

*October 18, 2020*

*Saint Thomas Lutheran*

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

[www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org)

*Rev. Mark W. Hetzner, Senior Pastor*

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

# *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](http://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*

### *Stories of God @ Work*

## **RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS**

### **Opening Praise**

*“Praise the Almighty”*

[LSB 797, vs. 1, 3 & 5]

Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him! Yes, I will laud Him until death;  
With songs and anthems I come before Him As long as He allows me breath.  
From Him my life and all things came; Bless, O my soul, His holy name.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessèd, oh, blessèd are they forever Whose help is from the Lord Most High,  
Whom from salvation can nothing sever, And who in hope to Christ draw nigh.  
To all who trust in Him, our Lord Will aid and counsel now afford.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise, all you people, the name so holy Of Him who does such wondrous things!  
All that has being, to praise Him solely, With happy heart its amen sings.  
Children of God, with angel host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Alleluia, alleluia!

### **Entering Prayers**

[Isaiah 45:1-7]

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

**C:** Amen.

**L:** Thus says the Lord to his anointed, “I will go before you and level the exalted places. I will break the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron.

**C:** “That you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name.

L: "I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness. I make well-being and create calamity."

**C: It is the Lord, our God, who does all these things.**

L: Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations. Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### ***Hymn of Praise***

### ***"Speak, O Lord"***

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word;  
take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
that the Light of Christ may be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;  
test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow'r that can never fail, let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truth unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises, and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your Church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glory!

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend  
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### ***Scripture Reading***

### **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

L: Today's Scripture reading is from 1 Thessalonians 1.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. <sup>9</sup>For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

L: This is the word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

## ***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***

*"O Christ, Our True and Only Light"*

[LSB 839, vs. 1, 2, 4 &5]

O Christ, our true and only light, Enlighten those who sit in night;  
Let those afar now hear Your voice And in Your fold with us rejoice.

Fill with the radiance of Your grace The souls now lost in error's maze;  
Enlighten those whose inmost minds Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.

Shine on the darkened and the cold; Recall the wand'ers to Your fold.  
Unite all those who walk apart; Confirm the weak and doubting heart,

That they with us may evermore Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore  
And endless praise to You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

### ***Sermon***

***"Heart Issues are Hard Issues"***

*"Healing for Deep Afflictions"*

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

# ***RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS***

### ***The Prayer of the Church***

L: O Lord, deliver Your people by Your power, and grant to us grace sufficient for all our needs and for the needs of all people.

*(after each petition)*

L: Lord, in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

L: Let us pray to the Lord that we may remain steadfast and immovable in faith, and that we may endure to the day of His coming again, when we shall be reunited with those who have gone before us with the sign of faith and now rest from their labors, to live in His eternal presence and sing His praise without end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**Our Primary Prayer focus this week is upon God's Work in our nation:**

Through Camp Restore Detroit and our on-going support of this ministry.

Healing all ethnic, racial, and economic strife.

Guiding us into more healthy habits and caring actions.

Empowering us, his people, to live and share the Gospel on a daily basis.

**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](mailto:mdolan421@gmail.com))**

**† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †**

†**Praise and Thanksgiving:** For the birth of a healthy boy, Harrison James, to Jeffrey & Abby Ahee, born 10/8 – grandson for James & Nancy Ahee.

†**God’s Healing Hand on:** Eleanor Cardamone, Jane Gurnack, Frieda Ziegler, Loletta Hogan, Adam Vincent, Patti Prill, Jim Ham, Margaret Bittner, Emily Henze (daughter-in-law of Caroline), Matthew Nelson (great-nephew of Caroline Henze), Doug Bogen (nephew of Mary Lee McKay), Don Habermas (husband of Vada), Scott Jones (husband of Michele, our GSRP director), Evert Flokstra (cousin of Vera LaFrate), Rich (son-in-law of the Cherry’s), Sue & Michael (daughter and grandson of Frieda Ziegler).

†**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Lori Kucharek, 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), 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**



**Supporting the STL Mission** – There are many ways to give your support (tithe) to the mission of STL (besides checks or cash) including:

- Text “GIVE” to 1-586-800-2233
- Visit: <https://www.stl-eastpointe.org/2015/07/13/mission-support/>
- Scan this Quick Response (QR) code
- Go to <https://www.elexiogiving.com/app/giving/stthoms>

These will connect 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 (STL is charged extra fees for debit and credit card transactions). **You can even set up recurring giving with many of these options!**

**“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you  
in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father  
your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope  
in our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)**

*Gracious and loving God, giver of life and source of our freedom, we understand that you call us to be faithful stewards of your abundance, the managers of all you have entrusted to us. Equip us always to use your gifts wisely and use our faithful stewardship to bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives.  
We pray with grateful hearts in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

You are my strength when I am weak,  
You are the Treasure that I seek. You are my All in All.  
Seeking You as a precious jewel,  
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool. You are my All in All!

