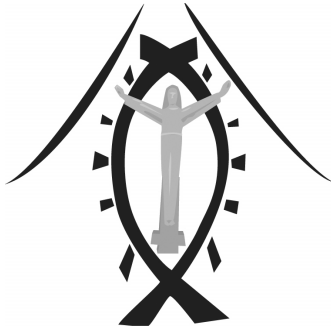


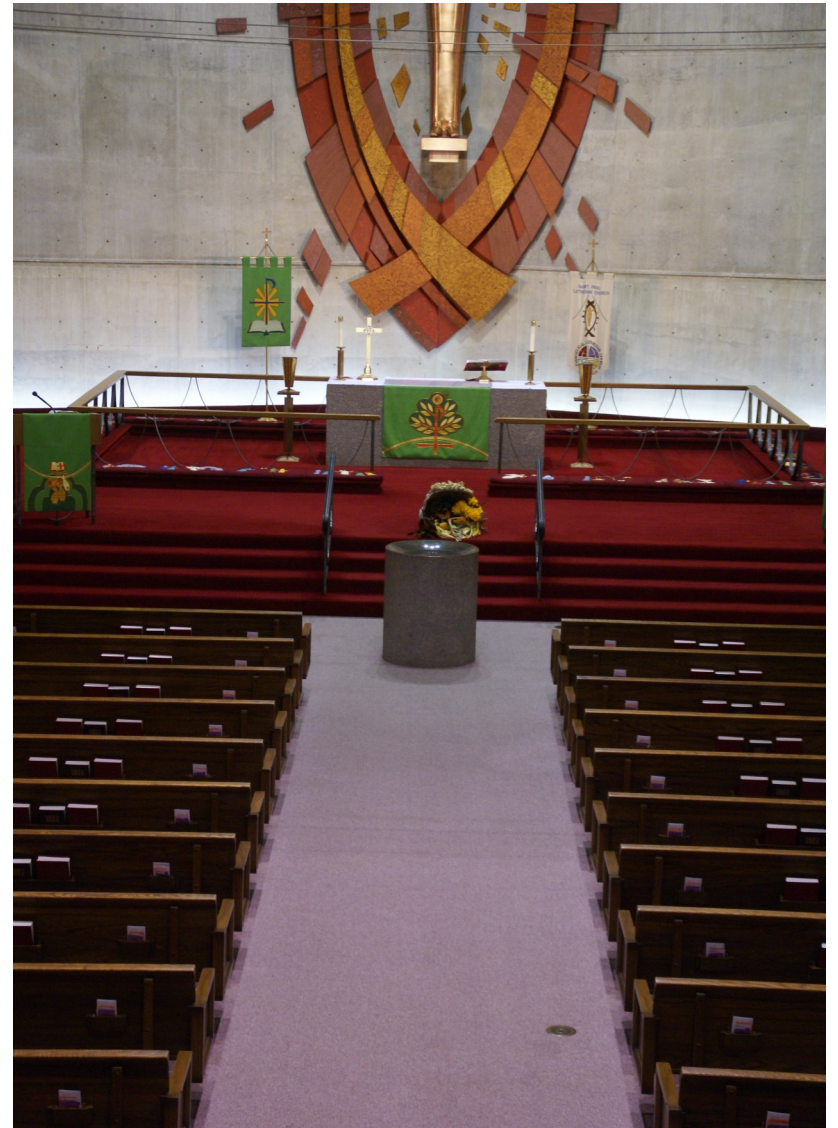
## St. Paul Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
2256 Bahia Vista Street, Sarasota, Florida 34239  
Phone: 941.955.6479 Fax: 941.955.6478  
[www.stpaul-srq.org](http://www.stpaul-srq.org)



**Our Mission:** As a Holy Spirit-led family of God, we are called through Baptism to proclaim and bear witness to God's reconciling grace in Jesus Christ to all; so that by joyfully sharing God's Word and encouraging each other to service for the sake of others, our lives together make a difference for Christ and His kingdom.

## *St. Paul Lutheran Church*



## *Altar Rail Kneelers*

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever  
is honorable, whatever is just, whatever  
is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is  
gracious, if there is any excellence, if  
there is anything worthy of praise, think  
about these things. (Phil. 4:8)

St. Paul wrote these words to the Christians at Philippi.  
The passage speaks to the lifestyle and life thoughts  
and life speech of Christian disciples.

When the weary and worn Christian disciples of today  
approached our Lord's table, their thoughts of what is  
true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, and gracious will  
surely be enriched as our needlepoint story reminds  
them of all our Lord did for us during His life and  
ministry. The disciples will realize a measure of the  
beauty of this life and the beauty of the thousands of  
stitches dedicated to the Glory of God.

I want to express my own sincere appreciation and  
that of our church council, our congregation, and our  
friends to those ladies and gentlemen whose skills and  
gifts made this project possible. Our needlepoint will  
be enjoyed by thousands of our Lord's disciples for  
years to come...

