

RED PARAMENTS

RED symbolizes fire and blood. This color is used on Pentecost Sunday (50 days after Jesus' bodily resurrection from the dead and 10 days after Jesus' ascension into heaven). Pentecost is the start of the early Christian Church where tongues of fire appeared on the apostles' heads and they spoke the good news of Jesus Christ in the native languages of the people gathered together from across the earth. This color is also used for Confirmation, Reformation, Church Anniversaries, Mission Festivals, and the Ordination/Installation of a pastor.



The Lectern

The lectern symbol is an open Bible with a cross and a flame of fire underneath. The Bible is the authoritative Word of God which contains both Law & Gospel. The Law shows us our sin and the Gospel shows us our Savior Jesus Christ. The Bible is open because we, as Christians, are blessed to listen to the Bible in worship and the Word of God brings good news to the congregation.



The Pulpit

The red pulpit parament depicts a ship. The church, like a ship, carries the faithful through all conditions of life.



The Stoles and Altar Paraments

On the left side of the altar is an image of a dove representing the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came down upon Jesus at his baptism like a dove (Mark 1:10). The Holy Spirit creates faith and keep us in the Christian Faith as He directs us to Jesus Christ through the Means of Grace (Bible, Baptism, Lord's Supper). He makes us holy and keeps us holy by giving us Jesus' righteousness and forgiveness! The right side parament has seven tongues of fire, reminding us of the seven gifts of the Spirit (Isaiah 11:1-3). Fire does two things: it consumes fuel, and produces heat and light. Our faith clings to the promise of God and appropriates to itself what this promise offers, the grace of God and the merits of Christ. In Isaiah 11 the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit are described this way: *And upon him shall rest the Spirit of the LORD; the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.*



The main symbol on the pastors' stoles is the chi-rho cross (stands for Jesus and his title, Christ) with one stole having fire at the bottom of the cross and the other with the dove, both symbols of the Holy Spirit.