

Seedlings 🌱: "Every morning is Easter morning from now on..."



*“Ev’ry morning is Easter morning
from now on!
Ev’ry day’s resurrection day,
the past is over and gone!”*

*Goodbye guilt, goodbye fear, good riddance!
Hello Lord, Hello sun!
I am one of the Easter People!
My new life has begun! Refrain*

*Daily news is so bad it seems the
Good News seldom gets heard.
Get it straight from the Easter People:
God’s in charge! Spread the word! Refrain*

*Yesterday I was bored and lonely;
but today look and see!
I belong to the Easter People!
Life’s exciting to me! Refrain*

*Ev'ry morning is Easter morning
from now on!
Ev'ry day's resurrection day,
the past is over and gone!
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning,
Ev'ry morning is Easter morning
from now on!*

Easter Day 2025



Photos by Rafael Martinez

God bless us with foolishness. God bless us with enough foolishness to actually believe that we can make a difference in this world. So that we can do what others claim cannot be done. So that we can believe what others say cannot be so. Amen

**Farewell and Godspeed to the Lauritsen's
The Seventh Sunday of Easter
between the Ascension of Our Lord and Pentecost Day
June 1st, 2025**



**Liturgy of Holy Communion, 10:15 a.m.
Bishop Wilma S. Kucharek, presiding and preaching.**

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ
you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock.
You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to
them,

and you call them to various avenues of service.

We give you thanks for the ministry of **Dennis** among the people of God in
this place.

You watch over our going out and our coming in:
bless this time of ending and beginning.
You surround your people in every time and place:
keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial:
prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together;
heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us.
Help **Dennis and Jane and their family** and all of us
to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.

As they have been a blessing to us,
so now send them forth to be a blessing to others;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**



**Easter Season Concerts
in May**

Michael Teolis Singers



★ MICHAEL TEOLIS SINGERS PRESENTS ★

Peace Triumphant: ★ ★ ★ 1945 ★ ★ ★

Saturday • May 10, 2025 • 7:30pm

First United Methodist Church • 324 N. Oak Park Avenue • Oak Park, IL 60302 • Handicap Accessible

Online tickets at
www.MTSingers.org

• \$25 Adult
• \$20 Seniors / Students

All tickets at the door
• \$30



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ARTS
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arts.gov

THE MICHAEL TEOLIS SINGERS IS PARTIALLY FUNDED
BY THE OAK PARK AREA ARTS COUNCIL. IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH THE VILLAGE OF OAK PARK, THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL AGENCY
AND THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS.

David Richards and Beverly Tarbox of our congregation sing with this choir.

Lux Cantorum Chicago *Gospel Extravaganza!*

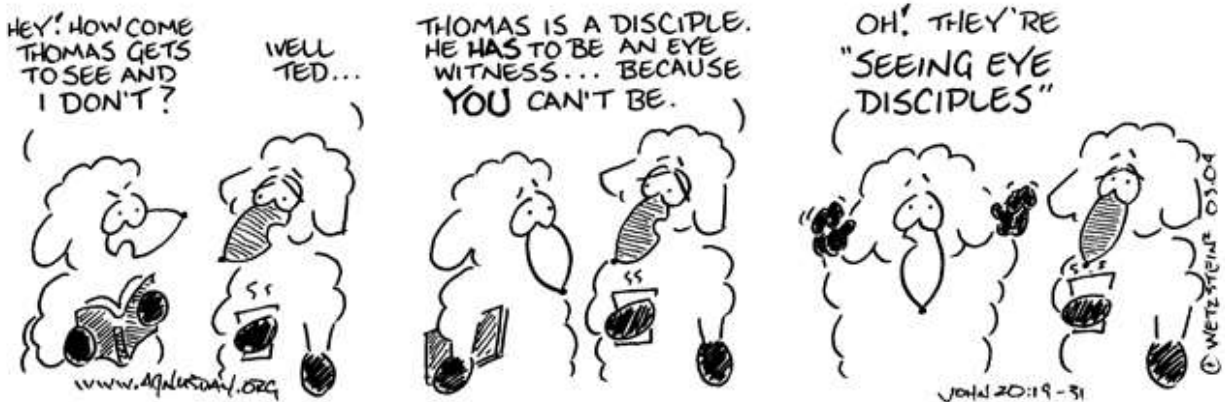


*We highlight the rich heritage of gospel music's powerful vocals, soulful melodies, inspirational messages, and enthusiastic rhythms. Our tribute to gospel music welcomes a spiritual experience with a wide range of gospel music styles, and celebrates a faith and culture that is enriching and entertaining! Featuring works by Robert Ray, CeCe Winans, Mark Hayes, M. Roger Holland II, and more. **For Concert information and advance ticket purchases, please visit***

<https://luxcantorum.org/> .

