



Omega; the last letter of the Greek alphabet stands for the end.

Reflection: Is. 48

Hear this, O house of Jacob called by the name Israel, sprung from the stock of Judah, You who swear by the name of the LORD and invoke the God of Israel without sincerity or justice, Though you are named after the holy city and rely on the God of Israel, whose name is the LORD of hosts.

Things of the past I foretold long ago, they went forth from my mouth, I let you hear of them; then suddenly I took action and they came to be.

Because I know that you are stubborn and that your neck is an iron sinew and your forehead bronze,

I foretold them to you of old; before they took place I let you hear of them, That you might not say, "My idol did them, my statue, my molten image commanded them."

Now that you have heard, look at all this; must you not admit it? From now on I announce new things to you, hidden events of which you knew not.

Now, not long ago, they are brought

into being, and beforetime you did not hear of them, so that you cannot claim to have known them;

You neither heard nor knew, they did not reach your ears beforehand. Yes, I know you are utterly treacherous, a rebel you were called from birth.

For the sake of my name I restrain my anger, for the sake of my renown I hold it back from you, lest I should destroy you.

See, I have refined you like silver, tested you in the furnace of affliction.

For my sake, for my own sake, I do this; why should I suffer profanation? My glory I will not give to another.

Listen to me, Jacob, Israel, whom I named! I, it is I who am the first, and also the last am I.

Yes, my hand laid the foundations of the earth; my right hand spread out the heavens. When I call them, they stand forth at once.

All of you assemble and listen: Who among you foretold these things? The LORD'S friend shall do his will against Babylon and the progeny of Chaldea.

I myself have spoken, I have called him, I have brought him, and his way succeeds!

Come near to me and hear this! Not from the beginning did I speak it in secret; at the time it comes to pass, I am present: "Now the Lord GOD has sent me, and his spirit."

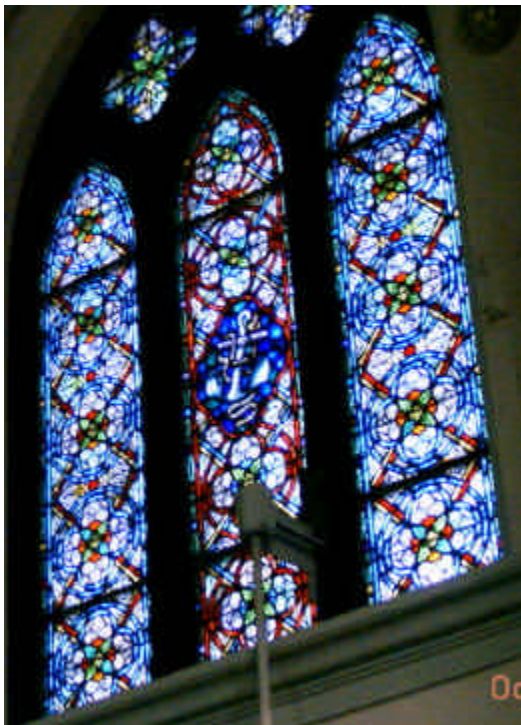
Thus says the LORD, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I, the LORD, your God, teach you what is for your good, and lead you on the way you should go.

If you would hearken to my commandments, your prosperity would be like a river, and your vindication like the waves of the sea; Your descendants would be like the sand, and those born of your stock

like its grains, Their name never cut off or blotted out from my presence.

Go forth from Babylon, flee from Chaldea! With shouts of joy proclaim this, make it known; Publish it to the ends of the earth, and say, "The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob.

They did not thirst when he led them through dry lands; Water from the rock he set flowing for them; he cleft the rock, and waters welled forth."



ANCHOR

Description: The anchor is a symbol of steadfastness. As the anchor holds the ship safely so Christ is our anchor.

Reflection: PSALM 71

I

In you, LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

In your justice rescue and deliver me; listen to me and save me!

Be my rock and refuge, my secure stronghold; for you are my rock and fortress.

My God, rescue me from the power of the wicked, from the clutches of the violent.

You are my hope, Lord; my trust, GOD, from my youth.

