and lecturn is of a delicately beautiful quality. The three panels of the reredos symbolize the mystery of the Trinity. The carving of the canopy has a different theme in each section. The three shields have "The Burning Bush," "The Lamb of God" and "The Cross and Crown" carved upon them. The carved linen folds of the pulpit are very graceful.

The chancel has been restored to its ancient and proper place in the Presbyterian Church. The Table, which represents the radical rite of our Christian faith, is in the central position. "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, ye have no life in yourselves." A cross rests upon it, lest any should forget the cost of our redemption. And the

jeweled glory of the windows above will recall to any, willing to see, that beyond the accepted Cross lie all the true riches.

The twelve medallions in this window picture the Passion, Resurrection and Ascension of Our Lord. The detail is too rich to be recounted in small space.

The ten clerestory windows, above the great piers and arches, with their abundant light, are to be filled with New Testament subjects. The light of the New Testament is radiant and overflowing.

The eight small windows in the ambulatories are to have Old Testament subjects. These will be in darker hues. The Old Testament is light, but it is dim and meagre.

The great window over the balcony is to picture the Church Triumphant. The balcony is to have wood panels on the front. The electric pendants are not yet provided, nor is the tile for the floor, and new pews must await the years.

The great window over the balcony is to picture the Church Triumphant. above the school building, remind us that education which does not lead to worship is wrong.

The ground floor contains a fine social hall, kitchen, dining rooms, Boy Scout room, furnace and ventilating rooms. The school building has departmental rooms, parlor and chapel.

Much remains to be done before the House is completed. This building represents the Church of the Living God in the world. And His Church is too vast to be built by any one generation. The undying life of the Church is seen here. Children will delight to finish what their fathers and mothers here began. For they without us are not made perfect.

“They dreamed not of a perishable home who thus could build.”

*“Except the Lord build the house,
they labor in vain that build it.”*

OUR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

At the time our Church was built, the subjects of all windows in the sanctuary were chosen by the pastor, Doctor George Arthur Frantz, and the architect, Mr. W. H. Nicklas. The chancel window portrays the Passion, Resurrection and Ascension of our Lord. The balcony window pictures persons and scenes in the Apocalypse. The ten clerestory windows above the piers and arches set forth New Testament subjects. The eight small windows in the ambulatories feature Old Testament subjects.

For the purpose of the following description, the windows have been numbered clock-wise in two groups, with the chancel, clerestory and balcony windows in a group surrounding the ambulatory windows.

1-2-3. The chancel window, consisting of three lancets, has twelve medallions depicting the Passion, Resurrection and Ascension of our Lord. Lancet 1 is in memory of Mrs. A. P. McConahay; lancet 2 is in memory of Mrs. A. Mollenkopf; and lancet 3 is in memory of Mrs. George H. Marsh.

4. The subjects are the Annunciation, Saint Luke, and the Nativity. The window is in memory of Elder William McGirr.

5. This window portrays the Adoration, St. Anthony of Padua, and the Circumcision. It is in memory of Elder L. C. Morgan.

6. Here the Presentation, Saint John the Evangelist, and the Massacre of the Innocents are depicted. The window is a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. C. A. L. Purmort.

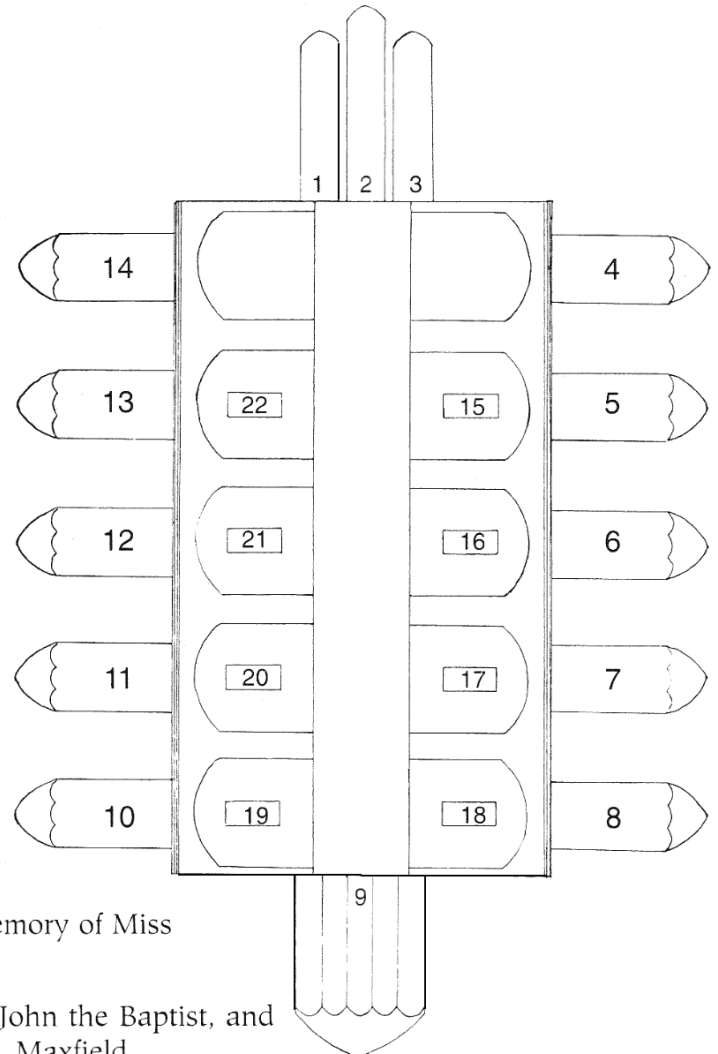
7. In this window we see the Flight into Egypt, St. Francis of Assisi, and Christ in the Workshop. It is in memory of Miss Elizabeth Elcock.

