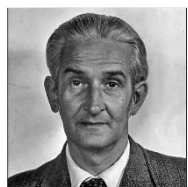




## **BAPTISMAL HANGING TRINITARIAN SCULPTURE DEDICATED**

The hanging **Baptismal Trinitarian Metal Sculpture** over the Chancel Lectern, **created by celebrated Lutheran artist Ernő Koch (1898-1970)**, was **placed to the glory of God by Good Shepherd member Chaplain Michael E. Ramming, CAPT, CHC, USNR Ret**, on Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, 2018, in thanksgiving for his years of pastoral ministry and dedicated Sunday, February 18.

The sculpture was purchased from the artist by Chaplin Mike to praise the Lord for His guidance – upon his graduation from Concordia Lutheran Seminary, St Louis, MO – at the sculptor’s studio in St Louis, in the spring of 1969. Ramming’s Ordination took place 22JUNE1969, at his home congregation Trinity, Port Arthur, TX - where his father was Pastor - as a part of the congregation’s 100th anniversary celebration.



### **THE ARTIST**

**Ernő Koch** Pictured as a middle aged adult. (8 August 1898, Szászváros, Austria-Hungary -now Orăștie, Romania – 31 March 1970, St. Louis, MO, United States) was a Hungarian graphic artist.

Koch attended the Hungarian Royal Drawing School. He worked in Estonia from 1926 to 1940, returning to Budapest in 1941. He immigrated to the United States in 1950, lived in Florida until 1952, when he moved to Chicago where he worked

for Karl Hackert Inc., a firm that designed stained glass windows, altars and mosaics for churches.

In 1958 he moved to St. Louis, MO, where he became the principal designer in the studio of the Jacoby Art Class Company, until his retirement in 1964. After retirement, he specialized in welded sculpture at his studio in Brentwood, MO and was affiliated with the Sculptors Gallery.

Works by Koch can be found in churches, museums and private collections throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. Examples of his stained glass windows can be found at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington D.C.; Basilica y Parroquia La Purisima Concepcion, Monterrey, Mexico; Chapel of the Alexian Brothers Hospital, St. Louis;



Chancery Office of the Archdiocese of St. Louis; and St. Augustine Episcopal Church, Wilmette, IL. Examples of his sculptures can be found at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Boone County National Bank, Columbia, MO; Commercial Bank & Trust Co., Muskogee, OK and St. Louis Electric Company.

**The Jerusalem Cross** (four equilateral arms symbolizing that the Gospel message went out to the four corners of the world) signifies Jesus, our Lord, Savior and Brother.

**The 4 small Jerusalem Crosses** stand for the Four Gospels which detail that Good News of salvation.

**The bird form** represents the Holy Spirit, who is the power active in Holy Baptism.

**The triangle** is for God the Father, who, out of love, created the Plan of Salvation that is given in Holy Baptism.

**Important Note: You can see through the triangle**, symbolizing that through faith in Jesus the Savior, and the working power of the Holy Spirit, a baptized person can grow to see the world, as well as live in it with confidence, according to the Father’s Plan as revealed in Holy Scripture.