

Divine Service

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Stories of God @ Work

Preparation of the Heart

Opening Hymn

"God Himself Is Present"

LSB 907

Preparation of our Hearts to Hear

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

L: Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Most merciful God,

C: **We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

L: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

"God Bless Our Native Land"

[LSB 965]

God bless our native land; Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night. When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave, Do Thou our country save
By Thy great might.

So shall our prayers arise To God above the skies;
On Him we wait. Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye, To Thee aloud we cry:
God save the state!

Prayer of the Day

L: Lord of the nations, you have truly blessed our land. We thank you this day for the privileges we enjoy as citizens of this country. For freedom to vote, freedom of speech, and freedom to worship you, we are truly grateful. We give you thanks for all those who worked and sacrificed in the past, and we pray that you would help us to live as productive members of society – obeying the laws that have been put in place for our benefit, using our gifts to improve the welfare of others, respecting all those whom you have placed in authority over us, and willingly sacrificing ourselves for the good of others. This we pray in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

The Service of the Word

Reading of Holy Scripture

First Scripture Reading

Hebrews 13:1-9, 16-17

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." ⁶So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ... ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Verse (all rise) [LSB 156]

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

R: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke chapter 14.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(Luke 14:1-14) ¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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Children's Sermon

(please record your attendance)

Please list each attendee separate and check if participating in communion.

Visitors please fill out top portion with your address etc.

After the attendance is recorded for your pew, please tear off sheet and place in folder slightly higher for ease of collection. Thank you!

Hymn of the Day "Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace" LSB 844

Sermon "What Can Man Do To Me?" Hebrews 13:1-6

Our Response to God's Word

Apostles' Creed LSB inside back cover

Prayer of the Church Page of Worship Folder

Announcements

Offering

The primary way we are to obtain money is to work for it.

*" . . . aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs,
and to work with your hands. " (1 Thessalonians 4:11)*

Offertory "Create in Me" [LSB 192]

Create in me a clean heart. O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

-4-

The Service of the Sacrament

“As we receive the True Body and Blood of our Lord, our faith is fed, our spirits are encouraged, and we are moved to share God’s grace with the world.”

[Because of the closeness of this sharing (and the concerns expressed in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29) we ask that those who have not been taught the faith at STL speak with a pastor or elder before communing.]

Preface

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

L: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament.

C: **Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end.**

L: To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB inside back cover

Words of Institution

L: This peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

The Agnus Dei

[LSB 163]

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution – Continuous Line

A request of those who wish to commune:

All who are baptized and believe that in Communion we receive the true body and blood of Jesus, under the form of bread and wine, are invited to the Lord’s Table. All others are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Alcohol-free wine is available in the center of each individual cup tray. Gluten-free host is available upon request from the host server. If you have any questions, please speak with a member of our staff.

Hymns during the Distribution

Anthem

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

W. Whiting/J. Dykes

“O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee”

LSB 632

“Your Table I Approach”

LSB 628

The Sending

Post-Communion Canticle

“Thank the Lord”

[LSB 164]

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev’ryone what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.

He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Dismissal and Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction and Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

(share the peace with one another)



Today's flowers were given to honor and glorify our risen Lord,
in memory of George Bittner,
from his wife, Margaret.

*You are now entering
the (your)
Mission Field*

*"The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few.
Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send YOU out into his harvest."
(Matthew 9:37-38)*

NEXT SUNDAY: Welcome Back Service
A special service to kick off the fall! Join us!

The 13th Sunday after Pentecost
September 8, 2019

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 55:6-13

Sermon Topic: "Transforming Power" Text: Isaiah 55:12

Fall Preview Sunday - September 15th

**Make your plans today to stay a few extra minutes after
worship. Our hallways will be filled with a "tasty" preview of
our exciting fall programming.**

PROJECT 2019

No one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Cor. 3:11

The goal of Project 2019 is to raise \$120,000.00 for two capital projects at STL

These projects are:

- Repair / replace the front (east) parking lot
- Repair / replace our oldest flat roofs

Three years ago, in Project 2016, we repaired the west parking lot and the flat roofs on the west side of our building. Project 2019 is phase two of the same project, now restoring and updating the east side of the wonderful building and grounds that God has entrusted to us.

All gifts donated to Project 2019 will be matched by
The Saint Thomas Lutheran Foundation.

PROJECT 2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH

The BOD has extended the Project 2019 capital campaign through September. Our primary focus is upon completing the final phase of our flat roof replacement. The STL Foundation has pledged to match all contributions. Gifts to Project 2019 (not including STL Foundation match) through August 25 total \$21,510.00.

New T – 1 K We have free New Testaments, free reading guides, and more. Our intent is to do more than just give away free Bibles, we wish to actually help people to read and understand the books we distribute. We currently have given out over 550 bibles, with most of them registered NT readers. We encourage you to a) keep inviting people to read with us, and b) encouraging people to invite others. If you are interested, or would like more information, you can either, get information in the back of the church or contact the office.



On-line Giving - Did you forget your mission support envelope/offering? You can scan this Quick Response (QR) code, with a QR decoder on your smart phone, it will take you to our on-line giving form, where you can have your mission support offering automatically taken from your checking account, or use your credit or debit card. You can also set up recurring giving! Visit our web page for more on-line giving options.

