



The Churchman

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
250 Woodside Road, Riverside, Illinois 60546 * (708) 442-5250
"Faith Active in Love"
www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

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Issue 5

We are called together by the Holy Spirit around Word and Sacraments to glorify God the Father, creator of all things, through our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust God to nurture lives of faith and hope, as we serve and give witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world.

Images of the Season for Easter



Floral cross at the corner of 31st and DesPlaines after worship on Easter Day 2022.

resuscitation. Whatever happened in that tomb was something beyond human understanding. So the primary image for Easter is a profound absence: just the empty tomb itself.

Matthew gives additional details about the entombment of Jesus that enhance our understanding of the resurrection. He relates how the Jewish religious authorities requested that the tomb be sealed and that guards be posted, so that the body could not be stolen and the claim made that Jesus had been raised. Jesus became a prisoner of the tomb. But it is death itself, not the guards, who is the jailer. Fittingly, in the Easter hymn "Come, you faithful, raise the strain" (LBW 132) we sing that "Christ has burst his prison" (st. 2).

Of course the rolling away of the stone did not release Jesus from the tomb, for he had already been raised and gone ahead of the disciples to Galilee. In the resurrection Jesus transcended time, space, and death—those things that limit human existence. So the stone was not rolled away for Jesus, but for the disciples and for us. We need to see the evidence that the "right hand of the Lord has triumphed" (Psalm 118:16) in raising Jesus so that we might believe, and through believing "have life in his name" (John 20:31).

Jesus' victory over death is but a foretaste of God's final victory over death in the age to come. Isaiah anticipates God's ultimate defeat of death (25:7) when he speaks of God destroying "the shroud that is cast over all peoples" and swallowing up death forever. Death having been defeated, the only thing left for God's people to do is to throw a

What image comes to mind when you think of Easter— Jesus getting up and walking out of the tomb? Actually, none of the resurrection stories gives a detailed description of what happened in the tomb, other than to say that the Crucified One was raised. We are not told that the hand of God reached into the tomb to jostle Jesus from his death sleep, or that the Holy Spirit came into the tomb to give him mouth to mouth

big celebration, replete with the best food and wine. Each repetition of the Lord's supper anticipates the new life of the end-time, and the risen Lord comes again to share with us the gifts of eternal life in the bread and wine, which are his own body and blood.

Other images for the Easter season remind us that Jesus' victory over death was not for his sake alone—a divine tour de force—but was for us and for our salvation. Jesus' resurrection is the precondition for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). It is also the precondition for our new birth as God's sons and daughters destined to receive a permanent inheritance (1 Peter 1:4), and for our being ransomed from the ways of sin and death with Christ's own blood (1 Peter 1:18-19).

The good shepherd image of John 10 is also one that we associate with Easter, specifically, the fourth Sunday of Easter. Why Easter? The reason is that Jesus can only be our good shepherd insofar as he himself has conquered death. He lays down his life (that is, sacrifices himself) for his sheep, but he takes it up again, and he can share the power of eternal life with the sheep who hear his voice (10:10, 28). Only the one who has conquered death can be the guardian of God's sheep.

Jesus' victory over the grave is completed in the ascension and at the sending of the Spirit at Pentecost. Jesus ascends not just to another place, but to another age, the future reign of God where sin and death have no power. As the one who conquered death, Jesus ascends to take his rightful place in the dominion where the power of eternal life has full sway. Jesus takes his place in the future reign of God for us. He pours out his Spirit on the church to empower it for mission in the world (Acts 1:8), and through the sacramental means of grace—proclamation of the word, the meal of thanksgiving, and the cleansing and renewing bath—Jesus comes in the power of the Holy Spirit to incorporate us into the reign of God. The risen Lord, death's conqueror, gives us a share in what will be our future glory with him.

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—submitted by Pastor Dennis



From an Easter Sermon, 2004

by Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury

“The goodness of the resurrection news is most evident for those who have lost people they love to any sort of incomprehensible evil—the tragedies of dementia, the apparent meaninglessness of accident, the horrors of violence or injustice. Think back for a moment to the days when death squads operated in countries like Argentina or El Salvador: the Christians there developed a very dramatic way of celebrating their faith, their hope and their resistance. At the liturgy, someone would read out the names of those killed or ‘disappeared’, and for each name someone would call out from the congregation, *Presente*, ‘Here’.

