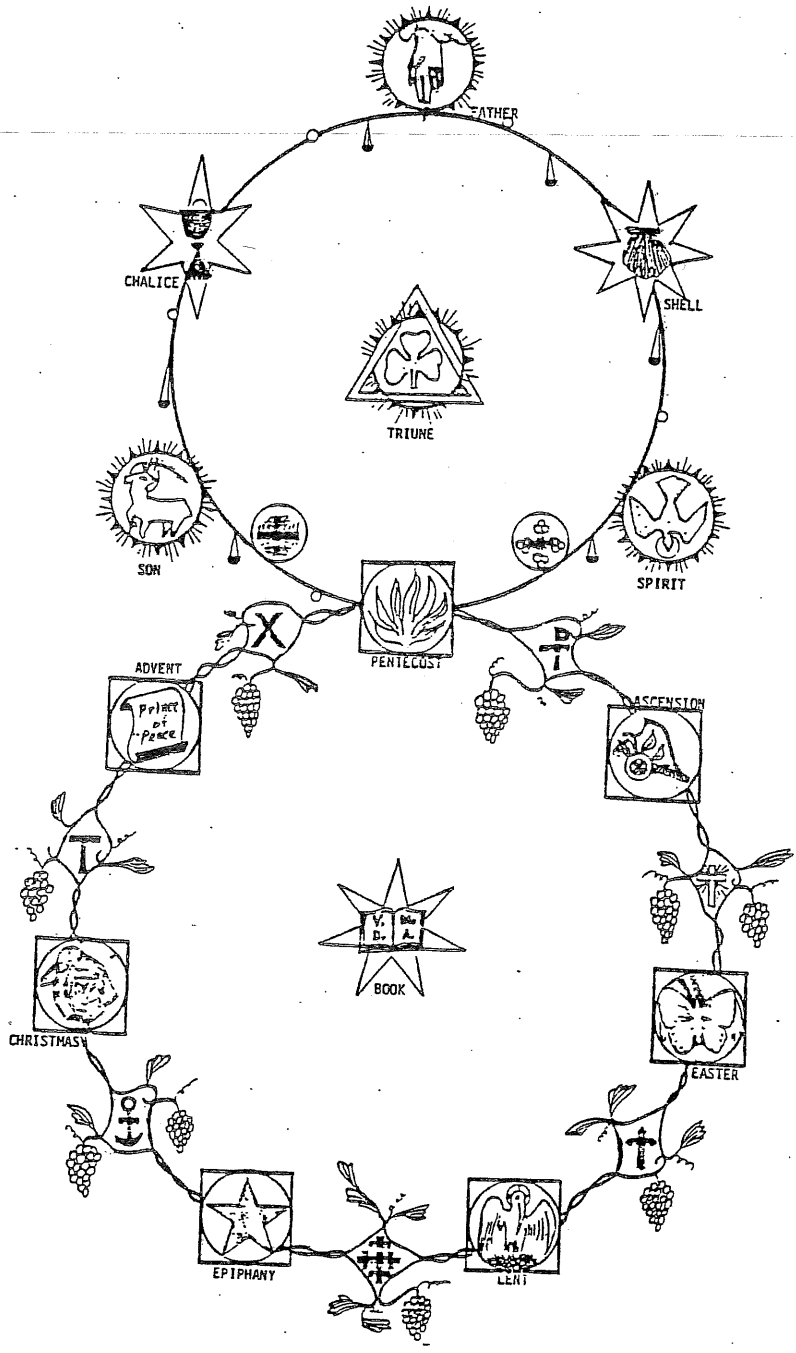


CHURCH YEAR MOSAIC



IN MEMORY OF
ALBIN BAKER (PETE) CADWALLADER
BY HIS WIFE
CLARISSA WOODARD CADWALLADER
HIS DAUGHTER and FAMILY
JANE and LOREN HIDDLESON
VIC, SUE, AMY and PAM

The Mosaic was dedicated on June 28, 1987

at

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church
Harrisonburg, Virginia

INTRODUCTION

On the west wall of the nave is the Church Year Mosaic given in memory of A. B. "Pete" Cadwallader.

This beautiful work of art was fashioned by skilled craftsmen in a small village outside Venice, Italy. The design was created by the artist, Marguerite Goudin of The Willet Stained Glass Studios, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa. It is taken from the cycle of the Christian Year Series by permission from Mrs. Frances K. Spencer, originator of chrismon ornaments, Ascension Lutheran Church, Danville, Virginia.

The Crovatto Mosaics Inc., of Yonkers, New York and Italy were in charge of the final creation and installation of the mosaic.

The mosaic has been given with the hope that it serve as a teaching aid for our Church School teachers and as a beautiful learning tool for the congregation as each chrismon, circle, cross and symbol reminds us of a meaningful part of our Lutheran heritage.

EXPLANATION

Trinity (Upper) Circle

The Trinity Circle recognizes the fact that the church worships the triune God who has revealed Himself to man.

