

Saint Thomas Lutheran

Eastpointe, Michigan

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

We are here to serve our community. As you worship with us online, the Lord Jesus is at work, uniting us as 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/staff member to give you a call.

Divine Service

May 31, 2020

RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS

The Story of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.

There were many Jews staying in Jerusalem just then, devout pilgrims from all over the world. When they heard the sound, they came on the run. Then when they heard, one after another, their own mother tongues being spoken, they were thunderstruck. They couldn't for the life of them figure out what was going on, and kept saying, "Aren't these all Galileans? How come we're hearing them talk in our various mother tongues? Both Jews and proselytes; Even Cretans and Arabs! "They're speaking our languages, describing God's mighty works!"

Their heads were spinning; they couldn't make head or tail of any of it. They talked back and forth, confused: "What's going on here?" Others joked, "They're drunk on cheap wine."

That's when Peter stood up and, backed by the other eleven, spoke out with bold urgency: "Fellow Jews, all of you who are visiting Jerusalem, listen carefully and get this story straight. These people aren't drunk as some of you suspect. They haven't had time to get drunk—it's only nine o'clock in the morning. This is what the prophet Joel announced would happen: "In the Last Days," God says, "I will pour out my Spirit on every kind of people: Your sons will prophesy, also your daughters; Your young men will see visions, your old men dream dreams. When the time comes, I'll pour out my Spirit On those who serve me, men and women both, and they'll prophesy. I'll set wonders in the sky above and signs on the earth below, Blood and fire and billowing smoke, the sun turning black and the moon blood-red, Before the Day of the Lord arrives, the Day tremendous and marvelous; And whoever calls out for help to me, God, will be saved."

Opening Praise

“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

[LSB 913, vs. 1 & 3]

O Holy Spirit, enter in, And in our hearts Your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us. Sun of the soul, O Light divine,
Around and in us brightly shine, To joy and gladness wake us
That we may be Truly living, To You giving
Prayer unceasing And in love be still increasing.

O mighty Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word, in doubt and strife,
In us be strongly burning That we be faithful unto death
And live in love and holy faith, From You true wisdom learning.
Your grace and peace On us shower; By Your power
Christ confessing, Let us see our Savior’s blessing.

Entering Prayers

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

C: Amen.

L: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.

C: Kindle in us the fire of your love.

L: “I will pour out my Spirit on all people,” says the Lord. “Your sons and daughters will prophesy.”

C: Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Almighty God, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts through your blessed word, that he may rule and guide us according to your will; strengthen us in every trial and need; and lead us, past all error, into your truth; that we may stand fast in faith, increase in love and all good works, and by the sure hope of your grace, which you have obtained for us by your death, be saved eternally; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.

C: Amen.

The Hymn of Praise

“Father Most Holy”

[LSB 504, vs. 1, 3 & 4]

(Tune: LSB 950)

Father most holy, merciful, and tender; Jesus, our Savior, with the Father reigning;
Spirit of comfort, advocate, defender, Light never waning;

Maker of all things, all Thy creatures praise Thee; All for Thy worship were and are created;
Now, as we also worship Thee devoutly, Hear Thou our voices.

Lord God Almighty, unto Thee be glory, One in three persons, over all exalted!
Glory we offer, praise Thee and adore Thee, Now and forever.

Holy Gospel

John 7:37-39

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter 7.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁷On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” ³⁹Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Announcements

Children’s Sermon and Attendance Registration

Please let us know you are watching by sending us a comment or an emoji

Hymn of the Day

“Holy Spirit, the Dove Sent from Heaven”

[LSB 502, vs. 1, 3 & 4]

Holy Spirit, the dove sent from heaven, Ever one with the One who is Three,
From the Father You came, Words of peace to proclaim,
Come and comfort us, speak tenderly. You, the fragrance of life we are seeking;
Fill Your temple, Your altar make clean. Joyous shelter of love,
Gracious friend from above, In Your care we are resting, serene.

Holy Spirit, the unction of blessing, Sacred oil of the green olive tree,
Giving heat, giving light, As the tent lamps ignite
And as Aaron praised God joyfully. Blessèd living and life-giving water,
Now preserve us from evil within; For in Jesus, God’s Son,
All believers are one In this washing that cleanses from sin.

Holy Spirit, the wind of great power, Source of strength and of peace and of love,
Truest Comforter, plead, As You bring all our need
To the throne of God’s glory above. Be the light that enlightens the Scriptures;
Keep our feet from each devilish snare; Only You can make whole
All that troubles our soul; By Your chrisms, Christ’s triumph we share.

Sermon

“Flowing Rivers”

John 7:37-38

The Prayer of the Church

L: Heavenly Father, we come to you in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, a man delivered up according to your plan, crucified on our behalf, and now raised up and ruling in your presence.

