

Peace Lutheran Church Chrismons



Chrismons



The word “Chrismon” is a combination of the words “Christ” and “monogram”. The word Chrismon has been adopted to refer to special Christmas tree ornaments that have been developed to display symbols of Christ.

The tradition of the Chrismon tree began with Pastor George Pass at the Lutheran Church of the Ascension in Danville, Virginia. In 194- he began crafting symbols of Jesus Christ and the meaning of Christmas for his church’s tree out of leftover scraps of Christmas wrapping paper and trimmings.

Then in 1957 a member of the church, Frances Kipps Spencer, developed certain symbols that pointed to Christ and trademarked them officially as Chrismons.

The Christmas tree became filled with intentional ornamentation that bore the light of Christ. Therefore, symbol like crosses, crowns, even the name of Jesus became fixtures on the tree.

Today Chrismons continue to proclaim our Lord Jesus Christ through the symbols that date back to the early church.

We are grateful for our very own Vicky Roda for her countless hours of artistry beading and creating 300 Chrismons for Peace Lutheran Church.



Each one of the pictures displayed are 24 different Chrismons that continue to proclaim Christ Jesus this Christmas season.

We hope that you will learn about each Chrismon in the unique way it shares Christ; offer up prayer during the season of Advent connecting each way Christ meets you; and experience Christ as the Chrismons tell the story of his deep love for you.

Cross



The cross symbolizes Jesus' sacrificial death for all people. His sacrifice shows there's no limit to his love for you.

Crucified One, you gave all so that we could have all in you. Help us to look to your cross that we might always trust in your love.

The fish is one of the oldest Christian symbols. Letters in the Greek word for fish, *IXTHUS*, stand for Jesus, Christ, God, Son and Savior.

Jesus, you have caught us in your net of grace. Hold us closely in your embrace as we cast wide nets of love each day.

Fish



Angels heralded Jesus's birth to the lowly shepherds. The angels are messengers of God, they watched over the tomb, and they ministered to our Lord Christ.

Lord, you send messengers announcing good news to us. Help us to hear that word and to share it.

Angel



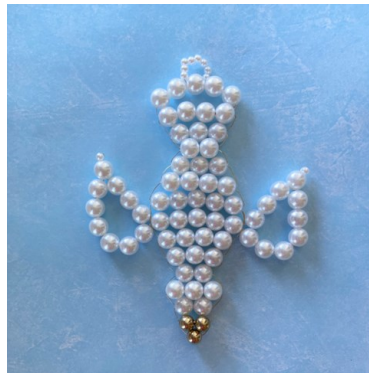
The manger is a symbol of the baby Jesus. It refers to Jesus Christ from his nativity.

Prince of Peace, you came in a lowly manger, humbly in the lowest of place. Help us to humble ourselves each day with you.

Manger



Dove



The descending dove represents the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove, showing God's love, approval, and blessing.

Holy Spirit, come down upon us and empower us with your wondrous presence.

The victorious lamb is the symbol for Jesus, who is called the Lamb of God. Before Jesus, animals were sacrificed for forgiveness of sins. The Lamb of God was the final sacrifice.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

Victorious Lamb



Jerusalem Cross



The Jerusalem Cross symbolizes the four Gospels in the Bible or the spread of the Gospel to the four corners of the earth. The five crosses represent the five wounds of Jesus when He died on the cross.

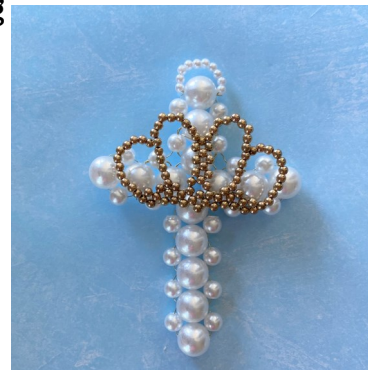
Lord, may the gospel be spread each day. May my voice amplify your good

news message in all places.

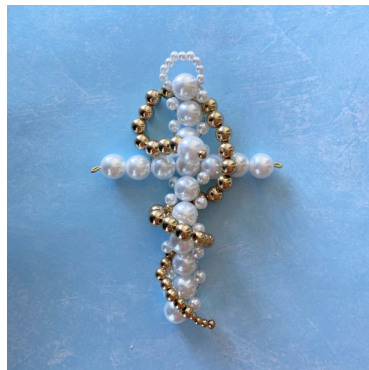
The cross and the crown is interpreted as symbolizing the reward in heaven coming after the trials of this life.

Lord, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. May our actions reflect eternal goodness today and always.

Cross with Crown



Serpent Cross



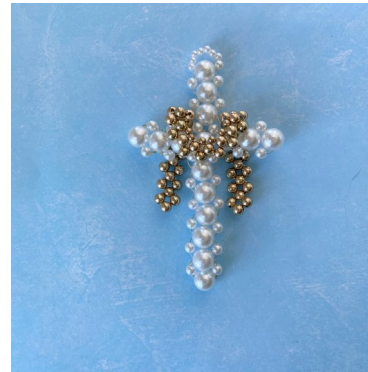
Jesus Christ's crucifixion is God's means of salvation for everyone who has been bitten by the deadly venom of sin in the wilderness of this fallen world.

