Seedlings 7: "...And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still..."



### O God beyond All Praising

You are welcome to listen **HERE** or at the above link.

The Georgia Boy Choir Festival Choir singing "O God Beyond All Praising," arranged by Dan Forrest. This performance was recorded on February 22, 2020, in Atlanta during the Georgia Boy Choir Festival Grand Finale Concert at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church.

(In a time of grave and discouraging divisions in our nation and world, the hearts, voices and faces of this choir performing Gustav Holst's and Michael Perry's marvelous melody and words of praise, thanksgiving and hope may move you deeply into the mysterious realm of the Divine Presence amid the darkness when all seems without hope. And so we must sing with the resurrection hope into the faces of the powers of darkness, evil and death.---djl)

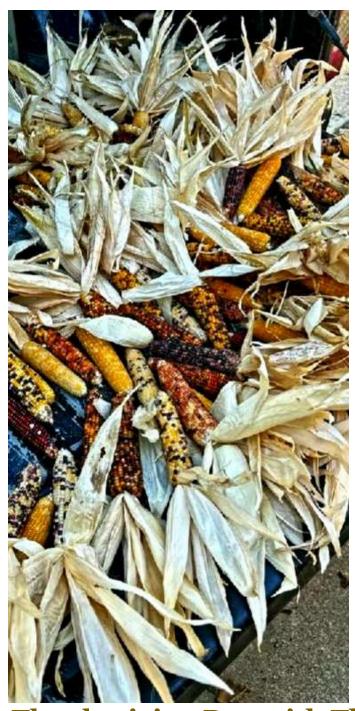
O God beyond all praising,
we worship you today
and sing the love amazing
that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder
at every gift you send,
at blessings without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you
and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you,
our great and mighty Lord.

The flower of earthly splendor in time must surely die,

its fragile bloom surrender
to you the Lord most high;
but hidden from all nature
the eternal seed is sown though small in mortal stature,
to heaven's garden grown:
for Christ the Man from heaven
from death has set us free,
and we through him are given
the final victory!

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring, that we who know your favor may serve you as our king; and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still: to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Text by Michael Perry and music by Gustav Holst.



Begin Thanksgiving Day with Thanks A Liturgy of the Word with Prayers of Thanksgiving at 10:15 a.m.

# Thanksgiving offerings received at worship on the morning of November 28th and by way of the designated offering envelopes for Thanksgiving will be given to

The Greater Chicago Food Depository.



Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself,

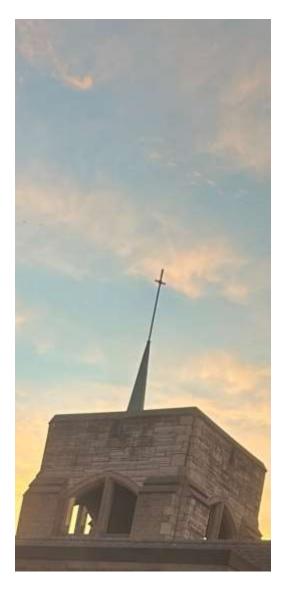
forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery... Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today... (Deuteronomy 8:11-14, 17-18).



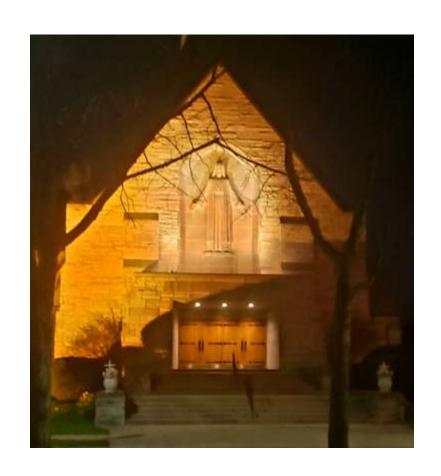
"No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Isn't life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who

strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.