In the center of the Trinity Circle three devices are combined: the shamrock, the equilateral triangle, and the endless circle.

The **shamrock** is composed of three leaves on one stem. It is said that an Irish priest, Patrick, first used the shamrock to attempt to explain the inexplicable nature of one God in three persons.

Although the **equilateral triangle** is only one geometric figure, it has been used for centuries to suggest the one God, Who has presented Himself to man in three different ways.

The **endless circle** defines the eternal nature of God, Who was before time and Who will be when time is no more.

S Y M B O L S

At the top of the circle is the hand, and moving counterclockwise around the loop are the following symbols:

Hand - The hand descending from a cloud refers to God the Father, Who creates all things.

Chalice - The chalice and wafer on the six pointed star depict the Lord's Supper at which the Son Himself is present.

Lamb - God the Son as the sacrificial Lamb, bears the banner of victory over sin and the death of the cross.

Flamant Cross - This cross depicts the fiery zeal which fills every Christian who has been inspired by that same spirit.

Treflee Cross - Each arm of the cross terminates in three circles; it reminds us that each person of the Triune: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, participates in our salvation.

Dove - God the Spirit descended like a dove on the man called Jesus when He was baptized.

Shell on Eight Pointed Star - This means the individual receives the gift of the Holy Baptism. The star is symbolic of man's regeneration through Baptism.

Censers - These that are along the top circle symbolize the ways in which God comes to us. These suggest prayer.

Life (Lower) Circle

The lower loop which represents the life of our Savior, discloses that the major events of the life of Jesus of Nazareth are linked to each other with a vine. On the vine are grapes. Today our Lord says to each of us: "I am the vine, and you are the branches. Abide in Me and I in you. It is the man who shares life and whose life I share who bears fruit that lasts." The grapes on this vine symbolize that fruit.

Moving counterclockwise around the circle are symbols of the seasons of the church year beginning with Advent and ending with Pentecost. Interspersed among these symbols are a variety of crosses.

St. Andrew's Cross - This is used to depict the whole community of believers because the church year begins with the Sunday closest to St. Andrew's Day, November 30. It was the church, the body of Christ, which developed the pattern of living with our Lord, that is called the liturgical or Christian Year.

Advent - The story begins with the golden scroll of prophecy, which symbolizes the promises of salvation which God gave His people. Advent is the first season of the Christian year. Old Testament prophecies foretell the first coming of our Savior. The New Testament gives assurances that He will return in all His glory. During this season we prepare ourselves to receive Him anew.

Tau Cross - The cross was to be the means by which this promise would become reality for each of us. In the advent the child is not yet born; the prophecies are not yet fulfilled as man's salvation is not yet accomplished.

Christmas Rose - A virgin conceived and bore a son and called His name Jesus. The Rose of Love blossomed in the desert of sin, which was the world. The promised Messiah was born to set men free from sin.

Anchor Cross - Cross of Hope is one of the oldest symbols of our faith. It is particularly appropriate for the Christmas season because this Child is the hope of the world.

Epiphany - A five pointed star, which the wise men followed, symbolizes this whole season. During Epiphany, the church recalls the ways in which the child and later the man was shown to be the Son of God, the God of all men. This also means showing forth or manifestation and focuses on the world-wide mission of Christ.

Cross Crosslet - This emphasizes missions. From the central cross, which represents the one on which our Lord died, four crosses grow outward to

the four directions of the compass: North, East, South, West. Thus, the true Christian, as he takes up his cross to follow Him, accepts his responsibility to carry the gospel to the four corners of the world, to all people.

Lent - The pelican giving her blood for her young also suggests the Lord's Supper which He instituted on the night before He died.

Passion Cross - The pointed ends of the Passion Cross or Cross of Suffering, reminds us of our Lord's sufferings—of the points of the thorns, the nails, the spear through His lifeless body.

Easter Butterfly - Resurrection - a radiantly beautiful new creature! The Lord's disciples began to be aware that He lives again. The life cycle of the butterfly suggests something of the unexpected joy and the incredibly altered lives of those who know that the Lord has conquered death.

Glory Cross - On Easter morning we see the Glory Cross - illuminated by the sun. Our Lord, the Son of Righteousness, is risen and lives now and forever.

Ascension - Fiery Chariot as a symbol of our Lord's Ascension into Heaven. There He sits in glory on the right hand of His Father.

Chi Rho Cross - The cross is associated with triumph.

Pentecost - The seven-tongued flame symbolizes the outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

Seven Pointed Star and Book in the Center - This means The Word of God endureth forever. The seven point star refers to the Holy Spirit who inspired the writers of the Word as it appears in the Bible.

The circle of the Life of our Lord has made its full turn. Back at the beginning, it can be remembered that just as the Christ promised that He would send the Comforter, it was through this same person that our Lord first came to earth. That fact is affirmed in the Nicene Creed: 'He was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary.' And through the power of this same person, our Lord comes to us, too. By the Gift of the Holy Spirit, we have the living Christ with us always.