Pastor Miller

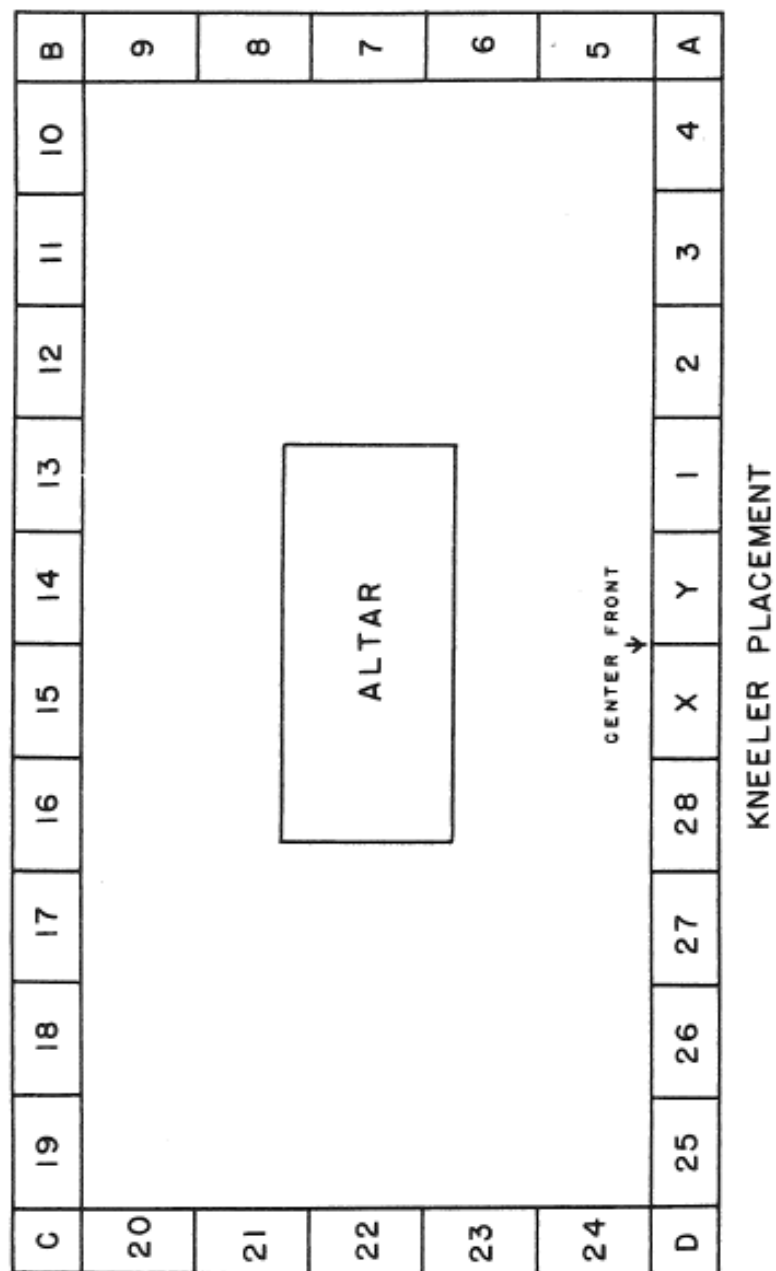
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Saint Paul Project Coordinator: Shirley Claussen  
Needlepoint Advisor: Robin Sellers  
Kneelers Assembled by: Alice Fritz  
Yarn and Canvas purchased from Handicraft House  
Photography Helen Miller

## THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO THE GOSPELS

Designs created by Robin Sellers

Art Work by Joy Mason



## NEEDLEPOINTERS

Mildred Bromby  
 Bill Claussen  
 Shirley Claussen  
 Renata Corrigan  
 Norma Gayhart  
 Eileen Heilmann  
 Jane Hillstrom  
 Carl Holmgren  
 John Hurdle  
 Ann Jacobs  
 Karen James  
 Ruth Johnson  
 Marge kay  
 Betsy Kelley  
 Ponny McCandless  
 Harriet Nilsen  
 Harriet Rathgeber  
 Peggy Reid  
 Louise Roberts  
 Ken Sellers  
 Robin Sellers  
 Martha Seltzer  
 Evelyn Tighe  
 Caroline Tolle

## Donors

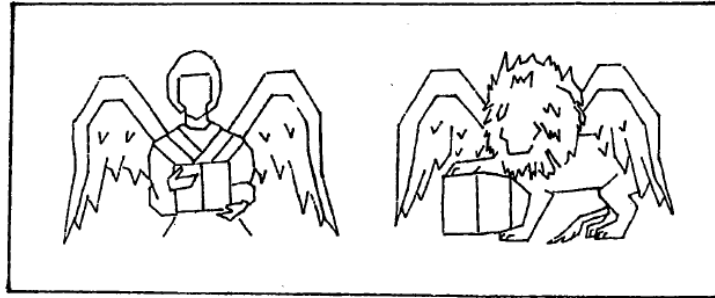
Frank Bromby, in memory of his mother and father  
 Mildred Bromby, in memory of her mother and father  
 Bill and Shirley Claussen  
 Eunice Corbett, in memory of her husband Bill  
 Marie R. Crepeau  
 Lillian Cross, in memory of her husband George  
 In memory of Harry Davis, by his family  
 Marion Dorband and Florence Melbye, in memory of  
 their mother  
 Arnold and Grace Erickson, in memory of Lucille Loomis  
 Ray and Sweetie Gingerich  
 Elaine Green, in memory of her sister Mildred Busendorfer  
 Jens and Agnes Hansen, in memory of Ronald Hansen  
 Eleanore Hare, in memory of her husband Clyde E.  
 David Hillstrom, in memory of his wife Seece  
 Mildred Hurrel, In memory of her husband Clifford  
 Ruth M. Johnson, in memory of Mary Clark  
 Nick and Marge Kay  
 Lutheran Church Women  
 John J. and Helen Miller, in memory of George Cross  
 In memory of Caroline Putz, by her family  
 Louise Roberts  
 Gary and Karen Schmidt and family  
 Margarete Scott  
 Ervin and La Von Simcoe, in memory of their parents  
 Harold and Florence Urbine  
 Clifford and Elma Simcoe  
 Wayne and Janet smith, in memory of Mrs. Charles Smith  
 Evelyn Starz, in memory of her husband George  
 Caroline Tolle, in honor of her daughters Jennifer & Elizabeth  
 Margaret Wissinger, in memory of her brother Paul Ulsh  
 Brian and Lorayne Walsh, in memory of Elsie C. Vance  
 Norman and Mary Witt

## THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO THE GOSPELS

|    |                                  |    |                                   |
|----|----------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| X  | Matthew and Mark                 | 14 | The Transfiguration               |
| Y  | Luke and John                    | 15 | The Transfiguration               |
| 1  | The Annunciation                 | 16 | "I am the Good Shepherd"          |
| 2  | The Birth of Jesus               | 17 | The Parable of the Net            |
| 3  | The Appearance to the Shepherds  | 18 | The Stilling of the Storm         |
| A  | Symbols for Jesus Christ         | 19 | The Firm Foundation               |
| 5  | The Baptism of Jesus             | C  | Symbols for Jesus Christ          |
| 6  | The Temptation                   | 20 | The Last Supper                   |
| 7  | The Miracle at Cana              | 21 | The Betrayal and the Denial       |
| 8  | Calling the Apostles             | 22 | Ecce Homo                         |
| 9  | The Sermon on the Mount          | 23 | The Road to Calvary               |
| B  | Symbols for Jesus Christ         | 24 | The Crucifixion                   |
| 10 | The Sower                        | D  | Symbols for Jesus Christ          |
| 11 | The Healings                     | 25 | The Guard at the Tomb             |
| 12 | The Feeding of the Five Thousand | 26 | The Empty Tomb                    |
| 13 | "I am the Light of the World"    | 27 | The Appearances of the Risen Lord |
|    |                                  | 28 | The Ascension                     |

X

Original drawing



The completed kneeler



MATTHEW AND MARK

The winged man symbolizes Matthew because he begins his Gospel by describing the human lineage of Jesus. The winged lion symbolizes Mark because the beginning of his Gospel suggests the roar of a lion.

Needlepointer: Peggy Reid

## STITCHES

BASKETWEAVE



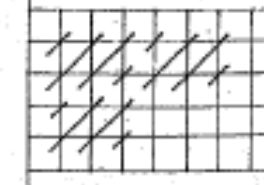
MOSAIC



CASHMERE - VERT.



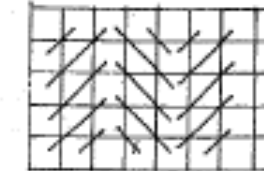
CASHMERE - HORIZ.



FLAT



STEM





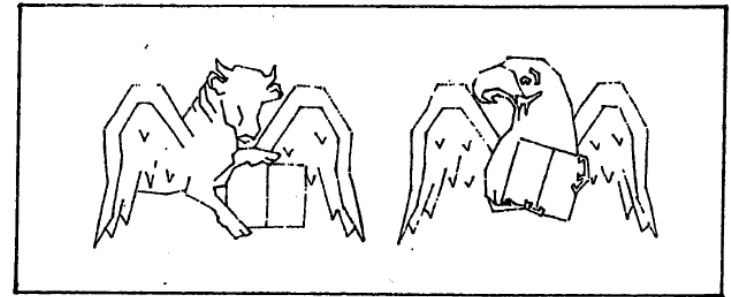
## NOTES ON NEEDLEPOINT

The stitches used were basket weave, mosaic, cashmere, and stem. All of these stitches are diagonal and form either squares or rectangles, which fit very well with the geometric lines of the designs. These particular stitches were selected to give adequate coverage on the back as well as the front of the canvas, which in turn lends strength and durability to the needlepoint. The chosen stitches, as well as the fact that all the work was done on frames, minimize canvas distortion. The impression of shading is achieved by offsetting stitches within enclosed areas; and by reversing some stitches, the illusion of shading is further heightened. The chancel lighting is used to full advantage, for the play of light on different stitches helps in the creation of different textures. The stem stitch was used vertically to form the background of the kneelers and serves to direct the eye subtly beyond the kneelers to the altar. Again, the chancel lighting helps the stitches create changing color and texture.

Twelve gauge canvas was used. The designs were stitched with two strands of Persian yarn, and the background was done in tapestry yarn. Gold and silver silk embroidery floss was used to highlight certain areas.

The kneelers are individually backed with upholstery weight velvet to match the background yarn color. Each kneeler has a velcro closure to permit easy access for repairs, cleaning, or remounting.

Original drawing



The completed kneeler

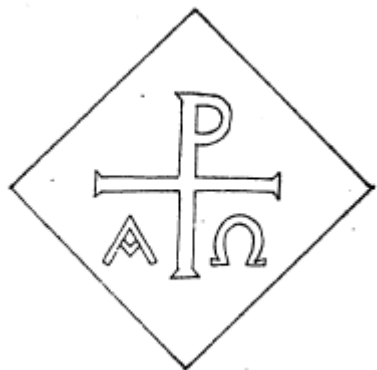


LUKE AND JOHN

The winged Ox symbolizes Luke because his Gospel vividly describes the sacrificial death of Jesus. The winged eagle symbolizes John because his Gospel seems to soar on eagle's wings.

Needlepointers: Shirley Claussen and Robin Sellers

## ABCD



Original Drawing



Completed Kneeler

### THE CORNER KNEELERS

As Jesus Christ is the cornerstone on which the church is built, so the corner kneelers use symbols for Christ. The Chi Rho is a sacred monogram formed from the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ (XPICTOC). The Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek Alphabet, which signify that Jesus is the beginning and the end of all things.

Needlepointers: A - Renata Corrigan  
B - Louise Roberts  
C - Bill and Shirley Claussen  
D - Ann Jacobs

***On the following pages the first nine kneelers (#1-#9)  
Illustrate Jesus' life from the time of the annunciation until  
He begins to teach his apostles.***

### NOTES ON DESIGN AND COLOR

Our altar rail kneelers represent a departure from traditional design. Rather than repeating religious symbols, the designs convey a spiritual theme in a temporal style by means of geometric lines and figures. The clear colors were drawn from the stained glass windows on either side of the church nave, and of Christ and his divinity. Christ is depicted in royal purple, red, or white. The Virgin Mary is done in sky blue. The apostles are shown in earth tones of green, brown, and yellow. The flat pseudo-Byzantine shapes are enhanced by large areas of solid colors while perspective and depth were achieved by outlining colored areas in darker shades. Much of the design found its origin in the figure of Christ on the chancel wall. The figures in the kneelers are also robed and featureless while the rich background color blending into the carpet allows those figures to seem to hover over the kneelers just as the figure on the wall hovers over all of us.





