



## Wall of Welcome

### --Harry Carlson Memorial

The art for Holy Trinity's Wall of Welcome, a triptych, was created with imagery of the New Jerusalem.

The strong vertical formats were chosen to convey the connection between God and humankind.

Hovering over the River of Life is the centerpiece of the work, the Dove. The Dove image symbolizes many things: the Holy Spirit, peace, nature and the soul departing at death. In Christian art, the Dove is depicted in representations of the Trinity. In medieval art the Dove refers to the seven gifts of the spirit (wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, Godliness and fear of the Lord). In this Holy Trinity art, the Spirit/Dove also points us to the altar and the Eucharist, where we focus our worship. Behind the Dove is a circle. The circle is the archetypal shape for wholeness. The circle is found in every culture on the planet. It represents completeness, eternity and perfection. We used the circle to symbolize God as well as the universe, sky and the heavens.

In contrast, four squares intersect the circle and are symbols of the earth. The square is the archetypal shape for stability, balance and resolution. The four squares signify the four corners of the earth all covered by the fullness of God.

The four squares come together to form the cross-connecting heaven and earth. The vertical represents the divine or spiritual and the horizontal symbolize the physical or the worldly. The leaves on the tree are for the healing of the nations. The small squares that give shape to the cross represent all people, past present and future. Although each person is different, everyone has the right to an equal space and voice.

All are children of God, all are included and all are welcome here.

Respectfully and prayerfully submitted, Peg and Chuck of doghausarts.com

*Note: Peg and Chuck are the daughter and son-in-law of Harry and Lois Carlson. They were commissioned for this banner by the church on behalf of Harry's widow Lois, whose generous donation made all this possible. This Wall of Welcome is not only a beautiful work of art, but it is a humble tribute to a loving father.*