

Connecting PEOPLE to MISSION

Stories of God @ Work

Preparation of the Heart

Opening Hymn *“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”* LSB 793

The 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: You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession.
C: We are here to declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.
L: People do not light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone around.
C: We will go out, into our community, to let our light shine before others, that they may see the good work God is doing, and believe in Jesus as their Savior and Lord.
L: We pause to reflect upon the opportunities that God is placing before us to share his light.

(time for personal reflection)

- L: Gracious God:
C: Have mercy on us. The harvest is plentiful, but we have not always been willing to go out with your love to those around us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in the mission field of our community, to the honor and glory of your holy name, and the growth of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
L: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, empower you to greater witness and keep you in eternal life.
C: Amen.

(Prayer of the Day is based upon Acts 4:29-31)

- L: Lord God, look upon the threatening times in which we live and grant to us, your servants, that we may speak your word with all boldness and love, while you stretch out your hand for healing, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.

C: Fill us with your Holy Spirit that we all may speak your word boldly in all circumstances. Amen.

Anthem *“Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower”* C. Winkworth

The Service of the Word

The Reading of Holy Scripture

The Word Goes Out **Amos 8:4-7**

⁴Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, ⁵saying, “When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, ⁶that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?” ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: “Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Verse *(all rise)* [tune LSB 950]

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
Our human story; God in Him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
With grace unbounded.

R: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter 16
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

(Luke 16:1-15)¹[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ²And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ ³And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ ⁵So, summoning his

master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' ⁷Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' ⁸The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

¹⁰"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³**No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."**

¹⁴The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Gospel Verse

[tune LSB 950]

Tell how the Father sent His Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from every nation
His new creation.

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

"Seek Where You May to Find a Way"

LSB 557

Sermon

"God Knows Your Heart"

Luke 16:13-15

Our Response to God's Word

The Nicene Creed

LSB inside back cover

Prayer of the Church

Back 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

[BOB 89]

Holy is our God, whose name we praise forever.
Glory to the Son, who reigns in majesty!
Come, Spirit, come and fill our hearts with wisdom,
That we may long to worship You alone.

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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: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

L: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life .

C: We give You thanks that through Him, and by the power of Your Spirit, we receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Lord's Prayer

LSB inside back cover

Words of Institution

The Canticle

[BOB 89]

Holy is our God, whose name we praise forever.
Glory to the Son, who reigns in majesty!
Come, Spirit, come and fill our hearts with wisdom,
That we may long to worship You alone.

Oh Spirit, come and unite us In one communion with our Lord.
Free us from the chains that bind us, For the Comforter has come.

Holy is our God, whose name we praise forever.
Glory to the Son, who reigns in majesty!
Come, Spirit, come and fill our hearts with wisdom,
That we may long to worship You alone.

Distribution - at the Altar

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

"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" N. von Zinzendorf/G. Elvey

"Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"

LSB 694

"You Are the Way; through You Alone"

LSB 526

The Sending

The Post-Communion Canticle

[BOB 89]

Holy is our God, whose name we praise forever.
Glory to the Son, who reigns in majesty!
Come, Spirit, come and fill our hearts with wisdom,
That we may long to worship You alone.

For Jesus is the Father's only Son, Given in love for everyone.
Lamb of sacrifice, a humble King, He gave His life so we might live.

Holy is our God, whose name we praise forever.
Glory to the Son, who reigns in majesty!
Come, Spirit, come and fill our hearts with wisdom,
That we may long to worship You alone.

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction and sharing of the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

(share the peace with one another)

Postlude

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)

**Join us for one of the these FHL Gatherings
Following the worship service**

WOMEN – S†L Room 101 – “Living So That... (Making Faith-filled Choices)”

Facilitator Host: Elizabeth Kruse

Multi-generational – S†L Room 204 – “Luther’s Small Catechism”

Facilitator Host: Delia Greves

Multi-generational – S†L Room 205 – “Sunday’s Gospel”

Facilitator Host: Don Cooley

Multi-generational – S†L Room 207 – “Ten Women of the Bible”

Facilitator Host: Gregg Fritsch

NEXT SUNDAY

The 16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2019

Scripture Readings: 1 Timothy 6:6-19 / Luke 16:19-31

Sermon Topic: “The Good Fight” - Text: 1 Timothy 6:11b-12

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

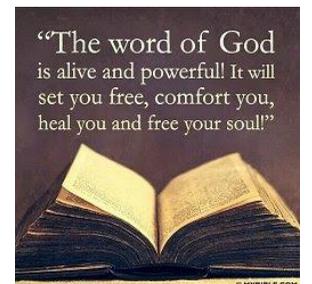
Three years ago, in Project 2016, we repaired the west parking lot and the flat roofs on the west side of our building. Project 2019 is phase two of the same project, now restoring and updating the east side of the wonderful building and grounds that God has entrusted to us.

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 September 15 total \$23,690.40.

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.



HIS II is having a flower bulb fundraiser. Catalogs and order forms are available on the information tables. Orders and payment are due Sunday, October 6th. Please make checks payable to HIS II.

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:** Mike Dolan
Organist: Lori Stolzenfeld **Music:** Matthew Northcott
Sanctuary Team: Mark Matheson **Readers:** Mary Lee McKay, Roy Michelsen
Servers: Paul Jatkowski, Mike Dolan, Ben Gibson, Tony Berkseth
Greeters: Mary Lee McKay, Vera LaFrate
Altar Guild: Dana Haenke-Adam & Randa Haenke-Swanboro

*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)

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).

