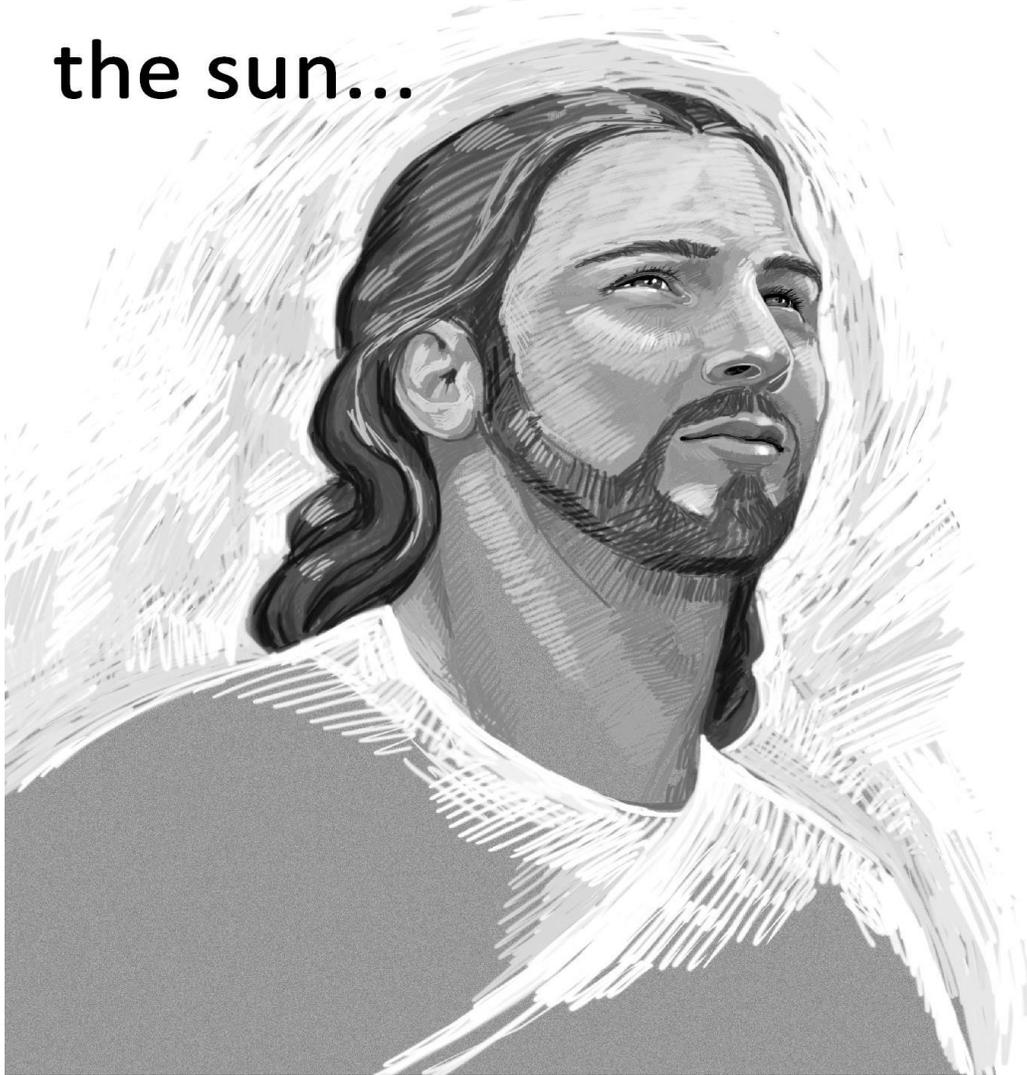


He was transfigured  
before them,  
and his face shone like  
the sun...



*February 14, 2021*

*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*

*“Jesus on the Mountain Peak”*

[LSB 415]

Jesus on the mountain peak Stands alone in glory blazing;  
Let us, if we dare to speak, Join the saints and angels praising. Alleluia!

Trembling at His feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking.  
All the prophets and the law Shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia!

Swift the cloud of glory came: God proclaiming in its thunder  
Jesus as the Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder, Alleluia!