8. This window, representing Christ before the Doctors, John the Baptist, and the Sacrament of Baptism, is a memorial to Mrs. Mary M. Maxfield.

9. The balcony window recalls the visions of St. John upon the isle of Patmos. It pictures Christ in the offices of Prophet, Priest and King, the Second Coming, the Church Triumphant, and the Glorified Christ. It is a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. McMillen.

10. This window portrays Christ Tempted, St. Mark, and the Raising of Lazarus. This window is given anonymously to the glory of God and the continuing progress of our Church.

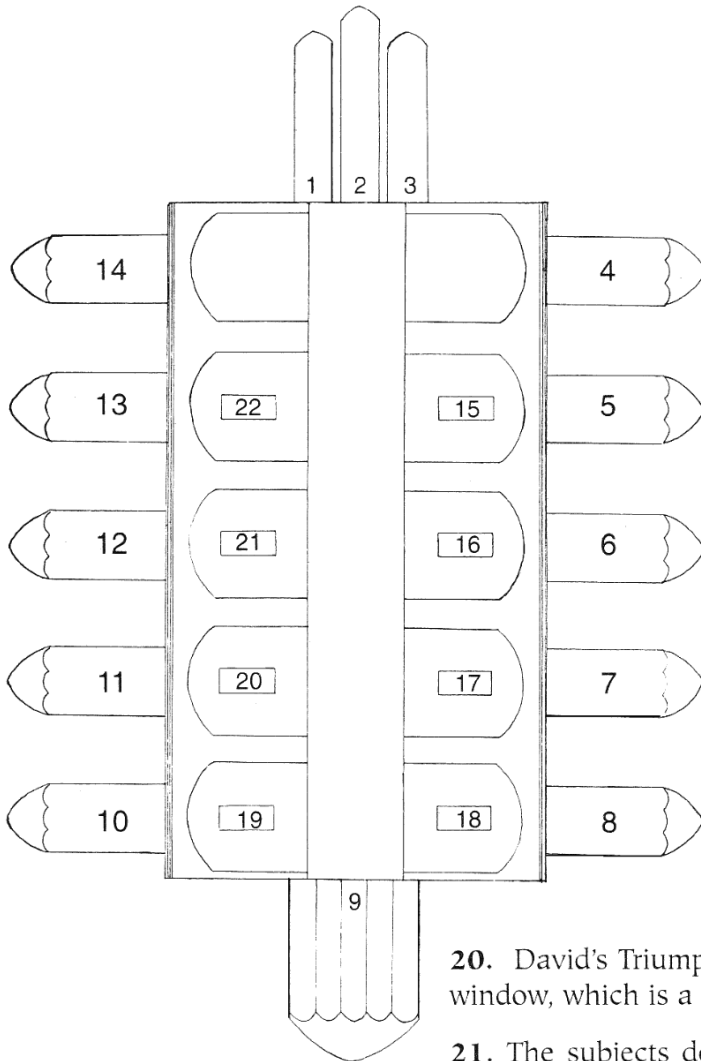
Diagram of the Stained Glass Windows



11. The subjects of this window are the Entry into Jerusalem, St. Matthew, and the Purging of the Temple. It is a memorial to the Blachly Class, of which Mrs. H. W. Blachly was long the beloved teacher.

12. Here Christ is portrayed in the Home of Martha and Mary, and we also see the Magdalene, and Mary and the Gardener. This window is a memorial to the Reverend Thomas Elcock, the first pastor of our Church.

Diagram of the Stained Glass Windows



13. This window, depicting the Walk to Emmaus, St. Paul, and the Ascension, is a memorial to the Kemper family.

14. The Stoning of Stephen, St. Stephen, and the Appearance of Christ to Paul are shown in this window, which is in memory of Mr. Russell Gwilym Jones and Mr. Arthur C. Gilpin.

15. Here the Visit of the Queen of Sheba to Solomon, and the Institution of Circumcision are portrayed. The window is a memorial to Mrs. Ellen Wilson.

16. The Offering of Samuel, and the Rescue of Joash from Athaliah are the subjects of this window in memory of Mr. and Mrs. C.A.L. Purmort.

17. Here we see Jacob Fleeing from Esau, and the Building of Solomon's Temple. The window is in memory of Mrs. Mary Manship.

18. The subjects are Solomon's Prayer for Wisdom, and the Washing of Naaman in the Jordan. The window is a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Carper.

19. This window pictures Esau, tempted to Sell His Birthright, and Elisha, Raising the Shunammite's Son. It is in memory of Mrs. Nora Wise Leslie.

20. David's Triumph over Goliath, and Lot and Sodom are the subjects of this window, which is a memorial to the Blachly Class.

21. The subjects depicted are Elisha and the Cup of Oil, and the Meeting of Joseph and Jacob. The window is in memory of Doctor Charles G. Church.

22. This window pictures Abraham meeting Melchizedek, and Elijah taken up into Heaven. It is a memorial to the Kemper family.

The chancel window and the Kemper memorial windows were made by the R. Toland Wright Studios, Cleveland, Ohio. Windows 14 and 21 were executed by the Von Gerichten Studios, Columbus, Ohio. The remaining windows are the workmanship of the Henry Keck Studio, Syracuse, New York.