"People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within."

-Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

Buyers Guide to Stained Glass for Pentecostal Churches

Selecting and choosing stained glass for windows, door inserts, sidelights or transoms can be a daunting task for many church congregations. This guide is provided as a tool to help those who are looking for the perfect stained glass windows, doors, or other applications for Pentecostal churches. Congregations want stained glass that reflects the tenets of faith and doctrine, while serving to inspire worshippers. At Stained Glass, Inc., artists and experts have provided helpful information for Pentecostals who are looking to meet their church stained glass needs.



A Brief Guide to Stained Glass for Pentecostal Churches Introduction to Pentecostal Stained Glass

In the Pentecostal Church, over 4 million Americans embrace the teachings of Jesus, literally, as they are recorded in the Holy Bible. Church to church architecture is varied and unique, as congregations sometimes use older buildings once used by other denominations, or are able to build newer houses of worship to accommodate their services. Generally, however, Pentecostal church decor reflects the contemporary style that bespeaks a somewhat young American denomination, since the Pentecostal church evolved from the Holiness movement as recent as the early twentieth century. Stained glass is often modern, simply designed and understated, bringing out the colors used throughout the church to enhance worship areas and welcome guests.

Unique Stained Glass Needs for Pentecostal Churches

Stained glass windows in Pentecostal churches vary greatly from church to church. Traditionally, Pentecostals have focused on worshipping in whatever building accommodated their congregation. Some Pentecostal churches are located in former structures of other denominations, and feature stained glass windows representative of the period when the original churches were built. Others are new buildings, built by congregations who are growing and seeking to add space that can facilitate the growth of Pentecostal activities like education of Christians, missions, community outreach and prayer. For these reasons, Pentecostal stained glass is often commissioned to replace older windows that have fallen into disrepair, or to enhance newer facilities. Not restricted to more traditional worship norms of older denominations, Pentecostals include joyful praise as part of their services, and stained glass commissioned for these churches often reflects that style and grace. Splendid windows that are created with brilliant color and shimmering light center the décor of many Pentecostal churches, adding a vibrant accent and inspiring energy to every event and service.

"The purpose of the United Pentecostal Church International is to carry the whole gospel to the whole world by the whole church; to establish an effective organized effort; to encourage the opening and establishing of new works; to evangelize the world by every means possible; and to produce and maintain a clean ministry and fellowship." -United Pentecostal Church International Mission Statement



Pentecostal Stained Glass is Unique

In 1945, the United Pentecostal Church International was formed in America, blending several groups of likeminded believers from the Pentecostal Church, Inc. and the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ. Early congregations gathered for worship in private homes, store fronts and mission buildings, among other venues. Today, Pentecostals value their church buildings, built on the foundation of Christian teaching and hard work and cooperation of the faithful. These churches serve as home sites for Pentecostal families and activity, and stained glass is often chosen to complement modern, contemporary design of these typically new church buildings. Not bound by longstanding traditions of older religious denominations, Pentecostal church members often opt for designs that are colorful and vibrant, reflecting the joyful praise of the people for God and His goodness.

Brilliant color reflects light in shifting patterns throughout the day, setting every corner of a Pentecostal church alight.

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"Seeking and receiving the gift of tongues is regarded as a sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and in many Pentecostal churches this is a requirement for full discipleship. Other spiritual gifts, such as healing, love, joy, prophecy, and answers to prayer, also make up Pentecostals' experience of God."

-Handbook of Denominations in the United States

Styles and Designs Featured In Pentecostal Stained Glass

Included in the tenets of the Pentecostal Church is a strong belief in the Christian's obligation to bring the message of the gospel to everyone throughout the world. Another important part of the church is the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and the partaking of the gifts of the Spirit just as apostles did on the Day of Pentecost, from which the church derives its name. The gifts of the Spirit, including tongues, interpretation, and prophesy, are held dear to Pentecostals, and the more traditional, ornate trappings of old world church decor are not generally found in the simpler, more contemporary décor of Pentecostals. Pentecostals have fewer religious symbols than other, older denominations, but the use of symmetrical design in geometric detail, centered by a familiar symbol of faith is often used for Pentecostal church décor. Stained glass art included in Pentecostal churches using symbols includes:

- The open Bible
- The flame of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost
- The dove
- The cross
- The Star of Bethlehem, signifying the birth of Jesus

