

Buyers Guide to Stained Glass for Mormon Churches



Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Mormons, number nearly three million in America today, and Mormon churches and temples are the settings for some of the most beautiful and breathtaking stained glass windows and art in the world. This brief guide is intended for those charged with the selection and purchase of stained glass that is appropriate for their Mormon church needs and offers helpful information and pertinent advice. Stained Glass, Inc. of Greenville, Texas features stained glass art created by master artists who blend old world technique with cutting edge technology to ensure superior quality and unmatched beauty for Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' stained glass, designed to offer sparkling color and light for generations

“Stained glass, the jewel-like union of glass and light that appears in a number of temples and chapels throughout the Church, teaches some gospel lessons in a uniquely beautiful way.”

Joyce Athay Janetski, “Stained Glass Windows: A Latter-day Saint Legacy,” *The Ensign*, Jan. 1981.

A Brief Guide to Stained Glass for Mormon Churches

The first art glass used in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was applied in the 1800s in Utah, first as part of a chapel in Mill Creek, and then in the construction of the Salt Lake Temple, dedicated in 1892. The lovely stained glass windows and artwork that center the décor of this magnificent Mormon Temple include a twelve-foot high window depicting an important Mormon religious event, the "First Vision." This sacred event in the Mormon faith occurred in a grove in upstate New York, when God the Father and Jesus appeared to the Prophet, Joseph Smith, marking the beginning of the Restoration of Jesus Christ's Church on Earth. This breathtaking work of stained glass art was commissioned from Louis C. Tiffany himself and remains an exquisite example of Tiffany stained glass art, a style perfectly reproduced in the studios of Stained Glass, Inc. Today, Tiffany styled stained glass windows, hanging art panels, furniture inserts, altar accents and many other applications can be found in Mormon chapels, churches and temples throughout the country, and Stained Glass, Inc. includes many examples as part of its extensive online gallery of stained glass.

Mormon Church Stained Glass is Unique and Specific

Stained glass windows and other art found in churches and temples in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is unique and specific to Mormon teachings and doctrine. Besides the beloved lessons and events of the ancient Holy Bible depicted most commonly in stained glass for Christian churches, Latter-day Saints present an array of additional holy events from the modern church included in the Book of Mormon. Latter-day Prophets and important aspects of Church history, both ancient and modern, are depicted in stained glass and add color and light to Mormon architecture, as well as inspiration and encouragement for worshippers. Besides the events that transpired in the early days of the Christian Church, Mormons also hold dear, and commemorate in stained glass, the important holy events that have worked with God's blessing to form the new Church of Latter-day Saints, commemorating these events in glorious stained glass for all to view.

Symbolism in Mormon Stained Glass

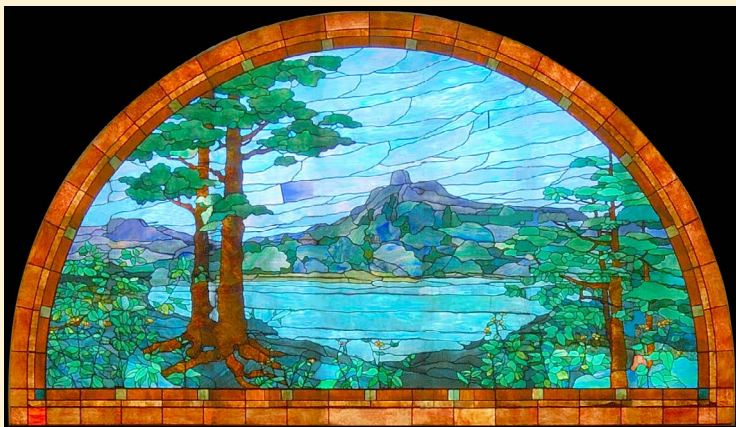
Many examples of stained glass art in Mormon churches feature symbolism surrounding naturally occurring aspects of beauty in nature, including trees that symbolize the grove where God and His Son appeared to the Prophet Joseph Smith in the First Vision. Other symbols might include the moon, stars, people, or the sun, each with spiritual significance to those who are blessed to behold them. As part of traditionally designed stained glass, centering a field of symmetrically perfect geometric shapes that cross the full spectrum of color, the effect is modern, meaningful and stunning.