**Chorus: Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.  
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.**

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,  
rising again, I bless Your name. You are my All in All.  
When I fall down, You pick me up;  
When I am dry, You fill my cup. You are my All in All! **Chorus**

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65 Music Square West, Nashville, TN 37203

***Confession and Absolution***

L: Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God.

**C: For from him and through him and to him are all things.**

L: Lord, if you kept an account of our wrongdoings, who could stand?

**C: But with you there is forgiveness, so that you may be revered.**

*(time for personal reflection)*

L: Out of the depths we call to you, Lord!

**C: O Lord, hear our voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our plea for mercy. Both we and our families have sinned; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedness. Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we as one people may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.**

L: Blessed be the Lord, our God, from everlasting to everlasting. He has remembered his covenant, and sent Jesus to pay for our sins, and the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## ***SENT TO THE MISSION FIELD***

***The Holy Gospel***

**Matthew 22:15-22**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter 22.

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

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. <sup>16</sup>And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup>Tell



us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" <sup>21</sup>They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

### ***We Profess our Faith***

### ***"The Nicene Creed"***

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

### ***Service of the Sacrament***

[Psalm 96:1-9]

L: O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!

C: Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

L: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

C: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name.

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

### ***The Words of Institution***

#### ***Private Prayer before Communing***

O Lord, our God, in the name of whose only-begotten Son we have been called to be Christians and have been blest with Baptism for the remission of sins, make me, I pray, ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins and to give thanks with a grateful heart to you, O Father, to your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## ***The Distribution of the Sacrament***

### ***The Canticle***

[LSB 606]

I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;  
He bears them all and frees us From the accursed load.  
I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains  
Clean in His blood most precious Till not a spot remains.

### ***Distribution Hymn***

#### ***"We Give Thee But Thine Own"***

[LSB 781]

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,  
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled Are straying from the fold.

To comfort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,  
To tend the lone and fatherless Is angels' work below.

The captive to release, To God the lost to bring,  
To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:  
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee.

### ***Prayer as you go home***

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put upon ourselves the armor of light, and live as your united people, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, now and forever. Amen.



Today's flowers are given to honor and praise our Lord  
from Tom & Mary Lee McKay in celebration  
of their 10<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



*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**

***Reformation Sunday***

October 25, 2020

Scripture Readings: Revelation 14:6-7 / John 8:31-36

Sermon Topic: **Heart Issues are Hard Issues**

"It Just Takes One Word – No One is Left Out" - Text: Revelation 14:6-7

**Lifeline Screening – November 13<sup>th</sup>**

Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441 or text the word "circle" to 797979.

**Clothing Closet Open – November 14<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Holiday Food Basket Giveaway – November 21<sup>st</sup>**

**11 a.m. – 1 p.m. (or until gone)**

**Remembrance Sunday – November 22, 2020**

**Thanksgiving Eve – November 25, 2020**

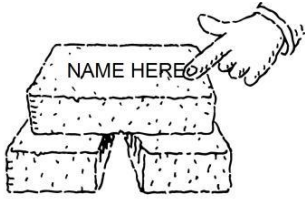
**Noon & 7:00 p.m.**

**How does Virtual Sunday School sound to you?**

*With our lives so busy, how do we find the time to have our children learn about Jesus? STL is offering a 3-tiered "Virtual Sunday School" that you can turn to any time or anywhere each week. Our "THE FLOCK (little lambs following Jesus)" blends the invaluable experience of children learning about Jesus with the convenience of locally produced interactive videos. Find information on THE FLOCK at [www.STL-eastpointe.org](http://www.STL-eastpointe.org).*

## Drive Thru Communion – TODAY!

On the third Sunday of the month St. Thomas offers an opportunity for those who are unable to attend a worship service to partake in The Lord's Supper from the safety of social distancing with one on one (family with Pastor), at 11:00 a.m. in the back/west parking lot. If you have any questions, call the church office.



Have you noticed the Saint Thomas Lutheran Heritage Cross in the sidewalk at the northwest church entrance? The Commemorative Brick program will enable you to be a permanent part of this cross. Bricks may be engraved with names, special dates, special occasions, events, sayings, or any message you wish. It will then become a part of Saint Thomas history. This is a great way to remember a loved one or honor that special person in your life.

**Heritage Cross Bricks** You may choose to purchase one 4" by 8" brick for \$50.00 or a set of three bricks for \$125.00. This includes up to three lines of up to 14 characters per brick, including spaces. You also may purchase a replica of your brick for display at your home or office. Replica bricks are priced at \$30.00 each. Please contact the church office, or visit [www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org) for an order form.

**Camp Restore Detroit** is hosting a volunteer workday on October 24 from 9am to 4pm. We are looking for volunteers to help with a variety of projects from painting to demolition and more! The workday will be on our campus, located at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church. Contact Elizabeth Parrish at [elizabeth@camprestore.org](mailto:elizabeth@camprestore.org) if interested. You will need to bring a packed lunch, work gloves and a mask.

## Ascension Wellness Center to Give Flu Shots to Seniors!

Ascension will be back in the building soon!  
Watch for more information!

## *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).

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Watch services on Facebook or at [www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org) – videotaping in progress during service