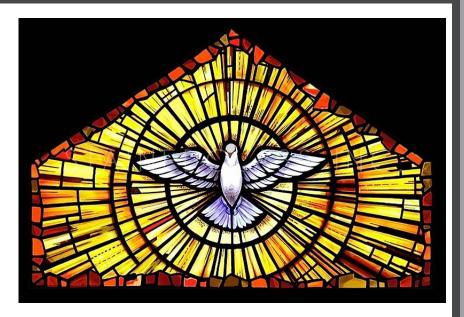
Designs are chosen for their power to inspire and uplift worshippers as part of Pentecostal services, as well as serving as magnificent teaching tools to bring the important stories of the Bible to life for believers.





Pentecostal Stained Glass that Meets Your Church Needs

The extensive online gallery of works of stained glass art included on the website of Stained Glass, Inc. includes an impressive number of breathtaking designs that depict the Day of Pentecost, often portraying the Holy Spirit as a dove descending upon the faithful. Included in this collection are designs that reflect both contemporary and classic stained glass styles. In addition, the symbolism held dear to Pentecostals, such as the cross, the dove and flame of the Holy Spirit and the open book that represents the Bible in its literal interpretation, are depicted in many works of stained glass, set beautifully in pleasing geometric and symmetrical designs that reflect a thousand shifting shades of light throughout the day.



Holy Spirit Dove

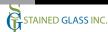
Life Events of Jesus Collection

The teachings of Jesus as recorded in the Word of God are the foundation of the Pentecostal belief system, and the master artists at Stained Glass, Inc. have created an extensive collection of windows that depict the events in the life of Jesus, some of which include:

The Birth of Jesus — Several pieces in varied styles tell the story of the birth of the Lord in vibrant, beautiful stained glass, lending inspiration to services during the Christmas season and all year long.



Good Tidings



Jesus' Baptism — The portrayal of Jesus and his cousin, John the Baptist, on the occasion of the Lord's baptism, is a joyful rendering in muted aqua and rose shades that reflects sunlight, firelight and candlelight, sending rays streaming across sanctuary, prayer room or entryway of your Pentecostal church.

Miracles and Parables —Healing the sick, teaching the multitudes and spreading the Gospel, Jesus is portrayed with meticulous, realistic imagery and superior design in a collection of lovely stained glass honoring the Lord's miracles and teachings on this earth.





The Crucifixion — The cornerstone of Christianity, Jesus' sacrifice for all mankind, is the subject of many of the works of stained glass art crafted in the studios of Stained Glass, Inc. Providing a visual record of this sacred event serves to touch the hearts of faithful Pentecostals everywhere.

The Resurrection — Rejoicing and praise are integral parts of Pentecostal services, and the stunning portrayals of the resurrection included in the Stained Glass, Inc. gallery are created by blending old world craftsmanship with cutting edge technology, ensuring enduring quality with a Christian message.





Jesus in White

How to Choose the Right Stained Glass for Your Pentecostal Church

Choosing the right stained glass for your Pentecostal church is a labor of love, requiring careful thought and expert guidance. The process often starts with a group of dedicated church members who want to find the absolute best stained glass accents, windows, sidelights, door inserts or transoms for their church home, and affordability is always a concern. The professionals at Stained Glass, Inc. can lead your selection committee through the process, ensuring that the commission of your specific stained glass purchase is perfect for your congregation as well as cost effective. Stained glass art from Stained Glass, Inc. is not only superior in strength, design and durability, but it is also versatile. Custom created to fit behind any glass window, stained glass installs in minutes, and can be easily changed to accommodate special events, holidays and holy occasions. Visit Stained Glass Inc. to discuss your specifications.



Why Stained Glass Inc. Is Superior for Pentecostal Church Needs?

Stained Glass, Inc. artisans work to ensure perfection in beauty and superior quality at an affordable cost for all clients, offering:

- Work that blends old world technique and cutting edge technology, ensuring color depth and intensity as well as unmatched quality
- Stained glass that is 200 times stronger than ordinary glass
- Studio to church guidance for clients who commission stained glass, ensuring a superior result
- Cost effective, easy to install, energy efficient and environmentally friendly stained glass
- Custom designs for size, shape and color based on client preference