

On the left (north) side of the sanctuary nearest the pulpit:

 **St. Luke** is shown as the Evangelist, with his most frequently noted attributes: the winged ox, which serves as emphasis on the priesthood of Christ and a symbol of sacrifice, and the Gospel book. Luke, a practicing member of the medical profession of his day, was born at Antioch in Syria and wrote his Gospel as well as portions of The Acts of the Apostles. He traveled with the Apostle Paul and, after Paul's death, continued preaching alone until he was crucified in Greece. There is also a legend that he was a painter and that he did portraits of Jesus and Mary, Jesus' mother. He is therefore considered the patron saint of painters.



This window bears the inscription "In loving memory of our boy, Fredrick Green Evans 1913-1930." The boy drowned at age 17 in a canoeing accident on the Hudson River.



On the left (north) side of the Sanctuary second from the front:

 **St. John** is shown as the Apostle with his principal attributes: the eagle, a symbol of highest inspiration, and the book. John, the youngest of the twelve apostles of Christ and brother of St. James the Great, was "the disciple whom Jesus loved" (John 19:26-27).

After Mary's death, John went to Judea with Peter. He is said to have journeyed to Asia Minor, where he founded the Seven Churches referred to in Revelation. He eventually traveled to Ephesus, where the Emperor Domitian, according to legend, twice tried to take John's life. The emperor first ordered him to drink a cup of poisoned wine. When John took the cup, the poison left in the form of a snake. Domitian then threw him into boiling oil, from which John emerged unscathed. Domitian then exiled him to the island of Patmos, which became the place of John's Revelation. It is said that John died of old age at Ephesus.



This history of our stained glass windows was researched and compiled by former church historian, Lois J. Anderson.



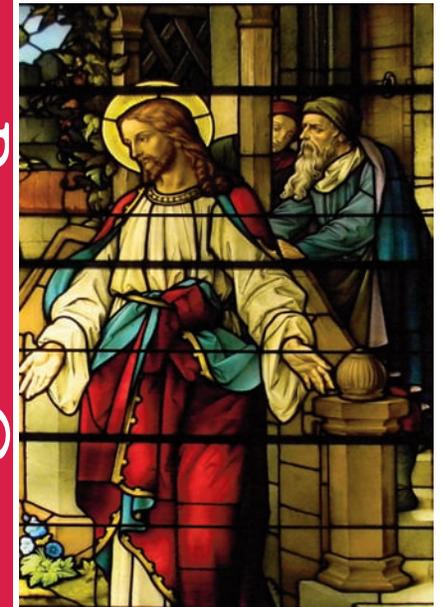
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MADISON AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

The Story of Our Stained Glass Windows





The Milbank Memorial Windows & the Angel of the Gospel

As you enter Madison Avenue Baptist Church (MABC) the four windows closest to the rear of the church - two on the left (north) side and two on the right (south) side of the sanctuary - are the Milbank Memorial Windows. These windows, made by F. X. Zettler at the Royal Bavarian Stained Glass Manufactory in Munich, Germany, show the ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. This collection also includes the Angel of the Gospel sculpture above the back doors on the west wall, a figure sounding trumpet to call the people to worship (Matthew 13:11 and Luke 8:10).



Mrs. Jeremiah Milbank and her family commissioned the windows and sculpture as memorials to her husband, Jeremiah, in 1887. A church trustee and key figure in the church's early history, Jeremiah (1818-1884) was a co-founder of the New York Condensed Milk Co., which was renamed the Borden Co. in 1899.

When the Milbanks had the collection installed in 1887, the bronze angel and the four windows were initially placed at the very front of the sanctuary, behind the pulpit, with wood paneling directly below, which quoted Jesus's call to his disciples: "To you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven!"



To insure long-term financial security, in 1929 the trustees tore down the 1861 sanctuary, which was replaced by a hotel with the sanctuary reconstructed inside. The church reinstalled the Milbank windows at the rear of the new sanctuary, with the Angel of the Gospel high on the back wall. The wood paneling with the Gospel quotation was moved to a platform in Sanders Hall, on the first floor of the Parish House.



The Gospel Writer Windows

The remaining four windows at the front of the church, on both sides, are The Gospel Writer Windows. They were made in 1930 by the L. Von Gerichten Studios in New York City.



On the right (south) side of the Sanctuary, second from the front:

St. Matthew is shown as the Apostle, along with his primary symbol, a child/cherub. The picture depicts him writing the human ancestry of Christ. Before Matthew became one of Christ's disciples, he was a tax collector in the service of the Romans. He is believed to have written his Gospel in Judea and then to have preached in Ethiopia, where he died.



On the right (south) side of the Sanctuary nearest the pulpit:

St. Mark is shown as the Evangelist, with a winged lion, the symbol of Mark presumably because his Gospel emphasizes the royal dignity of Christ, the Lion of Judah.



Emphasizing his role as Evangelist (Mark traveled with Paul and Barnabus on their first missionary journeys, then to Rome with Peter, and to Libya for 12 years) and his role as secretary to Peter, he holds both the book of his Gospel and a pen. Mark founded the Christian church in Alexandria, where he was martyred.