This is God’s belovèd Son! Law and prophets sing before Him,  
First and Last and only One. All creation shall adore Him! Alleluia!

Text: © 1977 Hope Publishing Co.

*Entering Prayers*

[Psalm 50]

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

**C:** Amen.

**L:** The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**C:** **Our God comes, he does not keep silence.**

**L:** He calls to the heavens above and to the earth below, that he may judge his people.

**C:** **The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.**

**L:** Almighty God, on the mountain you showed your glory in the transfiguration of your Son. Give us the vision to see beyond the turmoil of our world and to behold the king in all his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## **Hymn of Praise**

### *“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”*

[LSB 417, vs. 1, 2, 4]

Alleluia, song of gladness, Voice of joy that cannot die;  
Alleluia is the anthem Ever raised by choirs on high;  
In the house of God abiding Thus they sing eternally.

Alleluia, thou resoundest, True Jerusalem and free;  
Alleluia, joyful mother, All thy children sing with thee,  
But by Babylon’s sad waters Mourning exiles now are we.

Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, blessed Trinity,  
At the last to keep Thine Easter With Thy faithful saints on high;  
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

## **Scripture Reading**

**2 Corinthians 3:12-4:1, 5-6**

L: A reading is from 2 Corinthians 3 and 4.

<sup>12</sup>Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, <sup>13</sup>not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. <sup>14</sup>But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. <sup>15</sup>**Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. <sup>16</sup>But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.... <sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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.*

### *Locking up our Alleluia’s*

## **Hymn of the Day**

### *“Beautiful Savior”*

[LSB 537, vs. 1, 3, 4]

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I’d love Thee, Truly I’d serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

**Sermon**

*“Behold the Glory of the Lord!”*

**2 Corinthians 3:15-18**

## **RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS**

(see the back cover for this week’s prayer concerns)

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

L: Heavenly Father, You revealed Your glory in the transfiguration of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us in human flesh. Open our eyes of faith, that we would see Him continuing to dwell among us here in our day, through Word and Sacrament, and in his body, the Church. Enable us to “listen to Him” as He forgives us and preserves us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*(after each petition)*

L: Lord, in your mercy:

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Lord God, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember on this day the glorious manifestation of Your Son’s divinity on the Mount of Transfiguration. Teach us to listen to Jesus and ever fix our eyes on Him and His innocent suffering and death. By Your grace and mercy, strengthen us to remain faithful in all circumstances. Preserve us to the end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son in whom You are well pleased, lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Our Primary Prayer focus is the life transforming power of Christ’s Word, and especially:**

Through printed and online devotions, and worship gatherings, in-person and virtual

In those who are living outside of faith in Jesus.

Among those who participate in THE FLOCK, and our FHL and CrossTraining ministries.

Active in our Ash Wednesday and Lenten gatherings.

**To connect to the STL PRAYER CHAIN, contact Karen Dolan ([mdolan421@gmail.com](mailto:mdolan421@gmail.com))**

**And we remember the unborn and newly born, the elderly and those nearing life's end,** remembering all grieving families, those who are in hospice care.

**† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †**

✠**God’s Healing Hand on:** Brenda Finger, Veda Habbermas, Janet Semenjok, Aletha Burbidge, Karen Hubbard, Larry Cichocki, JoAnn Awe, Henry & Laurie Bradychok, Ron Hess, Wyatt Cichocki (great-grandson of Larry & Karen), Jacob Smith (grandfather of Trevor Thomas), Erik Kuehn (former member), Jeff Shovein and Kareem O’Bryant (friends of Shannon Dawda), Pat Richer (friend of Sue Wensink).

✠ **Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Lori Kucharek, Sieg Gannon, Elsie Adams, Chris Huber, Don Habermas, 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.), Karl Hallberg (son-in-law of Cardamone's), Payton Gifford (great-granddaughter of Jane Gurnack), Emily Henze (daughter-in-law of Caroline).

## Voluntary



**EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT THE STL MISSION** There is a variety of ways to give your support to the mission of STL. For many the easiest is to simply mail in a check or drop your offering off at the church. If you prefer electronic giving, STL offers multiple options:

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

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!** IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, OR DESIRE ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (586-772-3370).