“When the assembly is gathered before God, the lost are indeed *presente*; when we pray during the Eucharist ‘with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven’, we say *presente* for all those the world (including us) would forget and God remembers. With angels and archangels; with the... Rwandans of ten years ago and the... brutalized Ugandan children of last week or yesterday; with the young woman dead on a mattress in King's Cross after an overdose and the childless widower with Alzheimer's; with the thief crucified alongside Jesus and all the thousands of other anonymous thieves crucified in Judea by an efficient imperial administration; with the whole company of heaven, those whom God receives in his mercy. And with Christ our Lord, the firstborn from the dead, by whose death our sinful forgetfulness and lukewarm love can be forgiven and kindled to life, who leaves no human soul in anonymity and oblivion, but gives to all the dignity of a name and a presence. He is risen; he is not here; he is present everywhere and to all. He is risen: *presente*.”

—submitted by Pastor Dennis



Birthdays

May 1: Dennis Lauritsen	May 18: Brian Bucz
May 5: Henry Quest	Colin McShane
May 6: Jonathan Drahos	May 19: Sean Jones
May 7: Charlene Patula	May 27: Kristina Patel
May 11: Jake Collins	May 28: Timothy Sender
Karole Gaydusek	Sarah Wilson
Jane Lauritsen	May 29: Thomas Myers
May 12: Caitlin McShane	May 31: Thomas Murray
May 13: Joseph Hassel	
Kenneth Hurbanis	

Anniversaries

May 8, 1971: Walter and Judith Cudecki
May 15, 2009: Jeffrey and Lisa Triska
May 15, 2010: George and Catherine Pagurko
May 20, 2006: Paul and Jessica Drahos
May 23, 1993: Earl, Jr. and Rita Mika
May 25, 1968: John and Shirley Kostelny
May 28, 1995: Jennifer and Benjamin Smith
May 28, 2017: John and Valerie Borysek
May 29, 1994: Jillian and James Collins

Passages

Dorothy “Dot” Myers, 92 year old mother of Richard “Ernie” and Thomas, passed from this life on April 7th. A service for Dot is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th, 11 a.m. with visitation beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the church.



Friberg Mission Update March 2022



Two-month old Hosiana came to us with pneumonia, sepsis, hypoxia, and dehydration. We could only give oxygen, IV antibiotics and IV fluids. She had to fight to live on her own. She maintained a respiratory rate of 80-90 per minute for 36 hours. Her parents wanted to put her in God's hand and asked our evangelist Mika to come and baptize her.

At 48 hours she opened her eyes and her exhausted parents shed tears as they realized she might survive. We discontinued oxygen and started tube feedings of expressed breast milk. On day 4 she began nursing and seemed to fully recover.

Neonates cannot contain infection in one part of the body— infections tend to generalize. On day 7 Hosiana spiked a fever to 40 C and Laiti, our experienced nurse, noticed that she had a bulging fontanelle. Hosiana had developed meningitis and required high doses of antibiotics for ten more days. She kept defying the odds, stayed alert, and continued nursing.

Hosiana survived because our motivated medical team of five people kept praying and addressing new problems as they arose. On day 19 she was bundled up between her mother and the driver of a motorcycle for the one hour ride up Ketumbeine mountain. Hosiana is safely home and reminds us of the fragility of life and that each new day is a gift from God.

Thanks for being part of our team.

—Steve and Bethany



News from the Riverside Preschool at Sts. Peter and Paul

Dear Friends,

We can't believe the school year is almost over. We have had a fabulous year!

The month of May will be filled with a celebration for the preschool moms and fun crafts. We will end the year with a program filled with colorful songs and a graduation ceremony for our graduates.

—Lisa Manganiello, Preschool Director

Beannacht (“Blessing”)

by John O’Donoghue

On the day when
the weight deadens
on your shoulders
and you stumble,
may the clay dance
to balance you.

