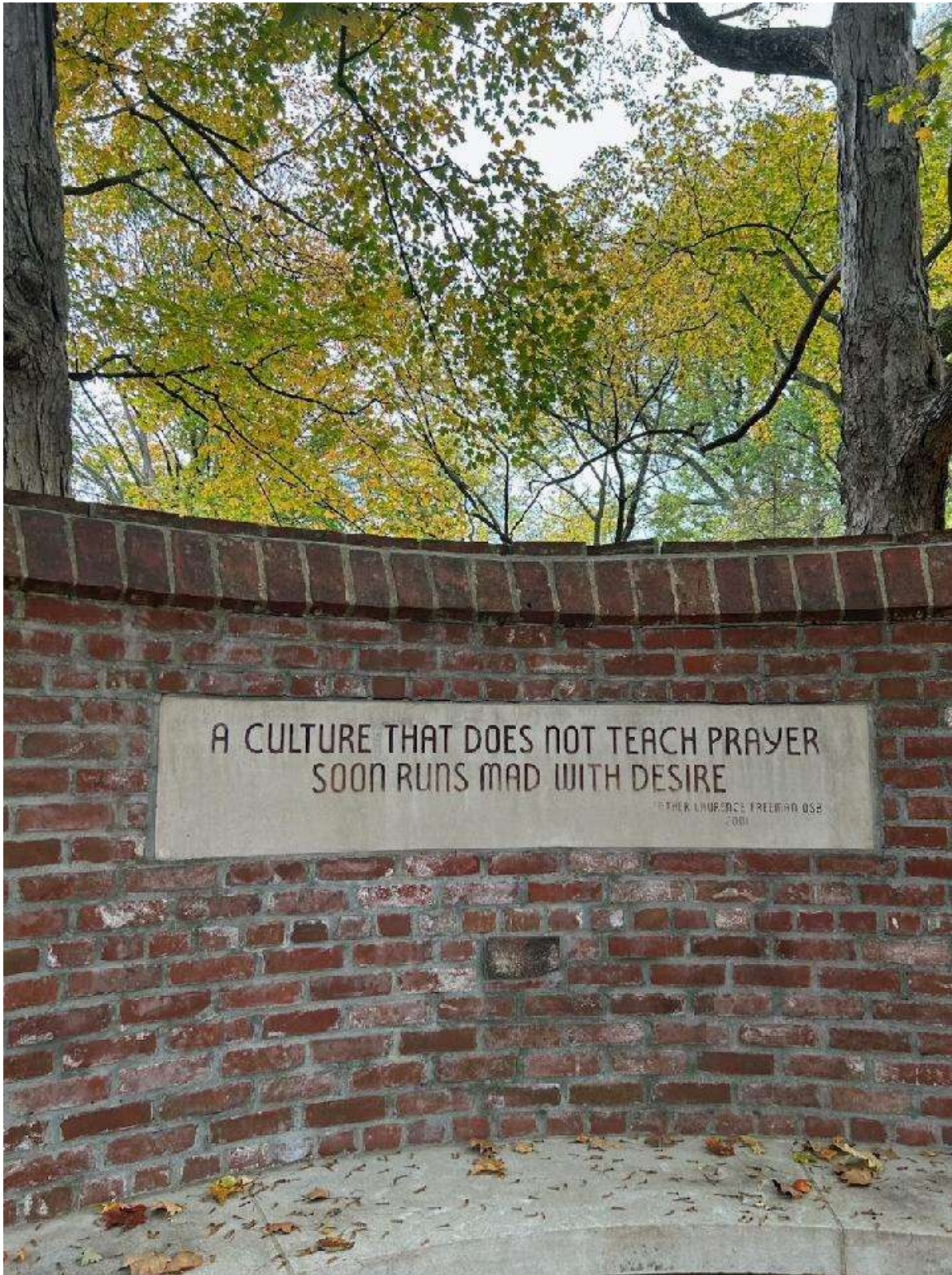


Seedlings 🌱 : A Better Black Friday 🍂



**For the expanding grandeur of creation, worlds
known and unknown, galaxies beyond galaxies,
filling us with awe and challenging our
imagination:**

We give thanks this day.

**For this fragile planet earth, its times and tides, its
sunsets and seasons:**

We give thanks this day.

**For the joy of human life, its wonders and
surprises, its hopes and achievements:**

We give thanks this day.

**For our human community, our common past and
future hope,**

**our oneness transcending all separation,
our capacity to work for peace and justice in the
midst of hostility and oppression:**

We give thanks this day.