Connecting Individuals to Jesus and to One Another Educating Minds – Growing Faith – Serving People

We are glad you are here. When you come to worship at STL, you are among friends and family. If you are curious to learn more out ministry in the community, go to www.stl-eastpointe.org, or like us on Face Book. To get your questions answered in a more personal way, contact the church office (586-772-3370) and ask for a pastor to give you a call (or just check the box in the Record of Fellowship folder).

Our Confession of Faith

As members of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (LC-MS), we subscribe to the three ecumenical creeds (Apostles, Nicene and Athanasian) and the Christian faith as confessed in the Book of Concord. This includes believing that:

- Jesus Christ is both true God and true man who died for our sins and rose again to save us.
- His body/blood are truly present in communion under the form of bread/wine (see page 326).
- Communion is, among other things, an expression of doctrinal unity.
- Infant baptism is a Means of Grace through which God delivers one from sin and gives eternal salvation to all who believe (page 325 in Lutheran Service Book).

Serving in God's House

Preacher: Rev. Rick VanBriggle

Liturgist: Deacon Don Cooley

Organist: Lori Stolzenfeld

Music: Steven Northcott

Sanctuary Team: Ed McCarthy

Readers: April Surinck, Jafer Perez

Servers: Roy Michelsen, Steven Northcott, Mark Bucholtz, Richard Cain

Greeters: Robert & Gail Fournier, Kelly Crivella

Altar Guild: Jan Audia & Joyce Vincent

*Weekly Worship with Communion - Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Third Sunday of the month at Noon
Monday at 7:30 p.m.*

*Faith Hope Love Ministries throughout the week
Cross†raining for children Sunday at 10:45 a.m.*

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Watch services on Facebook – videotaping in progress during service

Upcoming Events:



(visit the web page or see the STL publication for more information)



FPU @ STL

Financial Peace University (a 9-week course)

Beginning Wednesday, September 18th from 7 – 9

What if you were following a plan for your money that you KNEW worked? With the Dave Ramsey's class Financial Peace University, you CAN take control of your money, get out of debt, and create a plan for your future. Go to <https://www.fpu.com/1094744> to register.

Faith Connection - September 28th from 8:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Faith Connection is a six-hour dialogue on the basics of the Christian faith. Starting with the question "What does it mean to believe?" it is an opportunity to ask questions, listen to the thoughts of others, and re-think where we are in our walk with God. Come expecting a) to experience a lively conversation, b) to ask your questions and c) to find the Spirit of God be active in you. We anticipate you will be energized and renewed. Refreshments will be served. There is NO fee, though reservations are required, and you will be asked to read a brief journal article ("The Secretary, The Reporter, and The Hermit") in preparation for the workshop. Delightful, healthy snacks and lunch are included. Please contact Pastor Mark Hetzner (PastorMarkHetz@Hotmail.com) or cell (586-854-5624).

**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9TH - 14TH THE FLOORS IN THE HALLWAYS,
SCHOOL BATHROOMS, GYM LOBBY AND SELECTED CLASSROOMS
WILL BE STRIPPED AND WAXED. THERE WILL BE LIMITED USE OF
THE BUILDING THIS WEEK.**

OFFICE HOURS WILL VARY AND NO VISITORS!

ALARM WILL BE ON WHEN CREW IS NOT HERE!

***** PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE BUILDING THIS WEEK! *****

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

September 1, 2019

L: Let us pray to the Lord of the Church to hear His people and grant their prayers for mercy.

(after each petition)

L: Let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: Grant to us all these things, O Lord, not because of our own merits or worthiness, but solely for the sake of Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

Our Primary Prayer focus for this week is upon families:

- For the STL staff and their families.
- For them to be blessed through our Faith Hope Love Ministry and Vacation Bible Sunday activities.
- For God's blessing upon the start of the new school year.
- For those who travel.

And we remember those who protect and nurture life on this earth, this week remembering all military families, emergency responders, and hospital and hospice care workers.

To connect to the STL PRAYER CHAIN, contact Karen Dolan (mdolan421@gmail.com)

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

✠**For Loved Ones Called Home:** The family of Peggy Habrowski, aunt of Sue Wensink, was called home on 8/19. The family of Bobby Nelson, who was called home 8/24. Memorial service on 9/7, in-state 10 a.m., service at Noon at STL.

✠**God's Healing Hand on:** Brenda Finger, Shirley McKernan, Karl Hallberg (son-in-law of Cardamone's), Richard Toole (brother-in-law of Becky Northcott), Elsie Gray (mother of Beverly Gray-Booth).

✠**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Sieg Gannon, Chris Huber, John Lemke (friend of Monica Hetzner), Beth White, Bob LaRoche and Jan Adams (family of Elsie Adams), Alyssa Delano (granddaughter of Theresa Delano), Tiffany Crow (granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond), Denise Godfrey (sister of Deborah Kujawski), Sydney Parkin (great-granddaughter of Caroline Henze), Kathy Johnson (friend of Vicki Leberg), Claire Armstrong (granddaughter of Clyde & Carolyn Armstrong), Shirley Grassa (aunt of Deborah Kujawski), Mark Loechle (son of Pat).

✠**Those in Hospice care:** Kathy Lopicollo (extended member), Leone Vondette.

Do good and ...

share what you have,

for such sacrifices

are pleasing

to God.

Hebrews 13:16



September 1, 2019

Saint Thomas Lutheran

23801 Kelly Road, Eastpointe, Michigan 48021 - 586-772-3370

www.stl-eastpointe.org

Rev. Mark W. Hetzner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Richard A. VanBriggle, Specific Ministry Pastor

Deacon Don Cooley