And when your eyes
freeze behind
the grey window
and the ghost of loss
gets in to you,
may a flock of colours,
indigo, red, green,
and azure blue
come to awaken in you
a meadow of delight.

When the canvas frays
in the currach of thought
and a stain of ocean
blackens beneath you,
may there come across the waters
a path of yellow moonlight
to bring you safely home.

May the nourishment of the earth be yours,
may the clarity of light be yours,
may the fluency of the ocean be yours,
may the protection of the ancestors be yours.
And so may a slow
wind work these words
of love around you,
an invisible cloak
to mind your life.



March 2022	
Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering	
Budgeted Offering: \$2,597.00	
Date	Offering
3/6	\$2,188.00
3/13	\$2,371.00
3/20	\$1,603.00
3/27	\$1,758.00

How Worship Practices Form Us for Ministry
in Daily Life!

A Life of Faith Initiative Resource

Craig L. Nesson, Wartburg Theological Seminary
Sixth in a series...

Blessing: “The Lord bless you and keep you...” Liturgy concludes with God’s benediction. The Triune God, whom we have encountered in the worship service, blesses us as we scatter from our gathering. God in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit accompanies us with all blessing as we prepare to enter next into the worship service which are our daily lives, bestowing the blessings we have received upon the neighbors we encounter there: “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” (Matthew 25:40). As we have participated in the practices of worship, we have been formed in the life practices belonging to the members of the body of Christ for the life of the world.

Dismissal: “Go in peace...” As you have been fashioned at worship to conform your lives to the way of Christ Jesus, now you are sent to be the people of God according to this pattern in every role and relationship throughout the week. With the peace of God we are sent: to serve the Lord, to share the good news, and to remember the poor. As we are sent to do works of mercy for our neighbors, we also carry the promise: “Christ is with you!” As you have become the forgiveness of God, the praise of God, the word of God, the intercessions of God, the peace of God, the hospitality of God, and the food of God at worship, go now to be the forgiveness, praise, word, intercessions, peace, hospitality, and food of God in your ministry in daily life. Amen. Let it be so! Thanks be to God!



A Mother’s Day Prayer

Heavenly Father, to you I pray...
On this day called, “Mother’s Day.”
Let all mother’s on earth give praise,
To you... for the children that you gave.

For you have blessed them from above,
with little souls to nourish and love.
Let them mold each one with care...
And teach them to be kind and share.

Forgiveness is the special key...
Start early on, to help them see.
Their fragile minds are easily impressed.
Please teach them ways, so they’ll be blessed.

Sow godly seeds into their minds.
With careful pruning, you will find...
Young adults with such strong roots,
all through life, will bear rich fruit.

And then have faith for God to show...
Them all the rest they have to know.
Remember they’re His children too.
For they were only lent to you.

—author unknown



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250 Woodside Road
Riverside, IL 60546
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DATED MATERIAL

MICHAEL TEOLIS SINGERS PRESENTS

GONE TOO SOON

Saturday
May 7, 2022
7:30pm

First United Methodist Church
324 N. Oak Park Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60302
Handicap Accessible
Masks are optional. For COVID protocol updates,
consult www.MTSingers.org.

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

Beverly Tarbox and David Richards of our congregation perform with the Michael Teolis Singers.

MAY WORSHIP SERVERS

May 1st:

Greeters: Larry Crachy and Karen Kubik
Assisting Minister: Tom Myers
Lector: Charles Matthies
Live Stream: Fred Kuzel
Usher: Walter Cudecki

May 8th:

Greeter: Karyn Bute
Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels
Lector: John Broussard
Live Stream: Paul Watkiss
Usher: Janet Broussard

May 15th:

Greeter: Fred Kuzel
Assisting Minister: Brandon Michaels
Lector: Jane Lauritsen
Live Stream: John Broussard
Usher: Fred Kuzel

May 22nd:

Greeters: Edward and Joanne Sefara
Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss
Lector: Beverly Tarbox
Live Stream: Charles Matthies
Usher: Rafael Martinez

May 29th:

Greeters: John and Shirley Kostelny
Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies
Lector: Tom Myers
Live Stream: Fred Kuzel
Usher: John Kostelny

Sacristan and Altar Care:
Carole Pollitz and Kristine Boike

Worship Servers Please Note...

