

#5 God's Covenant with Jacob

The tents on the desert sand under a sun and a moon are symbolic of Jacob and his wanderings. The twelve stars represent the tribes of Israel.

“And he (Jacob) came to a certain place and spent the night there, because the sun had set and he took one of the stones of the place and put it under his head and lay down in that place.”

Genesis 28:11

“And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, *I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you live, I will give it to you and all your descendants.*”

#6 God's Covenant with Israel

The scroll is symbolic of the Torah which is a combination of the first five books of the Old Testament. Ancient scrolls were made of long strips of papyrus or parchment with each end fastened to a roller. As scholars read a scroll, it was unrolled from one roller and wound on the other. The Torah was placed in the Ark of the Covenant by Moses.

“Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My Covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”

Exodus 19:5

#7 God's Covenant with Moses – the Burning Bush

The burning bush is a symbol of God's call to Moses when He commanded Moses to lead the Israelites from their bondage in Egypt to the promised land in Palestine.



“And the angel of the Lord appeared to him (Moses) in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed.”

Exodus 3:2

“Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt.”

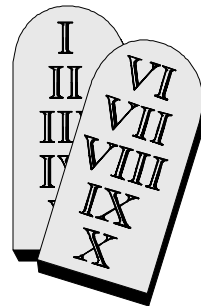
Exodus 3:10

#8 God's Mosaic Covenant - The Ten Commandments

The tablets of the Ten Commandments symbolize the laws God gave to Moses on Mount Sinai at the time of the exodus from Egypt the Israelites. The commandments are represented as two tablets with the numerals on each side. They are pictured on a mountain with the tongues of flame God is said to have used to write each commandment.

“And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: ...Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be my own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is mine.”

Exodus 19:3, 5



#9 The Ark of the Covenant

In the Old Testament, the Ark of the Covenant was symbolic of God's presence in the midst of His people. It was a sacred chest built according to the exact specifications as written in Exodus 25:10-22. The Ark was used to contain and transport the sacred objects of Israelite worship; the tablets of the Ten Commandments, the Rod of Aaron and a jar of Manna.

In a book on the making of the movie, Raiders of the Lost Ark, they pictured this ark and wrote, “The Raiders art department had divine source material in recreating the Ark. It's design, including golden, winged cherubs facing one another atop a wooden chest plated inside and out with gold, is described in exact detail in the Old Testament's book of Exodus. The design research also included old religious texts and archaeological journals in which the sacred relic had been drawn to biblical specifications.”

#10 God's Covenant with Levi

“When you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, that My covenant may continue with Levi, says the Lord of Hosts.”

“My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him as an object of reverence; so he revered Me, & stood in awe of My name.”

Matthew 2:4-5

The Old Testament symbol for Levi is a sacrificial fire burning on a stone altar, representing Levi's total commitment to God.

#11 God's Covenant with Phinehas

Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned away My wrath from the sons of Israel, in that he was jealous with My jealousy among them, so that I did not destroy the sons of Israel in My jealousy. Therefore, say behold, I give him My covenant of peace; and it shall be for him and his descendants after him, a covenant of a “perpetual priesthood, because he was jealous for his God, and made atonement for the sons of Israel.”

Numbers 25:11-13

A “scapegoat” bears away sin and is a symbol of atonement. A scarlet yarn tied on its head designates the “scapegoat.” The sword represents reconciliation of the guilty by divine sacrifice.

#12 God's Covenant with David

In Psalms 89:3-4

I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to David My servant, I will establish your seed forever, and build up your throne to all generations.

Among the symbols for David are the harp representing the psalms he wrote and the crown depicting his royalty.



The New Testament

#13 I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

John 10:11

#14 I AM THE VINE, YE ARE THE BRANCHES

John 15:5

#15 I AM THE ALPHA AND OMEGA

Revelation 1:8

#16 I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

John 11:25

#17 I AM COME IN MY FATHER'S NAME

John 5:43

#18 I AM COME A LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

John 12:46

#19 I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 8:12

#20 I AM FROM ABOVE

John 8:23

#21 I AM ALIVE FOR EVERMORE

Revelation 1:18

#22 I AM HE WHO LIVETH

Revelation 1:18

#23 I AM AMONG YOU AS HE WHO SERVETH

Luke 22:27

#24 I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

John 6:48

#3 God's Covenant with Abraham

On that day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram saying,

"To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates"

Genesis 15:18

The shield with stars is a symbol of Abraham with the stars representing his descendants and the large center star representing the Messiah.

"And He Said, Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you."

Genesis 22:1

The sacrificial knife is an Old Testament Symbol of divine trust and obedience. When Abraham took the knife to sacrifice his son as God had commanded, the angel of the Lord, at the last moment, told him that Isaac should not be harmed.

#4 God's Covenant with Isaac

And the Lord appeared to him and said...*"Sojourn in this land and I will be with you and bless you, for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands and I will establish the oath which I swore to your father Abraham."*

Genesis 26:3

"Then Isaac dug again in the wells of water which had been dug in the days of his father, Abraham, for the Philistines had stopped them up..."

Genesis 26:18



Many thanks to all who Helped with the Creation of the kneelers:

Kathy Babin	Mary Lopez
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Sally Headley	Deborah Thompson
Rosalie Jackson	son
Lynda Kern	Janice Vincent

... and even some stitches were added by our ministers!



Riverchase United Methodist Church



Needlepoint Kneelers

The horizontal blue band running through all the kneelers symbolizes the water in a "river chase." The design in your beautiful stained glass windows forms a border on each cushion. A golden circle, representing eternity, surrounds the design in the center of each kneeler.

Facing the altar, the twelve kneelers on the left have a symbol of God's Covenant from the old testament. The message of each Covenant is **"I am your God, you are My people."** The twelve kneelers on the right contain the **"I am"** phrases of Jesus from the New Testament. Some of these **I am**s are also featured in your stained glass windows.

The colors are symbolic:

RED
symbolizes Christian zeal and love

BLUE
shows heavenly love and truth

PURPLE
is the color of royalty and penitence

GREEN
depicts Christian growth and hope

GOLD
is the symbol of joy

WHITE
is for purity



The Old Testament

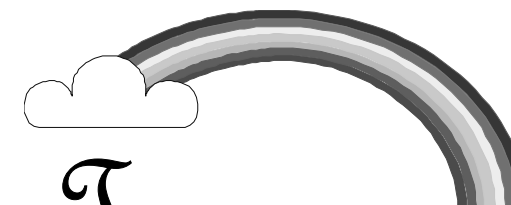
#1 God's Covenant with Adam

The flaming sword is a symbol of God's power. When Adam broke his covenant with God, He sent Adam and Eve out of the Garden and placed a flaming sword in the path to the tree of life so they could not return.

"...so he drove the man out; and in the east of the Garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life."

Genesis 3:24

#2 God's Covenant with Noah



The ark is a symbol of the great flood of the Old Testament. The rainbow symbolizes the covenant between God and Man, and his promise of deliverance and protection.

"and I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the cloud, then I will look upon it, to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth. And God said to Noah, This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Genesis 9:15-17