**For high hopes and noble causes, for faith without
fanaticism,**

for understanding of views not shared:

We give thanks this day.

**For all who have labored and suffered for a fairer
world,**

**who have lived so that others might live in dignity
and freedom:**

We give thanks this day.

**For human liberty and sacred rites; for
opportunities to change and grow, to affirm and
choose:**

**We give thanks this day.
We pray that we may live not by our fears but by
our hopes,
not by our words but by our deeds.
We give thanks this day.**

—O. Eugene Pickett



Thanksgiving Eve in New Mexico



Cherokee Prayer Blessing

May the Warm Winds of Heaven
Blow softly upon your house.
May the Great Spirit
Bless all who enter there.
May your Moccasins
Make happy tracks
in many snows,
and may the Rainbow
Always touch your threshold.

Cherokee Prayer Blessing

May the warm winds of heaven
Blow softly upon your house.
May the Great Spirit
Bless all who enter there.

May your Moccasins
Make happy tracks
in many snows,
and may the Rainbow
Always touch your shoulder.

View the Thanksgiving Day
Liturgy of the Word with Prayers of
Thanksgiving
by clicking [HERE](#) .

***Designated thank offerings may still be made to
the***

[Greater Chicago Food Depository](#) .

*To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in
everything He has given us -- and He has given us
everything.*

*Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment
of existence is a grace,*

for it brings with it immense graces from Him.

*Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is never
unresponsive,*

*is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of
the goodness of God.*

*For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by
hearsay but by experience.*

And that is what makes all the difference.

--Thomas Merton

THANKFUL



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ALCARAZ
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SYNDICATION

Holiday Concert Season...

MICHAEL TEOLIS SINGERS PRESENTS



Photo Credit: Michelle & MUSA

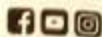
Saturday, December 2, 2023 • 7:30pm

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

Online tickets at www.MTSingers.org

\$22 Adult
\$17 Seniors / Students

Tickets at the door
\$25 Adult
\$20 Seniors / Students



THIS PROGRAM IS PARTIALLY SUPPORTED
BY A GRANT FROM
THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL AGENCY



THE MICHAEL TEOLIS SINGERS IS PARTIALLY
FUNDED BY THE OAK PARK AREA ARTS COUNCIL
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE VILLAGE OF OAK PARK,
FOREST PARK, AND RIVER FOREST
AND THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL, A STATE AGENCY

Sts. Peter and Paul members David Richards and Beverly Tarbox perform with The Michael Teolis Singers.

Online ticket purchases at www.MTSingers.org .

LUX CANTORUM

Chicago's premier sacred choral ensemble
Lux Cantorum Chicago presents:

Manifest Love

*A testament to the power of spiritual love.
Bringing solace, hope, and warmth to the season.*

Sunday, December 3, 2023
4:00pm

Saints Peter & Paul Lutheran Church
250 Woodside Dr. Riverside IL

ARTS
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS

Lux Cantorum Chicago will present its holiday concert entitled “Manifest Love” at Sts. Peter and

Paul on Sunday afternoon, December 3rd, at 4 p.m., followed by a seasonal reception in the dining hall. For more information and ticket purchases, please visit luxcantorum.org. Performances will also be held on Friday, December 1st at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Lakeview, Chicago, and on December 9th at Pilgrim Congregational Church in Oak Park. Sts. Peter and Paul members Brandon Michaels and Pastor Dennis sing with *Lux Cantorum*. Listen to concert selections "See Amid the Winter Snow**" by Dan Forrest and "**Wexford Carol**" by Michael McElroy by clicking [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).**



The Reign Of Christ:

"Sometimes, Jesus really gets my goat!"

I FEEL LIKE
I NEED TO
**STEP UP
MY GAME.**



WWW.AGNLISDAY.ORG

THAT MAY
BE TRUE...



BUT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS COMES
FROM JESUS, NOT YOUR SERVICE.
AND YOUR SERVICE COMES FROM
YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.



AND JESUS SEES IT ALL.

THAT'S WHY I
FEEL LIKE I
NEED TO **STEP
UP MY GAME!**



MATTHEW 25:31-46

© WETZSTEIN 37-31-22

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal

fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life (Matthew 25:31-46).



Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
and Christmas Eve
10:15 a.m., Liturgy of Holy
Communion
7:15 p.m., Festival Liturgy of
Holy Communion with Candlelight**



**Christmas Day
at Ascension Lutheran Church
400 Nuttall Road in Riverside
10:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols
with Holy Communion
*No liturgy here on Christmas Day.***



*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