...that if you are unable to keep your scheduled date, please arrange for a replacement and call the church office with the change. Thank you.

Memorial Flowers

April 3rd: In loving memory of +Richard Hurbanis+ on the first anniversary of his passing by remembering family.

April 10th: In memory of departed loved ones of the Hurbanis Family.

April 24th: In remembrance of the 30th anniversary of the death of +Viola Ann Krosiak Minarcin+ by remembering family. We honor her service to Sts. Peter and Paul Church and her love of family and friends.

JUNE WORSHIP SERVERS

June 5th:

Greeters: Walter and Judith Cudecki
Assisting Minister: John Broussard
Lector: J. T. Tarbox
Live Stream: Paul Watkiss
Usher: Walter Cudecki

June 12th:

Greeter: Carole Pollitz
Assisting Minister: Tom Myers
Lector: Carrie Watkiss
Live Stream: John Broussard
Usher: Janet Broussard

June 19th:

Greeter: Ann Kmet
Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels
Lector: Brandon Michaels
Live Stream: Charles Matthies
Usher: Fred Kuzel

June 26th:

Greeters: Paul and Carrie Watkiss
Assisting Minister: Brandon Michaels
Lector: Joanne Sefara
Live Stream: Fred Kuzel
Usher: John Kostelny

Sacristan and Altar Care:
Kristine Boike and Esther Meksto



Memorials and Honorariums

✠ For the Church ✠

Kevin and Julie Hurbanis, in memory of father +Richard Hurbanis+ on the first anniversary of his passing.

Kevin and Julie Hurbanis

Janice Small, in memory of mother +Suzanne Janovic Bartizal+ on her birthday on April 10th and grandmother +Zuzanna Janovic Pribula+.

Charles Matthies, in memory of parents +Theodore+ and +Elizabeth Matthies+ on the 79th anniversary of their marriage on March 20th.

Steven Cuvala, in memory of +Donna Tuidar+.

Ben and Diane McGee, in memory of +Steve+ and Beverly Podzamsky's 73rd wedding anniversary on April 23rd.

Steven and Susan Wente, in honor of the retirement of Professor BettyAnn Mocek from Concordia University.

✠ In Memory of Darlene Roubal ✠

Beverly Podzamsky
Saundra and Peter Spilotro
William Boor
Ruth Bakalich
Edward and Joanne Sefara

LUX CANTORUM CHICAGO
PRESENTS



7, 13, & 15 | 2022
MAY

COMFORT & RENEWAL

Requiem by Gabriel Fauré

An intimate re-interpretation of the Catholic Mass
affirming eternal rest for the departed and consolation for the living

Feel the Spirit by John Rutter

A cycle of seven Negro Spirituals with refreshed rhythms and jazz harmonies
for soloists and chorus by the renowned British composer and arranger

Dr. Wilbert O. Watkins, Artistic Director and Conductor

Philip Kendall, Assistant Conductor

Chamber Ensemble:

Joan Hutchinson, Organ/Piano

Pascal Innocenti, Violin

Mary McGinty, Viola

Molly Grettenberger, Harp

Chris Edwards, Percussion

Saturday May 7, 2022 Pilgrim Congregational Church 7:30 pm
460 Lake St. Oak Park IL

Friday May 13, 2022 Resurrection Lutheran Church 7:30 pm
3309 N. Seminary Av. Chicago IL

* Sunday May 15, 2022 Sts Peter & Paul Lutheran Church 4:00 pm
250 Woodside Rd. Riverside IL

Admission \$20 children under 12 free
For tickets & current COVID information go to
www.LuxCantorum.org

***THIS CONCERT ALSO AVAIABLE VIA LIVESTREAM**

*"A Ukrainian Prayer" by John Rutter will also be featured in the program.
Brandon Michaels and Pastor Dennis of our congregation sing with Lux Cantorum Chicago.*