The Revelation Window

Notes by the artist Nicholas Mynheer

'Among the lampstands was someone 'like a Son of Man', dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash round his chest. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow and his eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.' Revelation 1 v:12-16

The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches and the seven lampstands (jewel-like lights) are the seven churches.

The angel or Son of Man shows us the wounds of the crucifixion. One of the seven stars in his hand (in the form of the constellation Ursa Major) rests over the stable as he presents to us the Nativity and the Incarnation of the Word. The crowing cock a symbol of the betrayal of Christ as well as His Resurrection.

His voice 'like the sound of rushing waters' flows down the panel making a path for the pilgrim (lower left) and lighting the way with God's word – for the word of God is as lamps to the faithful.

'Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light for my path' Psalm 119 v:105

'I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of Life' John 8 v:12

A rainbow appears in The Book of Genesis as the symbol of pardon and of the reconciliation given to Man by God. We see it appear once again, in Revelation resembling an emerald, encircling the throne.

The symbols of Alpha and Omega (Upper right and lower left):

'I am the Alpha and the Omega,
Who is, and who was and who is to come, the Almighty' Revelation 1 v:8