The original drawing



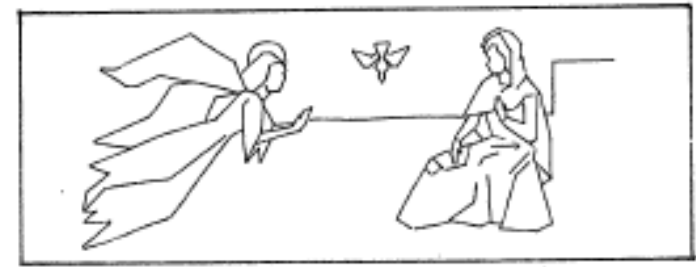
The completed kneeler

#28

The Ascension

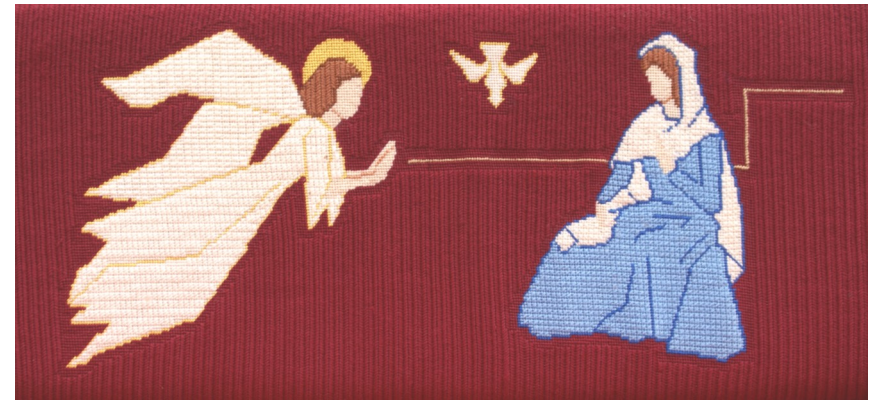
He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up to heaven.  
Luke 24:50-51

Needlepointer: Ann Jacobs



original drawing

The



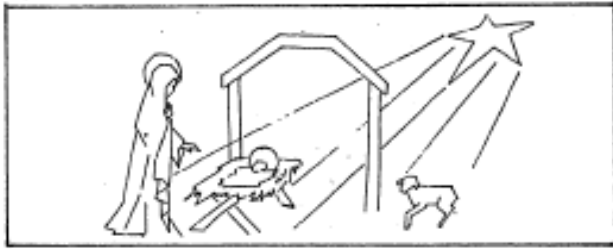
The completed kneeler

#1

THE ANNUNCIATION

The angel Gabriel came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" (Luke 1:28)

Needlepointer: Ruth Johnson



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

#2

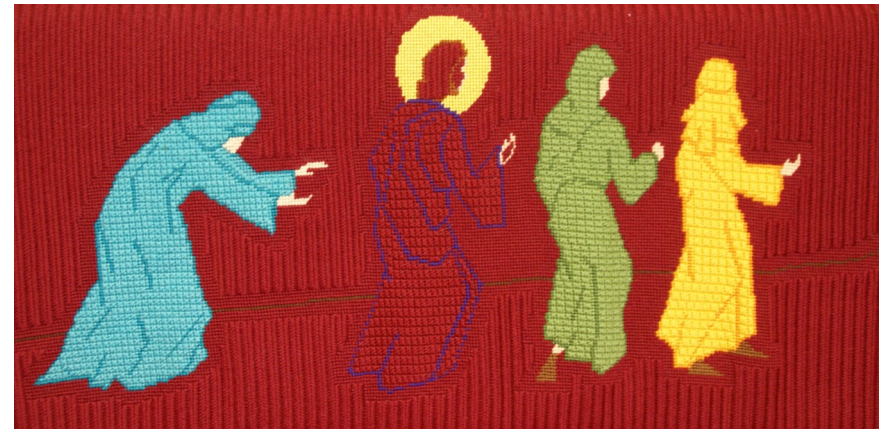
## THE BIRTH OF JESUS

"Mary gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger..."  
Luke 2:7

Needlepointer: Caroline Tolle



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

#27

## THE APPEARANCES OF THE RISEN LORD

Mary turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. John 20:14 While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. Luke 24:15

Needlepointer: Mildred Bromby





The original drawing



The completed kneeler

#26

### THE EMPTY TOMB

Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might anoint him...They saw that the stone was rolled back...And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe. Mark 16:1, 4-5

