

IN CELEBRATION and MEMORIUM

The Dogwood- the Root of Jesse and "The Tree" were made possible by gifts made to give glory to God for the life, temporal and eternal, He has given us.

Gifts were made in celebration of God's Blessings of mothers.

Major gifts were received in memory of Oakhurst Lutheran member Gertrude Clark, from her daughter Lucy Richter.

From Susan (Shoshana) Moore in memory of her mother, Terry Kees.

And of former Oakhurst Lutheran Member, Deana Van Burgh, in memory of her mother.

THE ARTISTS

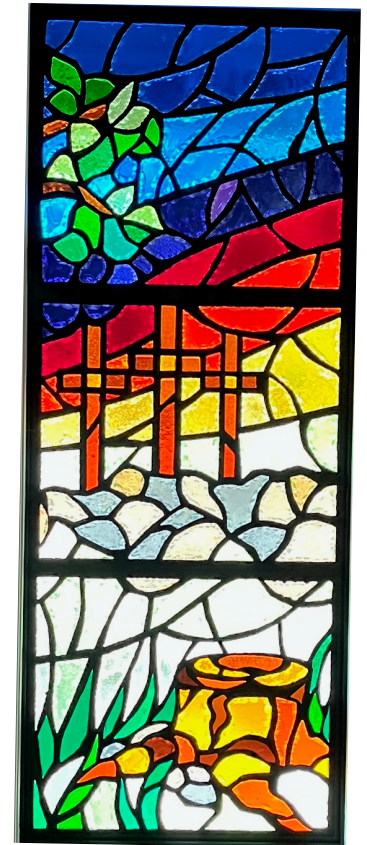
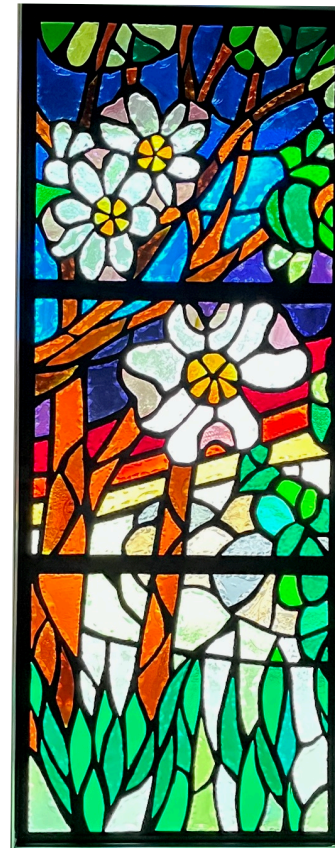
The artist for our windows is Cheri Rol. Cheri was a member of Oakhurst Lutheran. Cheri points to Gerald Brommer who taught her while she was at Lutheran High for her inspiration and impetus to pursue art. Cheri is a member of the The Society of Tole and Decorative Painters. She was certified by the Society in 1985 as decorative painter and received her masters status in the guild- having passed three levels- in 1991 master floral painter, 1994 master stroke painter and still life in 1997. She teaches across the country and has taught in Canada, Japan and Hawaii. Her work has been on display in the Smithsonian, the Blair House (Vice President's residence) and the White House.

Scarab Glass of Fresno was the manufacturer of our windows. Scarab's artist for the implementation of Cheri's drawings and design was Suzanne Clarke. The windows are made of faceted glass. The pieces of glass in the windows were cut from 1" thick, 8" by 12" "quarries." The glass is held together by epoxy.

THE OTHER TREES

The Tree of Life is the backdrop for the Baptismal font (see Faith and Art brochure).

The two windows on the left hand side of the sanctuary feature the Dogwood- the Root of Jesse and "The Tree."





THE LEGEND of the DOGWOOD



At Jesus time, the dogwood grew
To a stately size and a lovely hue.
'Twas strong & firm it's branches interwoven
For the cross of Christ its timbers were chosen.
Seeing the distress at this use of their wood
Christ made a promise which still holds good:
"Never again shall the dogwood grow
Large enough to be used so
Slender & twisted, it shall be
With blossoms like the cross for all to see.
As blood stains the petals marked in brown
The blossom's center wears a thorny crown.
All who see it will remember me
Crucified on a cross from the dogwood tree.
Cherished and protected this tree shall be
A reminder to all of my agony."

THE ROOT or STUMP OF JESSE

The "Root of Jesse" is a symbolic biblical phrase that refers to the Messiah, specifically highlighting Jesus Christ as a descendant of Jesse, who was King David's father. In the context of Isaiah 11:1 and 11:10- *"A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots."* *"On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious."* The imagery of a root or stump conveys the idea of a seemingly dead or diminished royal line from which new life and hope will emerge — a shoot or branch that will bear fruit. This new growth represents the coming of a Messianic king from David's family line even after the apparent collapse or judgment of the nation. Jeremiah 23:5 *"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and He will reign wisely as King and will administer justice and righteousness in the land."*



THE TREE

The wood of the cross recalls the tree of life in the Garden of Eden and the tree of life in the Book of Revelation. In the Act of the Apostles, **the disciples of Jesus refer to the wood of the cross that Jesus hung on as a "tree".**



Acts 10:39: *"We are witnesses of everything He did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a **tree**."*