Brandon Michaels and Dennis Lauritsen sing with LCC.

LUX CANTORUM



When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are

forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.



Holy Week

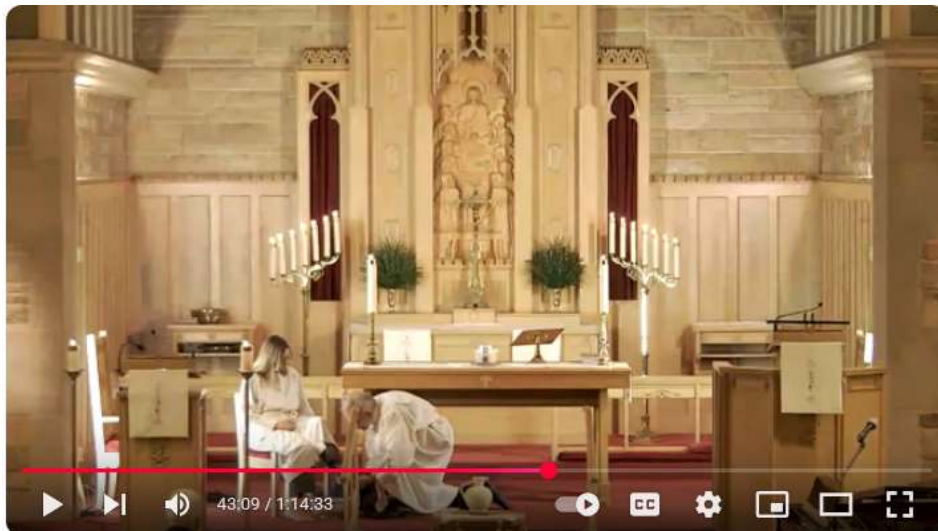
...in Review

Palm Sunday



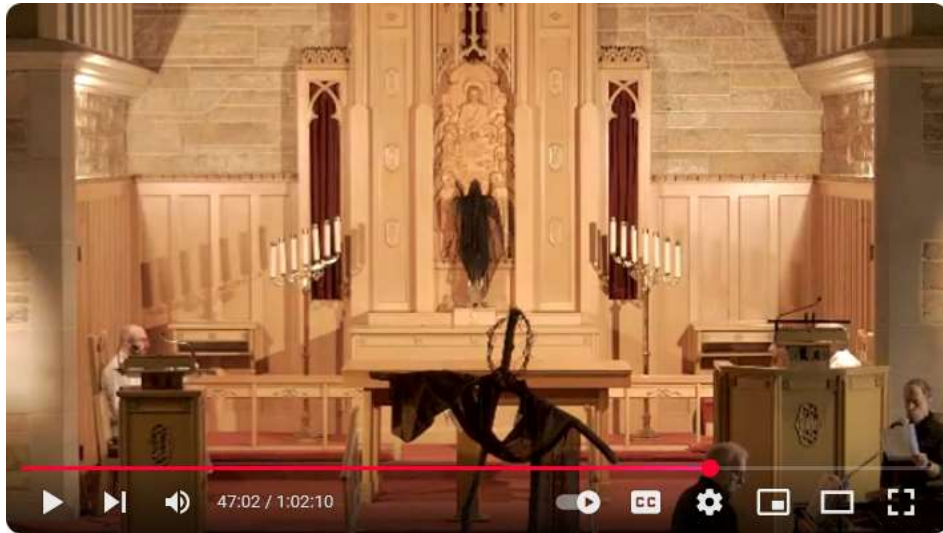
You may follow the recorded liturgy [HERE](#) .
[Palm Sunday Was a Protest, Not a Procession](#)

Maundy Thursday



You may follow the recorded liturgy [HERE](#) .

Good Friday



*Service of diminishing light
with the Passion Reading according to St. John and Veneration of the Cross.
Featuring cello, poetry, choir and meditation: ["How the light gets in..."](#)
by Episcopal Bishop Jake Owensby of the Mississippi Diocese.*

You may follow the recorded liturgy [HERE](#).



[Remembering Pope Francis](#)

Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love, teach us to
contemplate you in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of you. Awaken our praise and thankfulness
for every being that you have made.

Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight. Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.

The poor and the earth are crying out. O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.

Praise be to you! Amen.

— Excerpted from "A Christian prayer in union with creation," in *Laudato Si'*, no. 246



*Please forward this message to others
who may be interested.
The Seedlings Newsletter
is posted at the congregational 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 [HERE](#).**

**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**