Needlepointer: Evelyn Tighe



The original drawing



The Completed kneeler

#3

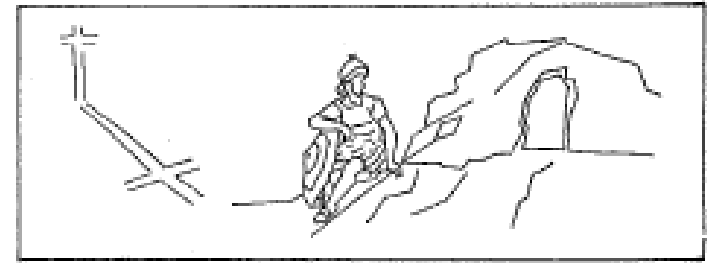
### THE APPEARANCE TO THE SHEPHERDS

"An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear." Luke 2:9

Needlepointer: Marge Kay



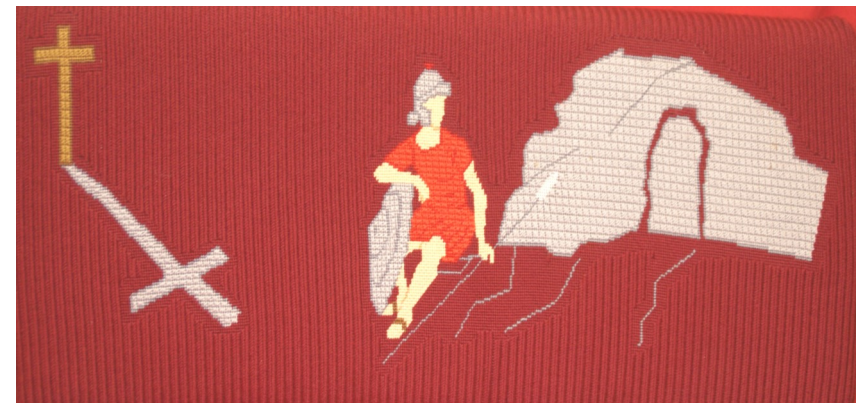
The original drawing



The original drawing



The completed kneeler



The completed kneeler

4

#### THE VISIT OF THE WISE MEN

"They fell down and worshipped him...they offered him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11

Needlepointer: Karen James

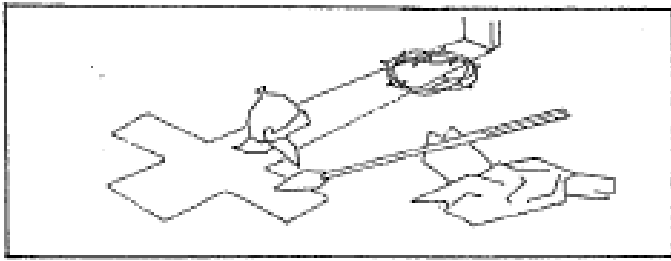
#25

#### THE GUARD AT THE TOMB

They went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard. Matthew 27:66

Needlepointer: Jane Hillstrom





The original drawing



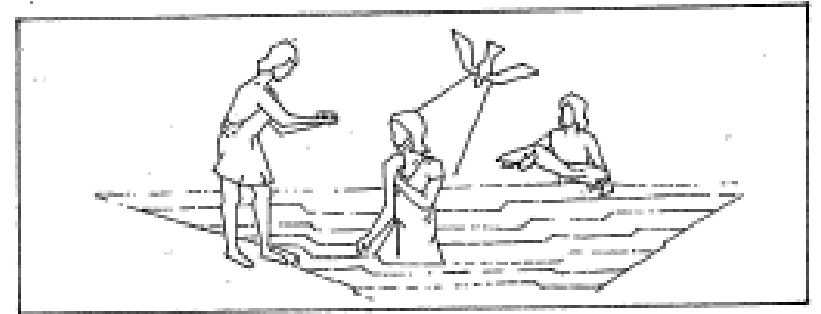
The completed kneeler

#24

## THE CRUCIFIXION

When they had crucified him, they divided his garments among themselves by casting lots. Matthew 27:35

Needlepointer: Renata Corrigan



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

#5

## THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the Heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove. Mark 1:9-10

Needlepointer: Shirley Claussen



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

#6

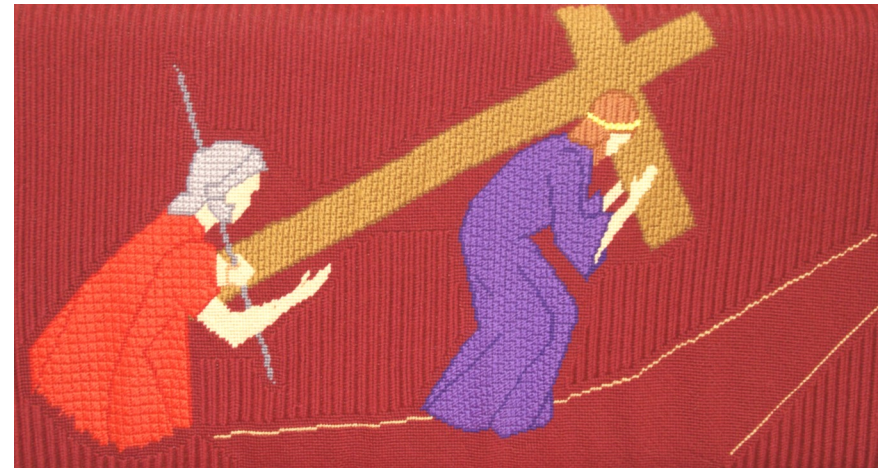
## THE TEMPTATION

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdom of the world and their splendor...and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Matthew 4:8-9

Needlepointer: John Hurdle



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

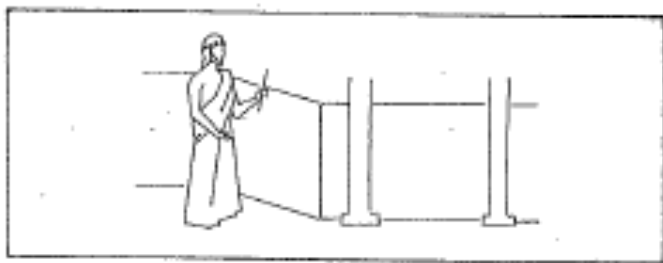
#23

## THE ROAD TO CALVARY

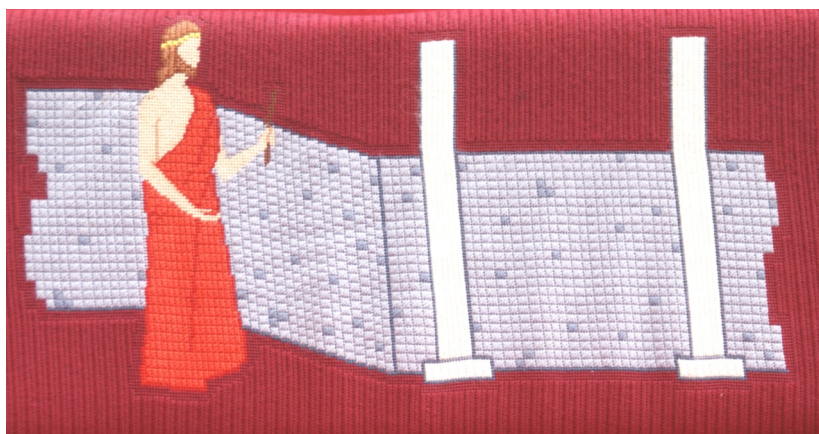
They took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. John 19:17