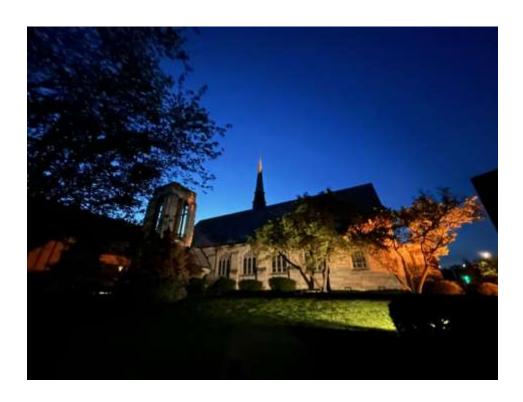
Let's keep this sanctuary... a sanctuary: Warm and welcoming.



Safe and sound.



# The autumn chill is a reminder of several facility needs to keep our sanctuary and building warm and welcoming as well as safe and sound.



The most important and pressing projects include the following:
The replacement of a section of heating pipe embedded in the second floor on the west side of the building adjacent to the gym.
Presently, a valve is turned off to prevent continued Water damage but this leaves sections of this level, including the

**Offices**, without heat. Looking ahead, we hope to expand the heating system in the gym which was shut off some years ago due to similar leakage with only a partial replacement **Of** baseboard units at the north end.



The need to replace smoke detectors (or this section of the system) located in the peak of the high arched ceiling of the sanctuary, a project needing attention for many years and which may require expensive installation of scaffolding.



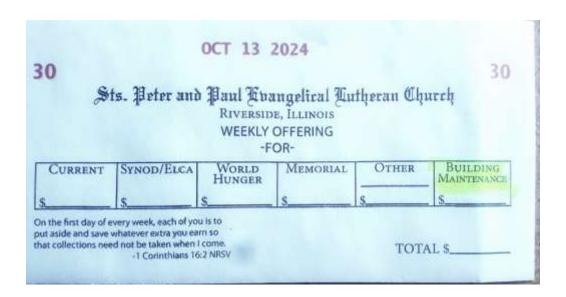
The completion of tuckpointing and masonry work on the west and south faces of the exterior of the building, including ongoing securing of the bell tower, a project which began with the east face in 2018 following the celebration of the sixtieth year in Riverside and continuing in the summer of 2023 on the northside.

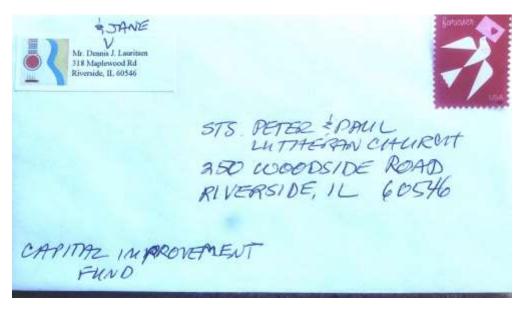


The Congregation Council *hopes* to have more detailed descriptions and cost estimates for you as we approach the season of giving thanks and **the** end-**O**f-the-year donations.

### But why not start today?

You may do so using any of the following options for making your thank-offerings for the well-being of this house of worship:







donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org



#### In Memoriam... Kendall "Ken" DeShazer brother of Steve DeShazer



#### Condolences may be sent to Steve at Plaza Arms 501 North Central Avenue Chicago, IL 60644



"If you do something good and talk about it, it doesn't count."



# Lord, give us weak eyes for things of little worth, and eyes clear-sighted in all of your truth.

This prayer of 19th century Danish pastor, theologian and philosopher Søren Kierkegaard is quoted at the front of his book The Sickness Unto Death which was published in 1849.



#### Please note:

For urgent pastoral care and *important* administrative matters, please contact Pastor Dennis at his mobile phone number.

The landline at the parsonage is no longer in service. □x

If you need this contact information, please reply to this message.

Photo credits: Carolyn Lauritsen Sward (autumn trees and sunrise), Daryle Lauritsen (colored corn), Jane Lauritsen (church at sunset), Rafael Martinez (Christmas Eve), and Eliot Pontius (lakefront tree and wildflowers). Please forward this e-newsletter to others who may be interested!

And previous issues of "Seedling" E-News are posted at the website.



For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water... (Isaiah 35:6b-7a).

### Join us every Sunday at 10:15 a.m.

# For continuing live streaming of the liturgy please click <u>HERE</u>.

Recordings of the services are uploaded to the same site for viewing at a later date.



## www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

Church office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. -Noon