

# CHRISTMAS PARAMENTS

WHITE is the color of JOY because God the Father's love sent Jesus to this world! Christmas is the season when the angels share the Good News that is for all people: The angel said to the shepherds, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (*Luke 2:10-12*). So together we celebrate and are filled with gladness—for Jesus, the Light, has now come into this world. He has come to be pure, innocent, and holy. Just as many wear white at their baptism to show they've been washed and cleansed by Jesus' holiness, so too, the pastors and worship leaders wear albs (Latin for "white") to show their sins too are forgiven as they lead people to Christ! Come, let us worship the newborn King who is the Light of the World (*John 1*)!



## The Lectern

The lectern parament is white with a light blue (kingly) color with the symbol of an elevated crown to represent Jesus as the newborn King or the King of Kings in the ancestral line of King David. Jesus' Kingdom is one that endures forever. From *Matthew 28:18*, He exercises His kingship over the Kingdom of Power on earth (all things visible and invisible); from *John 18:36-37* Jesus rules over the Kingdom of Grace (Christian Church on earth); and from *2 Timothy 4:18* Jesus leads us to the Kingdom of Glory (believers in Christ who live eternally in heaven with Him).

## The Pulpit

The pulpit parament of the simple, lowly Manger reminds us of Jesus' humility being conceived by the Holy Spirit but born of the Virgin Mary. He came for all people: rich and poor, strong and weak, sinners who need the Savior. The sign given to the shepherds was that they would find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger (*Luke 2:12*).



## The Stoles and Altar Paraments

On one stole and angel is depicted proclaiming Christ's birth. The other stole depicts the Nativity Star. On the Altar, closest to the Lectern, an angel plays a trumpet surrounded by four stars. The angel reminds us of the angelic proclamation to the shepherds proclaiming the Good News that will be for all the people. The four stars represent the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John which proclaim Jesus birth, life, death and bodily resurrection, as the culmination of the four weeks of Advent. The four stars also remind us that this message of salvation goes out to all four corners of the world (*Matthew 28:19 & Acts 1:8*). The Altar parament closest to the Pulpit has the Nativity Star which led the Wise Men to worship Jesus as the newborn King and give their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh (*Matthew 2:1-12*).