Needlepointer: Eileen Heilmann





The original drawing



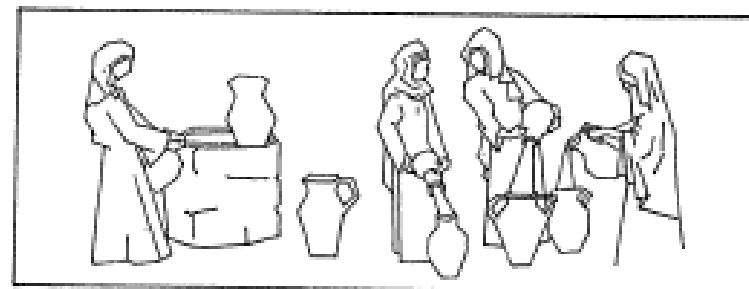
The completed kneeler

#22

ECCE HOMO

They stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying "Hail, King of the Jews!"  
Matthew 27: 28-29

Needlepointer: Ken Sellers



The original drawing



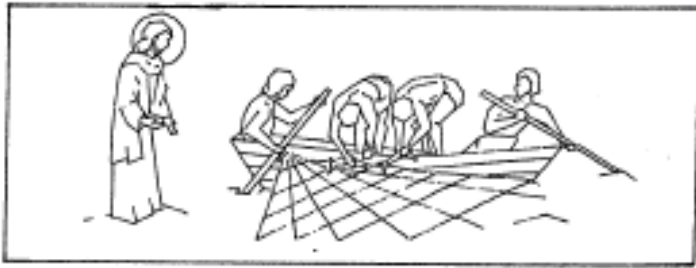
The completed kneeler

#7

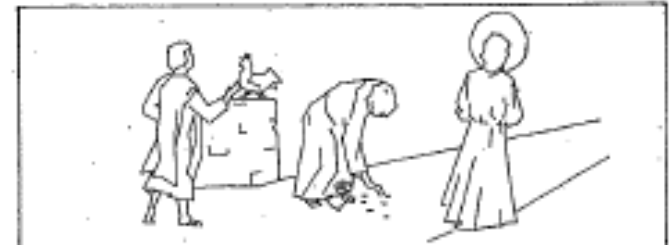
THE MIRACLE AT CANA

Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water...now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast...When the steward tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from."  
John 2:7-9

Needlepointer: Shirley Claussen



The original drawing



The original drawing



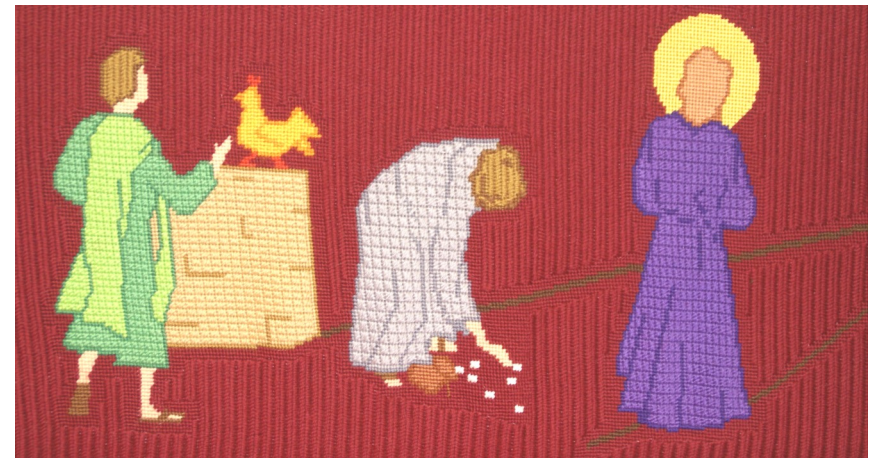
The completed kneeler

#8

## CALLING THE APOSTLES

He said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19

Needlepointer: Ken Sellers



The completed kneeler

#21

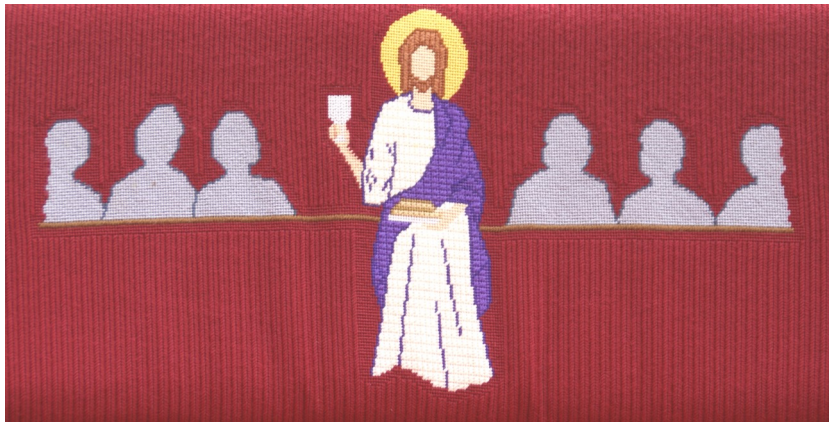
## THE BETRAYAL AND THE DENIAL

Judas Iscariot went to the Chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. Jesus said to him, Truly, I say to you this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Matthew 26:14-15, 34