Saving God, even when we feel the sting of suffering, may we remember you have crushed the serpent's head and healed us.

The cross with drape represents the burial cloth of Jesus to show that he is risen. The tomb and the cross are empty because he lives!

Risen Lord, where there is emptiness, may we find new life and remember you are the God of resurrection hope.

Draped Cross



Bible



The Bible is God's holy Word, given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The Bible points to God's promise.

Word of God, you speak to us throughout the ages. Continue to speak words of promise and life through your holy writ.

The Celtic Cross is a traditional cross, but with a ring around the intersection of the arms. It is also called the Sun Cross by some who interpret the ring to represent the sun.

God of the nations, Help us to see your love connecting all people in the circle of your unending love.

Celtic Cross



Crown of Thorns



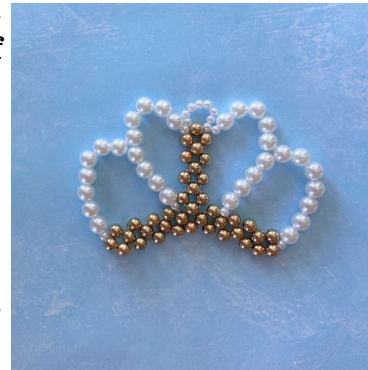
The crown of thorns represents the suffering of Jesus when soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and pressed it onto His head.

Crucified King, your reign of lordship was not to take, but to give. Your crown was suffering, so that we may be made whole.

The crown represents the Kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ, His victory over sin and death, and His place of honor at the right hand of God.

King of Glory, you are the rightful ruler of all. For yours is kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Crown



Shepherd's Crook



The crook or staff is the symbol of the Good Shepherd Jesus and also of the shepherds who were the first visitors to see the Christ Child. The Chi (X) symbolizes the King lying in the manger.

Good Shepherd, care for your flock each day as we trust where you lead us.

Wheat and grapes represent the communion meal elements. The combination of wheat and grapes is bread and wine, symbolizing the body and blood of Christ.

Bread of Heaven, You feed us with your very body and blood. Strengthen our faith for the journey.

Wheat & Grapes



Star of David



The six-pointed star is known as the Star of David. The prophets foretold that Jesus would be a descendant of King David, and that His rule would be everlasting.

Messiah, you are the promised anointed one of old. Rule our lives with justice and mercy.

Chi Rho in the sun is the Greek symbol for Christ. It is a combination of the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ, Chi (X) and Rho (P).

Christ Jesus, you are at the center of the universe. Center our lives in Christ each day.

Chi Rho (XP)



Iota Chi (IX)



The Iota (I) is the first letter of our Lord's given name (Jesus) in Greek. The Chi (X) is the first letter of his Greek title Christos, the one anointed by God. The never ending circle represents God's everlasting love for us.

Jesus Christ, you are the embodiment of God's love

for us.

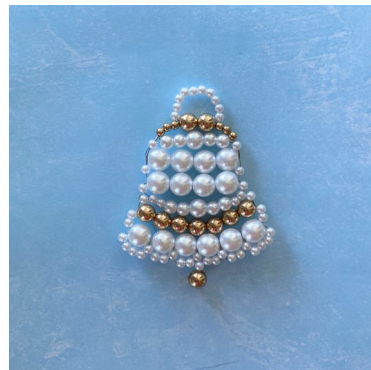
The triquetra represents the Trinity. God is one God, but there are three equal persons - God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Holy Trinity, connect us in relationship with you this day.

Triquetra



Bells



Bells both call us to worship and remind us of the joyous angelic announcement of Christ's birth to the shepherds. A bell represents the sounding forth of the word.

Beautiful Savior, ring out the sweet sound of your truth to us this day. May our lives be a melody in your ears.

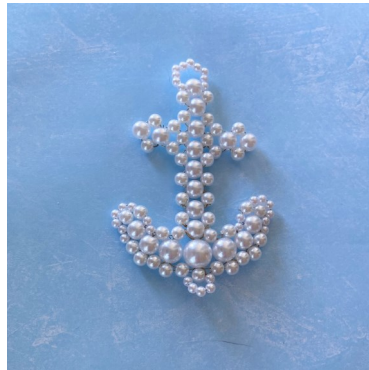
The nativity star represents the sign in the night sky announcing Jesus's birth in Bethlehem. The Wise Men followed the star to visit baby Jesus in the manger.

Morning Star, guide us each day to see your holy presence that we may behold your splendor.

Nativity Star



Anchor



The anchor is an early Christian symbol found in the Roman catacombs. It symbolizes the hope we have in Christ beyond this life.

Steadfast Lord, may we be anchored to your promise in the storms of life.

The butterfly is a symbol for Jesus's work, which was not finished when He died on the cross. It is a symbol of resurrection, transformation, and new beginnings.

Resurrection Lord, transform us by your Spirit that we might be made more fully in your image.

Butterfly





*We are a Christ-centered
community of believers called to:*

*Love God,
Love people,
And serve the world.*