Mormon Tiffany Style Stained Glass

Early stained glass in the Mormon Church was often created by Louis C. Tiffany of New York. His work has been a prime example of the finest in stained glass artistry for decades and stands today as superior for color, imagery and design. Artisans in the studios of Stained Glass, Inc. are adept at recreating the style and character of Tiffany in their own creations, featured in the extensive online gallery, and including:



The First Vision - Joseph Smith kneels before God and the Son in reverence as he asks for forgiveness and seeks truth and guidance. This image beautifully illustrates a scene on which the Mormon faith is grounded, in stunning color and beautiful detail. Stained glass shines gloriously in LDS temples and inspires worshippers with colorful light shining through timeless, religious images. Display this stained glass masterpiece in your home, office or tabernacle and enjoy the splendor of stained glass every day.



Blue Tiffany Transom— Highlighting the significance and grandeur of a blossoming landscape, this Tiffany style transom window, set in a unique arched frame, is jeweled in shades of the rainbow, depicting a lovely lake against a mountainous backdrop, beneath a glowing blue sky. The intricate play of color and light serves to catch and reflect the rays of the sun, of candlelight or lamplight that shine along the surface in shifting patterns throughout the day and after dark, casting an ethereal glow into every corner.

The Beehive - An important and prominent symbol of the Mormon faith, the beehive represents the Mormon community and that early founders of the faith worked together despite adversity to form the church. Much like bees, a collaborative effort of combined skills and talents, working towards the same goals, is what has helped to make the LDS community what it is today. This stained glass artwork features a beehive in beautiful detail and color with blossoming flowers and a blue sky.



Not My Will – The essence of Christianity, this Tiffany inspired window stirs the soul as Jesus is portrayed in prayer, surrounded by the resplendent landscape of the Garden of Gethsemane. Careful, meticulous attention to detail and the use of color and shading sets the tone for quiet contemplation and prayer.

“Stained glass and other forms of art glass are one of my favorite features in LDS Temples. This art form was used in several early temples and then became very simple for a long period of time. In the last 15 years or so, art glass use in temples has increased. Windows are now made very unique. A lot of windows depict things and are not purely geometric. People, events, stars, suns, moons, and trees are depicted in temple windows.”

Scott, “LDS Temple Glass – Trees,” The Trumpet Stone, Architectural and Other Insights about Temples of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Sept. 4, 2011.

Windows for the Ever Growing Church

“We may come to Jesus and ask Him; He will know all about it; if He comes to a little child, He will adapt Himself to the language and capacity of a little child.”

– Joseph Smith, Jr.

Following the plan God has for His Church, Latter-day Saints are dedicated to remaining faithful and pushing ahead according to the Will of God in their personal lives and in the lives of the Mormon Church. This is reflected in the style and personality of the stained glass art selected for Mormon temples, churches and tabernacles, not bound by the traditions of others, but faithful to the pioneering spirit of Latter-day Saints. Stained Glass, Inc.'s extensive online gallery includes unique and fresh designs and styles that are elegant as well as inspiring, like rose windows, memorial windows, and designs that feature text and contemporary themes. Every theme suggested by clients is thoroughly researched and explored by experts in the art as the unique and exquisite work of stained glass art comes to life in the studio.



How to Choose the Right Stained Glass for Your Mormon Church

Besides the stained glass featured in Stained Glass, Inc.'s online gallery, Latter-day Saints selection representatives are urged to ask about custom designs based on ideas they may have for stained glass scenarios to meet their particular church needs. Professionals and master artists at Stained Glass, Inc. are happy to guide our client's journey from raw idea to completed project, ensuring total satisfaction and superior results. Stained glass window inserts are custom created for fit, size, shape and color and can be easily installed behind existing glass, making for simple rotation to honor special occasions and events throughout the year.

Stained Glass Inc. Offers Superior Service and Beauty for Your Mormon Church

Stained Glass, Inc. is proud of its tradition of quality and beauty in stained glass art, and guarantees that our designs will enhance your Mormon Church décor and inspire your congregation, based on superior craftsmanship and service. Among our promises:

- Artisans in the studios of Stained Glass, Inc. are masters in old world technique and cutting edge technology, ensuring top quality and flawless beauty every time.
- Stained glass that is 200 times stronger than ordinary glass
- Custom designs for size, shape and color based on client preference
- On time and on budget
- Heat fused mineral deposits for intense, deep color to reflect light as it shifts throughout the day
- Cost effective, energy efficient and environmentally friendly stained glass