(after each petition)

L: Lord, in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

L: Confident in your promise to help us, our children and all who are near or far off – everyone whom you call to yourself, we pray by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **In Jesus’ name. Amen.**

Our Primary Prayer focus this week is upon God's Work in and through the STL family:

Filling us with faith, hope and love, and protecting us from all harm.

Moving us toward greater and more active love for our neighbor.

Connecting more and more people to Christ's mission on earth.

Empowering us in greater witness for the growth of God's kingdom.

And we remember those on our cradle role, those who struggle in the pandemic, and those who are in hospice care.

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 Christopher Ratz, who was called home on May 23rd.

†**God's Healing Hand on:** Margaret Bittner, Theresa Cook, Brenda Finger, Lucille Setter (sister-in-law of Caroline Henze), Anna Neveau (cousin of Laura Thomas), Brenda Hillsinger Fader (daughter of Frieda), Kimberly Ross (mother of Dayna), Martha McClean (friend of the Phaneuf's), Irene Bickel (Monica Hetzner's mother).

†**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Sieg Gannon, Elsie Adams, Chris Huber, John Lemke (friend of Monica Hetzner), Beth White, Robert Laroche and Jan Adams (family of Elsie Adams), Tiffany Crow (granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond), Denise Godfrey (sister of Deborah Kujawski), Kathy Johnson (friend of Vicki Leberg), Claire Armstrong (granddaughter of Clyde & Carolyn Armstrong), Luella Riske (granddaughter of Jim, Thrivent Rep.), Scott Spencer (friend of Cardamone's), Karl Hallberg (son-in-law of Cardamone's), Paul Odendahl (brother-in-law of Eleanor Cardamone), Payton Gifford (great-granddaughter of Jane Gurnack).

Voluntary



On-line Giving – Don't wish to mail in 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 (stl-eastpointe.org) under Mission Support, for more on-line giving options.

**One of the primary reasons for obtaining wealth
is to be able to give it to God.**

“ . . . remember the words of the Lord Jesus,
‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” (Acts 20:35)

Offertory

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

[LSB 789, vs. 1 & 3]

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer
For all things living, Created good:
Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.

Father, providing Food for Your children,
By Your wise guiding Teach us to share
One with another, So that, rejoicing
With us, all others May know Your care.

SENT TO THE MISSION FIELD

Confession and Absolution

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

L: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer:

C: We poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. O Lord God, grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

L: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives the power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

Scripture Reading

Numbers 11:24-30

²⁴Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.

²⁶Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, "My lord Moses, stop them." ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!" ³⁰And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

We Profess our Faith:

“Apostles Creed”

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Closing Prayers

L: It is with the heart that a person believes and is justified,

C: And it is with his mouth that he confesses and is saved.

L: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people.

C: Kindle in us the fire of your love.

L: Living together in trust and hope, we pray as our Lord himself has taught us:

C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

L: Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth”

[LSB 834, vv. 1, 3, 4]

O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth, Thy living finger never wrote
That life should be an aimless mote, A deathward drift from futile birth.
Thy Word meant life triumphant hurled In splendor through Thy broken world.
Since light awoke and life began, Thou hast desired Thy life for man.

Thou camest to our hall of death, O Christ, to breathe our poisoned air,
To drink for us the dark despair That strangled our reluctant breath.
How beautiful the feet that trod The road that leads us back to God!
How beautiful the feet that ran To bring the great good news to man!

O Spirit, who didst once restore Thy Church that it might be again
The bringer of good news to men, Breathe on Thy cloven Church once more,
That in these gray and latter days There may be those whose life is praise,
Each life a high doxology To Father, Son, and unto Thee.

*You are living in
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’S READINGS

The Holy Trinity

June 7, 2020

Scripture Readings: Genesis 1:1 – 2.2 / Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon Topic: *“Identity Brings Mission”* - Text: Matthew 28:18-20

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 (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).

Notice to Members and Friends: Southbound Kelly Road, north of Hauss Ave. to Norton Ave. which includes St. Thomas, will be closed from May 11, 2020, weather dependent, until mid-August. For access to properties from northbound Kelly Road – All driveway approaches along southbound Kelly Road will be removed and replaced with new concrete as part of the project. Once concrete has been poured for new driveway approaches, the new concrete must cure for 7-10 days to achieve required strength prior to opening to traffic. However, temporary access will be provided to all properties along the west side of Kelly Road for the entire duration of the project by installing temporary gravel access driveways from northbound Kelly Road across the center median. Please keep this in mind when you come to St. Thomas. You can also park on the side streets or Stephens and walk over, if you desire.

Saint Thomas Lutheran

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www.stl-eastpointe.org

Rev. Mark W. Hetzner, Senior Pastor

Specific Ministry Pastor - Rev. Richard A. VanBriggles, Deacon Don Cooley

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