



Artist: Natalie Grady Title: "Finished, For You" Media: Linocut Dimensions: 5' x 7' Year Created: 2022

Description

This linocut was created with inspiration from the stained glass windows of my church in Zionsville, Indiana. Having grown up in the Lutheran faith all my life, I spent many sermons drawing the beautiful windows when I was younger. One of the panels quickly became my favorite, which I unintentionally committed to memory. It pertained to the Lord's Supper and the feeding of the five-thousand, showing a cross, bread, fish, a chalice of wine, grapes, wheat, as well as an oil lamp.

When first sketching the design for the carving, I first drew a replica of this stained glass, and then decided what alterations and additions I could incorporate. I maintained the eucharistic theme and added the baptismal theme. These are established by the blood and water coming from His side. The blood, as well as the wheat, bread, and grapes are present to represent the elements of communion, while the shell and its stand pertain to baptism. In addition to these major themes, Christ's victory over death is seen through the palm branches surrounding the cross. As for the body of Jesus, this was left black to illustrate the taking-on of our sins, while His wounds were left white to show the righteousness they brought us. Lastly, I included an oil burning lamp. The fire is our faith, while the oil represents the sacraments as well as the word of God, which feeds our faith.