



Remembering

November 22, 2020

Remembrance Sunday

Saint Thomas Lutheran

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

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, 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

LIVING IN CONNECTION

Opening Praise

“How Great Thou Art”

[LSB 801, vs. 1, 3 & 4]

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed; **Refrain**

**Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; **Refrain**

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” **Refrain**

Text: © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust, admin. EMI CMG and Hope Publishing Co.

Entering Prayers

[Romans 6:3-5]

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

C: **Amen.**

L: All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death.

C: **We were buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.**

L: And, if we have been united with him in a death like his,

C: **We shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.**

L: We come to you, Lord, thanking you for always listening to our cries for help and our words of desperation. You have been so patient with us. Help us to be patient with you, and to allow you to answer our prayers in the way that you see fit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

"By Faith"

By faith we see the hand of God in the light of creation's grand design;
in the lives of those who prove His faithfulness, who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth, with the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand, a place where peace and justice reign. **Chorus**

Chorus: We will stand as children of the Promise.

We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.

**Till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.**

By faith the prophets saw a day when the longed-for Messiah would appear,
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death and rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the Church was called to go in the pow'r of the spirit to the lost,
to deliver captives and to preach Good News in ev'ry corner of the earth. **Chorus**

By faith this mountain shall be moved and the pow'r of the Gospel shall prevail,
for we know in Christ all things are possible for all who call upon His Name. **Chorus 2x's**

We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

Works and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townsend
©2009 Thankyou Music (PRS)

Praising our God and Savior for Births, Baptisms, Graduations, Birthdays, Weddings and Anniversaries

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 1:2-3, 7-9, 13-14

L: Today's first Scripture reading is from Ephesians 1.

²**Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.** ³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ...

⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ...

¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

L: This is the word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

“Celebrations Missed”

Ephesians 1:2

Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: O gracious Father, with your open hand you satisfy the desire of every living thing. We give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness over this past year to us and to all whom you have made. We praise you for births and baptisms, for graduations and birthdays, for weddings and anniversaries, and for all the events we were not able to celebrate as we would have liked. And we pray you give us such a constant awareness of your mercies that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but also in our lives by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Announcements

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!**

“Oh come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.” (Psalm 95:6-7)

Lord, you gave us life in birth and new life in Holy Baptism. You give us everything we have and have made us stewards to use the gifts you give to your glory and the benefit of your people – so that more and more may come to know you as we do. Bless our stewardship, Lord, so that we may be a blessing to others. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old
And win with them the victor’s crown of gold! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE ULTIMATE CONNECTION

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

²⁰Christ has, in fact, been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²**For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.** ²³**But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.** ²⁴**Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.** ²⁵**For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.** ²⁶**The last enemy to be destroyed is death.** ²⁷For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Homily

“Destruction and Deliverance”

1 Corinthians 15:22-26

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

L: Lord God, Heavenly Father

P: We thank you for adopting us into your family through Holy Baptism.

L: Lord Jesus, our Redeemer

P: We praise you as the first-fruits of the resurrection of all flesh.

L: O, God the Holy Spirit

P: We ask you to make us faithful to death, that we may receive the crown of eternal life.

L: That we might celebrate with all who have gone before us in your glorious presence,

P: in that ultimate connection with You forever and ever. Amen.



Roll Call:

<u>Loved One</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Submitted by</u>
Alice Schmidt	11/12/2019	Lori Stolzenfeld, mother
Charles Custer	11/14/2019	
Katheryn LoPiccolo	11/17/2019	
Joyce Hattie Burton	11/27/2019	
Myron Erhardt Engel	11/26/2019	
Harold Istok	02/08/2020	Susan Wensink
Shirley Grassa	02/17/2020	Deborah Kujawski
Peggy Jean Ickes	02/21/2020	
Jerry Farina	02/24/2020	
Jeffrey Rudow	02/29/2020	Lori Stolzenfeld
Marian Rutter	03/21/2020	Lori Stolzenfeld
Else Margarete Kirsten	03/29/2020	
Patricia E. Loechle	04/07/2020	
Ailene Marie Dory	04/08/2020	
Mark Edward Pitts	04/16/2020	Bucholtz Family
Isaiah Fowkles	04/21/2020	Desiree E Knox
Donald Recksiedler	05/05/2020	Caroline Henze
Ada Cain	05/11/2020	Richard Cain, mother
Christopher Lee Ratz	05/23/2020	
Donna Dupure	05/23/2020	Mary Lee McKay, friend
Lillian McChesney	06/02/2020	Lois Gridley
Irene Eva Margaret Bickel	06/12/2020	Monica Hetzner, mother
Earl Van Wright	06/29/2020	Susan Wensink
Denise Godfrey	08/01/2020	Deborah Kujawski
Irvin Ehlers	08/04/2020	Irene Leidich
Leanne Frank	08/10/2020	Lori Stolzenfeld
Lorean Staggs	08/18/2020	Nola Klonowski, sister
Sandra Awe Bayse	09/21/2020	Joanne Awe
Lucille Setter	09/21/2020	Caroline Henze
Jessica Marsack	09/29/2020	Lori Stolzenfeld
Elaine Delores Franckowiak	10/09/2020	
Donald L. Ude	10/28/2020	Irene Leidich, brother
Dorothy Ehlers	10/31/2020	Irene Leidich, aunt
Cheryl Jane Phaneuf	11/11/2020	
Timothy Andre Phaneuf	11/11/2020	
Ann LaFrate	11/17/2020	Vera LaFrate, aunt

Prayer**Carnations & Prayers**

THE INTIMATE CONNECTION

The Prayer of the Church

P: These are they who have come out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb.