The original drawing



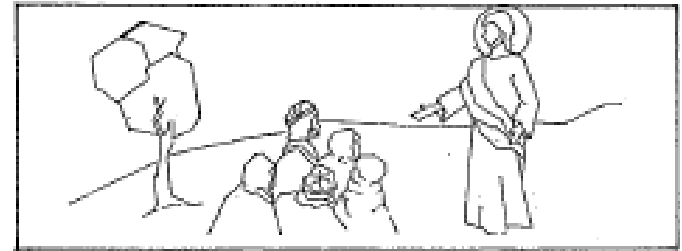
The completed kneeler

#20

### THE LAST SUPPER

As they were eating, he took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them, and said "Take, this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for man." Mark 14:22-24

Needlepointers: Shirley Claussen, Martha Seltzer



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

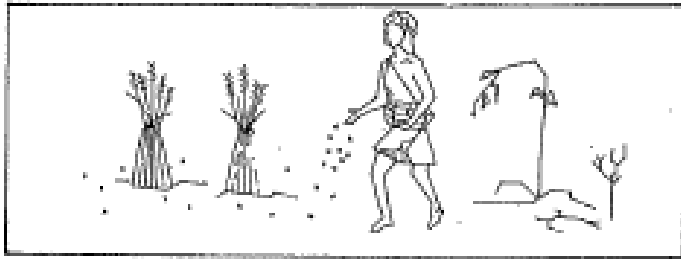
#9

### THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

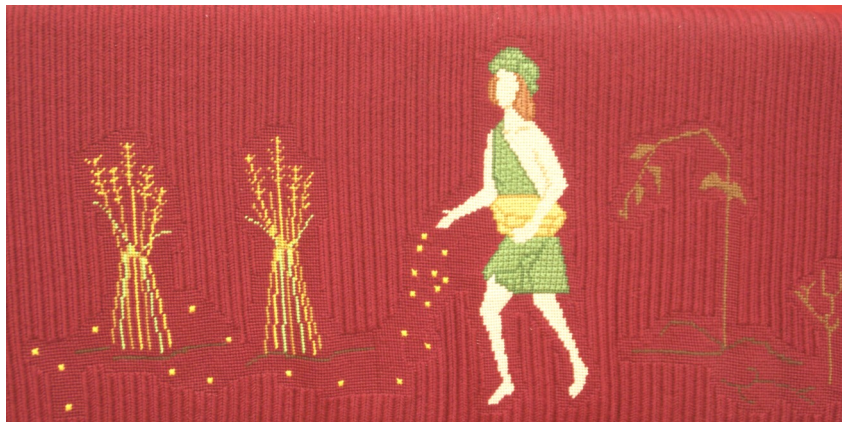
He went upon the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them. Matthew 5:1-2

Needlepointer: Shirley Claussen

***The following ten kneelers #10—19 are those which depict the parables Jesus told, the lessons he taught, and the miracles he performed during his earthly ministry.***



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

#10

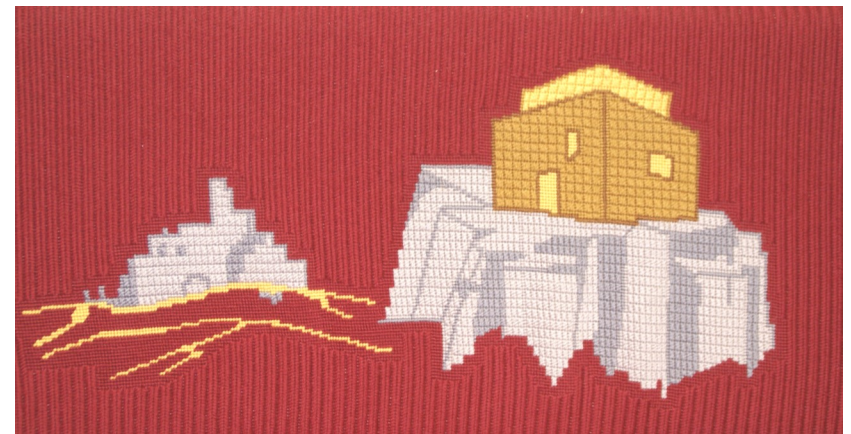
### THE SOWER

He told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow..." Matthew 13:3-8

Needlepointer: Betsy Kelley



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

#19

### THE FIRM FOUNDATION

A man who hears my words and does them is like a man building on a foundation laid on rock. He who does not heed my word is like a man who builds on the ground without a foundation. Luke 6:47-49

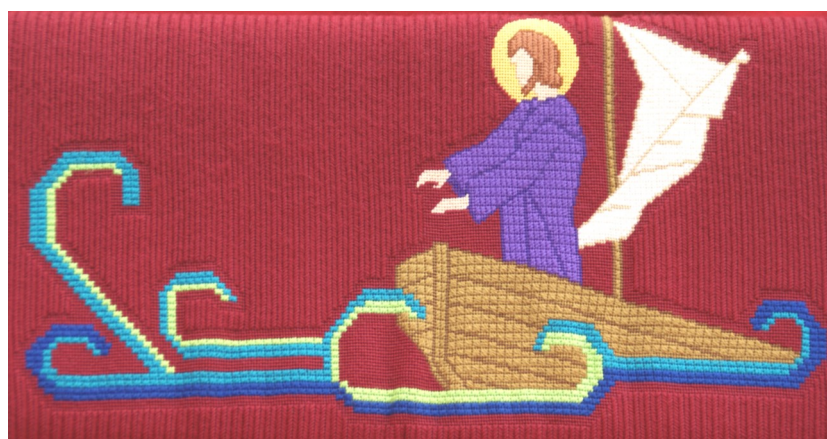
Needlepointer: Harriet Rathgeber

***The last nine kneelers #20-28 resume the chronological history of events in the life of Jesus***





The original drawing



The completed kneeler

# #18 THE STILLING OF THE STORM

Jesus awoke and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be Still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. Mark 4:39