CAMP RESTORE DETROIT FUNDRAISING DINNER

October 13, 2019 at St. Thomas

Camp Restore Detroit invites you to its annual Fundraising Dinner/Silent Auction. Reservations are \$25/person (\$10 towards dinner, \$15 donation to CRD). For more information or to make reservations, go to www.mtcalvarydetroit.org/2019-camp-restore-fundraiser-dinner.html.

GRIEF SHARE – Wednesday Evenings

Designed to help you successfully travel the journey from morning to joy.

StL Room 101 @ 7:00 p.m.



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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - September 22, 2019

L: Let us pray to the Lord on behalf of His Church, the nation, the world and all people according to their needs.

(after each petition)

L: Let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: O Lord, our God, whose mercies are new every morning, we give You thanks and praise for all Your kindness toward us, and we pray You to grant us the will and desire to worship You joyfully, to serve You faithfully and to proclaim boldly Your mighty acts of deliverance through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

C: **To You alone be glory, honor, worship and praise, O Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Our Primary Prayer Focus this week is for Christ's work in and through us:

- Connecting people to mission through our FHL Ministry.
- Nurturing and mentoring all parents into greater faith and witness.
- Blessing our witness to those who receive hope as they read God's Word – especially those who receive a free New Testament through New T: 1-K.
- Growing in us all sacrificial hearts and habits of faithful financial stewardship.

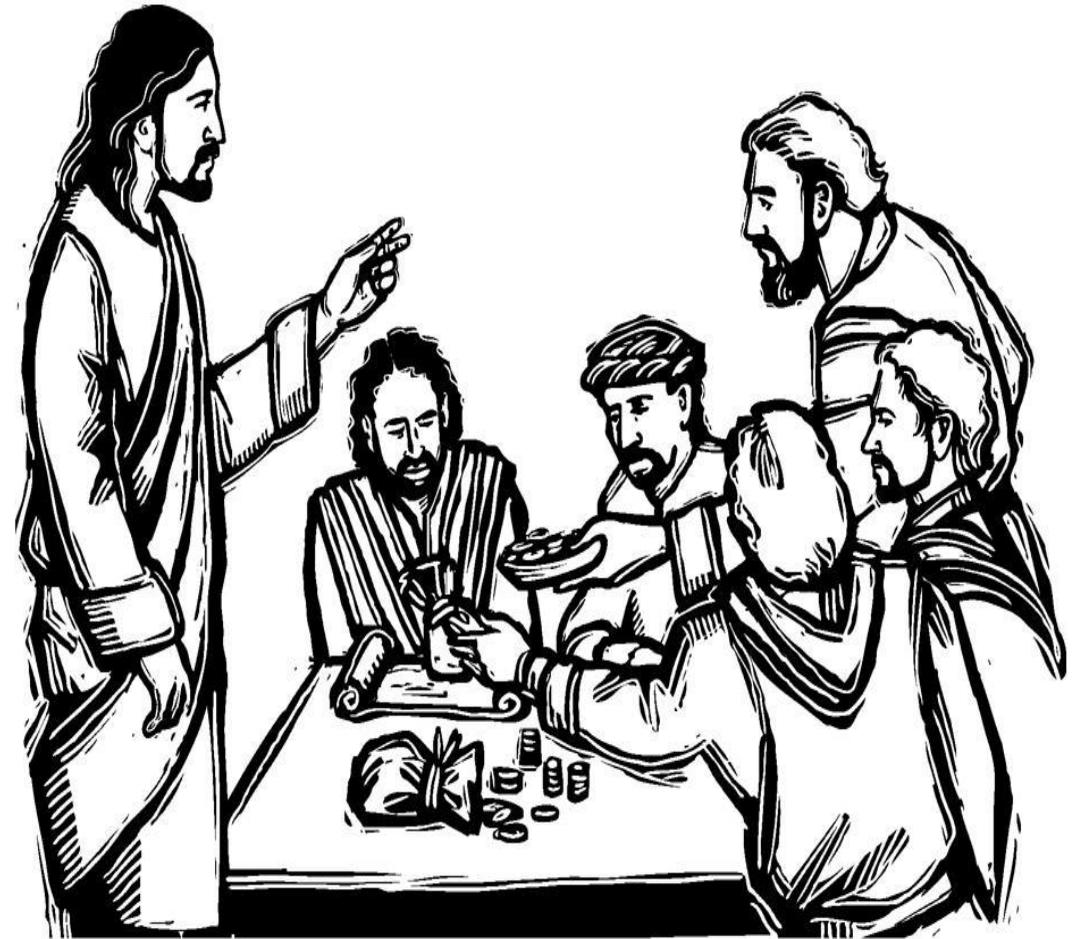
And we pray for all the people Jesus will draw into our building this month.

And we remember those at both ends of life on this earth, the unborn and newly born, and the elderly and those nearing life's end, remembering especially all pregnant mothers, and : Kathy Lopicollo (extended member) who is in hospice care.

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

✠**God's Healing Hand on:** Autumn Patty, Diane Ustick, Brenda Finger, Shirley McKernan, Elsie Gray (mother of Beverly Gray-Booth), Judi Todt (mother of Vicki Berkseth), Don Berkseth (father of Scott), Richard (brother-in-law of Roblyn Smith), James & Briggette (friends of the Cooks), Alice Schmidt (mother of Lori Stolzenfeld), Jim Pagles (former member).

✠**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), Elaine Dixon (friend of Linda Taggart).



*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 22, 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