On you I depend since birth; from my mother's womb you are my strength; my hope in you never wavers.

I have become a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge!

My mouth shall be filled with your praise, shall sing your glory every day.

II

Do not cast me aside in my old age; as my strength fails, do not forsake me.

For my enemies speak against me; they watch and plot against me.

They say, "God has abandoned that one. Pursue, seize the wretch! No one will come to the rescue!"

God, do not stand far from me; my God, hasten to help me.

Bring to a shameful end those who attack me; Cover with contempt and scorn those who seek my ruin.

I will always hope in you and add to all your praise.

My mouth shall proclaim your just deeds, day after day your acts of deliverance, though I cannot number them all.

I will speak of the mighty works of the Lord; O GOD, I will tell of your singular justice.

III

God, you have taught me from my youth; to this day I proclaim your

wondrous deeds.

Now that I am old and gray, do not forsake me, God, That I may proclaim your might to all generations yet to come, Your power and justice, God, to the highest heaven. You have done great things; O God, who is your equal?

You have sent me many bitter afflictions, but once more revive me. From the watery depths of the earth once more raise me up.

Restore my honor; turn and comfort me,

That I may praise you with the lyre for your faithfulness, my God, And sing to you with the harp, O Holy One of Israel!

My lips will shout for joy as I sing your praise; my soul, too, which you have redeemed.

☛ *Now travel to Tabernacle side of the Church and starting in the back of the church move down using the large windows on the Congress St. side of the Church.*

H. EAGLE

Description: The eagle is a symbol of watchfulness, integrity and strength. We are invited to soar with the eagles, not to be bound to the earth.

Reflection: [Is 40:27-31] Why, O Jacob, do you say, and declare, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Do you not know or have you not heard? The LORD is the eternal God, creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint nor grow weary, and his knowledge is beyond scrutiny. He gives strength to the

fainting; for the weak he makes vigor abound. Though young men faint and grow weary, and youths stagger and fall, They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings; They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.

IX. LAZARUS RAISED FROM THE DEAD

JOHN 11: 1-44

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried his feet with her hair; it was her brother Lazarus who was ill.

So the sisters sent word to him, saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you, and you want to go back there?"

Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.

But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." He said this, and then told them, "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him." So the disciples said to him, "Master, if he is asleep, he will be

saved." But Jesus was talking about his death, while they thought that he meant ordinary sleep.

So then Jesus said to them clearly, "Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe. Let us go to him." So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. (But) even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise."

Martha said to him, "I know he will rise,



in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying, "The teacher is here and is asking for you." As soon as she heard this, she rose quickly and went to him. For Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still where Martha had met him.

So when the Jews who were with her in the house comforting her saw Mary get up quickly and go out, they followed her, presuming that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days."

Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Description : As you look at this window you can see Lazarus in a white cloth seated between his two sisters. Jesus and some friends gathered around him. In the background is the empty tomb. By their faces you can see that they are filled with awe.

Reflection: When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Our life does not end in death but in the "glory of the Father". In Death we as Humans are no longer in charge. It is the

one point in which all trust must be given over to the one who created us. In death the glory of the Father is shown in Resurrection.

L. HAND OF GOD

Description: The Hand of God

Reflection: The hand that reached out and began creation the hand of power the hand that holds us so gently that heals our wounds the hand of God the hand of power and gentleness God who is near and touches us and the God who is beyond our reach beyond our understanding.

X. TRANSFIGURATION

LUKE 9: 28-37

... He took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.

As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying.

While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at

that time tell anyone what they had seen. next.

Description: Jesus with his disciples, Elijah, the Prophet, Moses the Law

Reflection: The disciples are on their way to Jerusalem where Jesus knows he will meet with crucifixion and rejection. The disciples have a different vision of the Messiah. In the transfiguration, Jesus reveals his glory to assist them when they experience the rejection of all that they have come to believe. In the transfiguration, Jesus shows he is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. He is the glory of the Father. When Christ reveals His glory, the apostles are filled with joy. But they cannot stay on the mountain. They must come off the mountain and continue their journey to Jerusalem. So often in our own lives when we have a spiritual experience, we are so filled with joy, we try to stay and not move on. But the Lord has something greater for us in Jerusalem. If the apostles had stayed on the mountain, they would have missed the resurrection. In our own spiritual journey we must celebrate the moment not be trapped in it, for each spiritual experience prepares us for the

☩ **THE CANTICLE OF THE SUN, ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**



Most high, all powerful, good Lord, to You be praise, glory and honor and all blessing.

