

CHARLES J. CONNICK : DESIGNER AND WORKER IN STAINED AND
LEADED GLASS : NINE HARCOURT STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

3339

City or Town Evanston, State Ill. No. ~~184~~
Date of Completion
Church Northminster Presbyterian Church.
Donor and Address Central Park Av. at Harrison Street.
Schmidt, Garden and Erikson, 104 S. Michigan Av. Chicago
Architect Tel. Dearborn 2-5070. Quality of Glass \$600 (\$43).
Denomination Presbyterian, Loss 30 1/2 %
and Minister Rev. Melvin A. Pearce, D.D. 184.04

Footage 14' sight Sizes, full
Ventilators Set by

Position in Church Window in second floor tower. facing street, above the main
entrance to the Chapel. Protec- Groove Stone
Height from floor tion Glass Rabet Wood
Points of compass
Quality of light West.

Insription "Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin H. Smythe." (To be read from outside).

Design wanted Staging
Shipping address Blue-prints Received Yes.

Bill to *set by mason* Templets

Photos of Cartoons Mailed

General Information This window shows only from a small upstairs room, but
they want to have it quite nice, and light it artificially
for viewing from the street.

It is to be the Young Christ beckoning, with the idea, "Enter into His
Gates", etc, - with a light grisaille field.

See photo sent 2/18/52.

Lovely color and design, but treated in a somewhat simpler manner than the
narthex panels. None of these windows should be too dark - fairly light,
but colorful. Blueprints for these received.

Mr. Dittman says, "I do not believe these windows should be as heavily
figured as the ones in the Chapel."

For addresses of those to be notified as window progresses, see other side.

Dr. Pearce wrote: "We discussed the treatment of the tower window of the Chapel, the one above the main entrance, and decided we wanted as we said the figure of the "Beckoning Christ." However, the lovely pictures which you sent seemed for our purpose to be a little on the effeminate side. We wonder if the face could capture some of the masculinity, the virility, and yet tenderness of the enclosed Signe Larson head. We would like something of the character and strength of this face unbearded as he might have appeared at seventeen. However, it might be argued that the "Beckoning Christ" may appear pretty much as Signe Larson's conception for after all, the other windows in the chapel present him in his maturity. Would it be possible for you to submit two different heads that we might make a choice? We would like the "welcoming" expressed in the up-raised hands but without the trumpet or horn. The posture of the hands of the St. John's Church, Beverly Farms, Mass. does not appeal to us.

"Please excuse our frankness in expressing our desires, but we feel that this window which is to be spotlighted at night must have a Christ that appeals to youth. We do want the legend "enter into his courts with praise."

We have now completed it, and are sending it herewith. It is designed in luminous tones to make the most of artificial illumination. I think the designer may have taken a little too literally the suggestion of the Signe Larson head that Dr. Pearce sent us. His thought was to beckon to the observer to share in the heavenly vision which he sees, and which may be reached through the study of the Bible which He holds. It may be that a face looking directly toward the observer would be more appropriate.

It is pretty difficult to render this head adequately at the small scale. The least touch changes the entire expression, but perhaps you and Dr. Pearce could make some further suggestions with the help of the photographs I am enclosing. We feel that they present interesting aspects of Our Lord, not too rugged, but with a certain tenderness without becoming effeminate, with the possible exception of the one of the Young Christ which Dr. Pearce thought leaned in that direction. I think it is a good strong face, and if it were narrowed just a bit and the hair not so long, it seems to me it would work out very well. However, Dr. Pearce was not quite definite about whether a young or an older aspect was best.

If you can approve the design, with the exception of the face, we can send you a photograph of the full size drawings for your final approval before it is painted.

In the lower part of the sketch is the traditional alpha and omega, suggesting Our Lord as the beginning and the end of all things.

We have indicated the text from the Psalms, "Enter into His courts with praise" in the field above the symbol; but this and the memorial inscription present something of a problem. The lettering will have to be of a fairly good size to be read from the street, and if it is to be read from the street, it will be backward from the inside of the Church. Usually inscriptions are read from the inside of the Church, but will the exterior artificially illuminated aspect be more important for both the text and memorial inscription? This would also apply to the figure. If the text is to be read from the outside, I think it should be considerably larger, and perhaps below the alpha and omega.

Important Notes: "They like the head of Christ as shown; that is, rather mature with a beard, however, they would prefer Christ looking directly forward rather than upturned. It has also been suggested that the arms extend outward and downward in a beckoning gesture and, of course the posture of the head would be such as to go with this gesture. The donors definitely would like the Bible omitted from the theme. The Alpha and Omega symbol is satisfactory below the Christ, thus putting "Enter Into His Courts, etc." below. This wording should be fairly large so that it can be read from the street side. The memorial inscription should remain small as on the balance of the chapel windows, and only to be read from the inside and is to read, "Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin H. Smythe."

IMPORTANT: THE DONORS REQUIRE A PHOTOGRAPH OF A FULL SIZED DRAWING OF THE FACE FOR APPROVAL BEFORE IT IS PAINTED.