C: We thank you, O God, for the sure hope of the resurrection You have also given us through Your victory over the grave.

P: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

C: He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

P: For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:22). He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. (Romans 4:25).

C: We praise You, O Jesus, for dying Yourself on a cross to pay for our sins.

P: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

C: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

P: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

C: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

P: (Jesus said), "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die." (John 11:25-26)

C: We glorify You, O Lord, that death no longer has any power over us. We glorify You, O Lord, for Your most precious gifts – the forgiveness of sins, eternal life with You, and the hope of the resurrection.

Service of the Sacrament

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

We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you have revealed yourself to us as our merciful Redeemer. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and so to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

The Canticle

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

[LSB 461, vv. 1 & 8]

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

The Distribution of the Sacrament

During the distribution, the Holy Gospel will be read

Matthew 25:31-46

³¹[Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

⁴¹“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Distribution Hymn

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

[LSB 809]

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. **Refrain**

Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

Prayer as you go home

Heavenly Father, into whose keeping we entrust our loved ones, help us to look to You in our times of sorrow, remembering the cloud of faithful witnesses with which we are surrounded. Grant that we may one day share in the joys of those who now rest in your presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***You are now 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

1st Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2020

Scripture Readings: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 / Mark 13:24-33

Sermon Topic: “Waiting for Christ” - Text: 1 Corinthians 1:7-8

Thanksgiving Eve – November 25, 2020

Noon & 7:00 p.m.

On-line at 7:00 p.m. at www.stl-eastpointe.org

Decorate the Church – November 28th

9 a.m. - Noon (or until done)

Clothing Closet Open – December 12th

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Holiday Food Basket Giveaway – December 19th

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. (or until gone)

Virtual Sunday School

Find information on THE FLOCK at www.STL-eastpointe.org.



If you want to hear more about the Greater Things God has been doing here in our city, join us on December 4, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., for our Virtual Gala! We will be celebrating our community, our partnerships, and our God, while also raising money to continue this work..

The speaker for the evening is Pastor Rosevelt Gray, director of Black & African Ministry, LCMS. To register for this event, visit our website at <https://camprestore.org/greaterthings2020/>. We will also be posting a link to our auction page soon, so watch for coming updates! If you would just like to make a donation to Camp Restore Detroit that also would be appreciated. Mail donations to 17100 Chalmers, Detroit, MI 48205. If you'd like to speak to someone, call Amy to 313-395-7600.

It's Lutheran Witness time! This is the time to order or renew subscriptions of the *Lutheran Witness* (LW), the official periodical of the LCMS. It is published 11 times a year and provides laypeople with stories and information that complement congregational life, fosters personal growth in faith, and helps interpret the contemporary world from the Lutheran Christian perspective. The subscription year is March 2021 through February 2022. Yearly subscriptions are \$11.60/year each if orders are placed through the St. Thomas church office (if not the cost is \$19.99). Orders and money need to be in the office by December 7 (checks made payable to St. Thomas).



Now enrolling at CrossBridge, St. Thomas Preschool! We offer one school day classroom of Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP). GSRP is the State of Michigan funded, TUITION FREE Pre-K program for 4-year olds. Our program is an all-day preschool from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Thursday. Students receive breakfast, lunch, and a snack each day provided by the program. **Call Michele Jones for more information or an appointment to enroll; 586-260-6576.**

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).

December is Filled with Opportunities

Please join us – and bring your friends and neighbors along.

Advent CHRISTMAS CAR-oling

Wednesdays – December 2, 9, 16

Noon and 7:00 pm

(7:00 also available online)

The evening gatherings will be in the front parking lot, where you can stand outside or stay in your car to sing and share the Christmas Joy.

Sunday, December 20 – 11:00 a.m. until Noon

Drive through Communion

A Safe and Healthy opportunity in our west (rear) parking lot.

Christmas Eve is on a Thursday this year

“Carols, Candles, and Communion”

4:00 p.m. – Traditional Lessons and Carols (also available online)

11:00 p.m. – Traditional Lessons and Carols

Christmas Morning Communion @ 9:30 a.m.

“Includes a special message for the children”

New Office Hours beginning November 23rd

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Please be aware that the alarm will be set when office is closed, and no activity is scheduled for the building!

Call to arrange for time in the building!

Office is closed on Friday, November 27th!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

November 22, 2020

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)

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

✠ **For Loved Ones Called Home:** For the family of Ann LaFrate, aunt of Vera LaFrate, who was called home this past Tuesday.

✠ **God's Healing Hand on:** Grace Metzner, Diane Ustick, Veronica Morris, Ron Hess, Marilyn Redmond, Jane Gurnack, Frieda Ziegler, Scott Jones (husband of Michele, our GSRP director), Evert Flokstra (cousin of Vera LaFrate), Rich (son-in-law of the Cherry's), Betty Nelson (sister of Caroline Henze).

✠ **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), Doug Bogen (nephew of Mary Lee McKay), Emily Henze (daughter-in-law of Caroline).

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