To You alone, Most High, do they belong, and there is no man worthy to name You.

Praise be to You, my Lord, with all Your creatures.

Chief of all is Sir Brother Sun, who is our day; through whom You give light. Beautiful is he, radiant, with great splendor. He is a true revealer of You, Most High.

Praise be to You, my Lord, for Sister Moon and for the stars. In heaven You have formed them, bright, precious and fair.

Praise be to You, my Lord, for Brother Wind, and for the air, and for the cloud, for clear sky and for all weathers, by which You give nourishment to all Your creatures.

Praise be to You, my Lord, for Sister Water.

She is most useful and humble, precious and pure.

Praise be to You, my Lord, for Brother Fire, by

whom You light up the night. Fair is he and merry, mighty and strong.

Praise be to You, my Lord, for our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and keeps us. She brings forth diverse fruits, the many-hued flowers and grass.

O Creatures all! Praise and bless my Lord, and gratefully serve Him with deep humility.

Praise be to You, my Lord, for those who grant pardon for love of You, and bear weakness and buffetings. Blessed are they, who live in peace, for shall You, Most High, crown them.

Praise be to You, my Lord, for our Sister, Bodily Death, From whom no living man can flee. Woe to them who die in mortal sin! But blessed they who shall find themselves in Your most holy will; to them the second death shall do no ill.

J. PELICAN

Description: The small picture at the top of the stained glass window portrays a pelican nourishing her young---a symbol of the church caring and feeding the members of the mystical body of Christ.

XI. THE LAST SUPPER

LUKE 22: 7-20

When the day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread arrived, the day for sacrificing the Passover lamb, he sent out Peter and John, instructing them, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

They asked him, "Where do you want us to make the preparations?" And he answered them, "When you go into the city, a man will meet you carrying a jar of water. Follow him into the house that he enters and say to the



master of the house, 'The teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"' He will show you a large upper room that is furnished. Make the preparations there." Then they went off and found everything exactly as he had told them, and there they

prepared the Passover.

When the hour came, he took his place at table with the apostles. He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for, I tell you, I shall not eat it (again) until there is fulfillment in the kingdom of God." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; for I tell you (that) from this time on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." Then he took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you.

Description: Jesus and the disciples gathered together in an upper room to celebrate the Passover meal. The unleavened bread and wine can be seen on the table.

Reflection: At this meal, Jesus instituted the Eucharist by changing bread and wine into his body and blood. He gave this power to the apostles who were the first ordained priests. He also told them "Do this in memory of me." At each mass we are witnesses to this very same miracle. Jesus will always be with us, in the Eucharist, until the end of time.

✠ THE BREASTPLATE OF SAINT PATRICK

Christ with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, Christ within me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ at my right, Christ at my left,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks to me,

Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

K. PALMS AND CROSS-

Description: The palms represent the praises that welcome the Messiah king, the cross that represents the rejection and the punishment of the God who dwells in our midst.

Reflection: The beginning and the end of holy week Together they ask us, "Will you accept God's will? Will you reject God's Love?"

XII. THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

LUKE 22: 39-47

Then going out he went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him.

When he arrived at the place he said to them, "Pray that you may not undergo the test." After withdrawing about a stone's throw from them and kneeling, he prayed, saying, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done." (And to strengthen him an angel from heaven appeared to him. He was in such agony and he prayed so fervently that his sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground.) When he rose from prayer and returned to his disciples, he found them sleeping from grief. He said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not undergo the test." While he was still speaking, a crowd approached and in front was one of the Twelve, a man named Judas. He went up to Jesus to kiss him. Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you