## KINGDOM THOUGHTS

A cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud,  
"This is my beloved Son; listen to him." (**Mark 9:7**)

*What do you think God wants you to hear from him today?*

## Offertory

*"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"*

[LSB 843, vs. 1, 2, 4]  
(tune 812)

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," You taught us, Lord, to pray;  
But You alone can grant us grace To live the words we say.

How can Your pardon reach and bless The unforgiving heart  
That broods on wrongs and will not let Old bitterness depart?

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls And bid resentment cease;  
Then, bound to all in bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

## Confession and Absolution

[Romans 10]

L: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

*(silence for reflection and self-examination)*

L: Gracious God,

**C: Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Word and Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, blessing others with the love of Jesus; in his name we pray. Amen.**

L: Almighty God have mercy on you. Your guilt is taken away and your sin is atoned for through the death and resurrection of Jesus. See, he has touched you in baptism, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keeps you in eternal life.

**C: We have been redeemed by the Lamb, to God be praise now and forever. Amen.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and by his blood we are made new. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus, I therefore 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***

**Mark 9:2-9**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, chapter 9.

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

<sup>2</sup>After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. He was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>A cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." <sup>8</sup>Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

<sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### ***We Confess our Faith***

*"The 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**

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

[Psalm 112]

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 proclaim our Lord's death until He comes.

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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***

Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation I come to your table to eat and drink your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of your holy name; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever. Amen.

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

#### ***The Agnus Dei***

#### ***"Lamb of God"***

[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 Hymn***

#### ***"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"***

[LSB 873]

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light,  
Sun of righteousness, arise; Triumph o'er the shades of night.  
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day's return Till Thy mercy's beams I see,  
Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, radiance divine, Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

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

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of your love in Jesus Christ. I thank you for this undeserved grace and ask you to keep me in faith until, with all your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*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)*

**Virtual Sunday School**

Find information on THE FLOCK at [www.STL-eastpointe.org](http://www.STL-eastpointe.org).

**ASH WEDNESDAY- February 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Ashes: 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 – Gym Lobby**

**Ashes: 8:45 – 11:00 – Church Office**

**Communion Services (with ashes) at Noon and 7:00 p.m.**

**Food Pantry Open – February 20<sup>th</sup>**

**11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Clothing Closet – March 13<sup>th</sup>**

**11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Food Pantry – March 20<sup>th</sup>**

**11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Office Hours are 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!**

## **Lent 2021**

### **MIDWEEK THEMES**

“Lent – A Season of RENEWAL – **PLEASE!**”

February 24 – “Lent – A Season of Listening”

March 3 – “Lent – A Season of Engaging”

March 10 – “Lent – A Season of Adoration”

March 17 – “Lent – A Season of Serving”

March 24 – “Lent – A Season of Earnestness”

***We will gather in the front parking lot on these Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. for reflections, prayers, and singing.***

***You also can join these gatherings on Face Book Live.***

***Worship folders are available in the west entrance.***

*Planning on worshipping virtually and would like a worship folder emailed or mailed to you, please call the church office, or email us at [churchoffice@stl-eastpointe.org](mailto:churchoffice@stl-eastpointe.org).*

***HOLY WEEK is March 28 – April 4<sup>th</sup>***

***Palm Sunday Communion Services - 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.***

***Maundy Thursday – April 1<sup>st</sup>***

***Communion for individuals / families 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.***

***VIRTUAL JOURNEY TO THE CROSS at [www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org)***

***Good Friday Communion – April 2<sup>nd</sup>***

***Worship Services at Noon and 7:00 p.m.***

***Easter Sunday – April 4<sup>th</sup>***

***8:00 a.m. – Sunrise Service in Front Parking Lot***

***9:30 a.m. – Festival Communion Service***

### **NEXT SUNDAY**

***The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent***

***February 21, 2021***

***Scripture Readings: James 1:12-18 / Mark 1:9-15***

***Sermon Topic: “Receive the Crown of Life”***

***Text: James 1:12-15***



Now enrolling at CrossBridge, St. Thomas Preschool! We offer the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) for 4 year olds on Monday – Thursday. **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).

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