Needlepointer: Robin Sellers



The original drawing

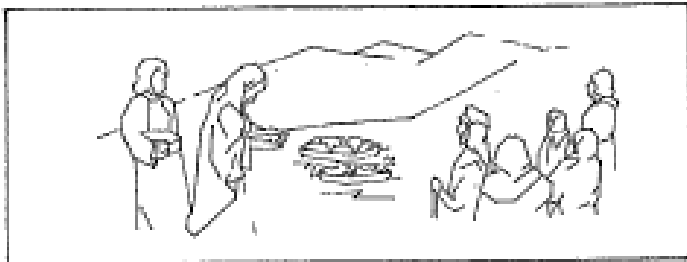


The completed kneeler

# #11 THE HEALINGS

Wherever he came, they laid the sick in the market-places, and besought him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment, and as many as touched it were made well. Mark 6:56

Needlepointer: Ann Jacobs



The original drawing

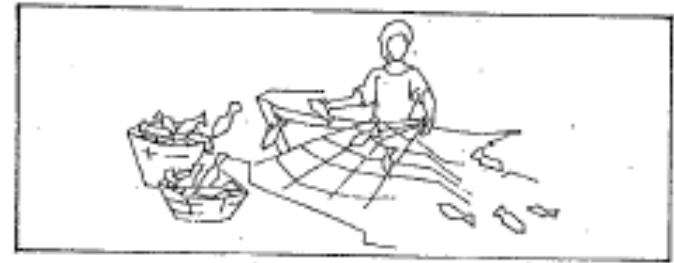


The completed kneeler

## #12 THE FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND

Then Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, and he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves...And all ate and were filled." Mark 6:41-44

Needlepointer: Ann Jacobs and Evelyn Tighe



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

## #17 THE PARABLE OF THE NET

The kingdom of heaven is like a net which was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind; but when it was full, men sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad. Matthew 13:47-48

Needlepointer: Carl Holmgren





The original drawing



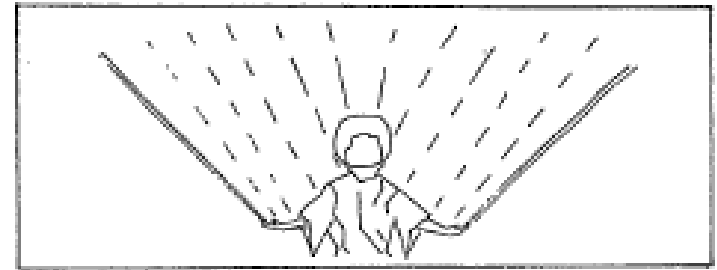
The completed kneeler

#16

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11

Needlepointer: Harriet Nilsen



The original drawing



The completed kneeler

#13

"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"

Jesus said: "I am the Light of the world, he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Needlepointer: Martha Seltzer

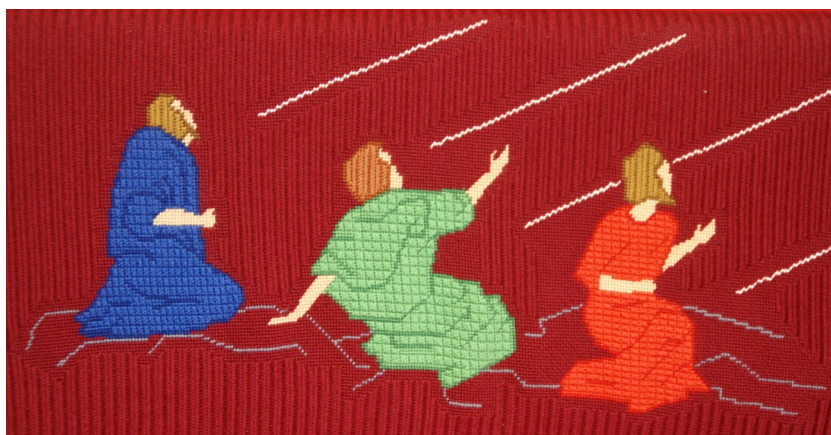




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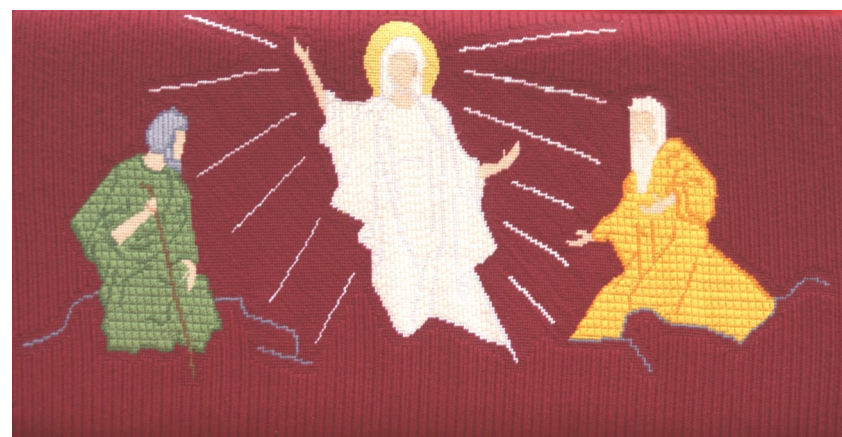
The completed kneeler

#14

## THE TRANSFIGURATION

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves and he was transfigured before them. Mark 9:2

Needlepointer: Norma Gayhart



The completed kneeler

#15

## THE TRANSFIGURATION

"His garments became glistening, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses " Mark 9:3-4

Needlepointer: Ponny McCandless