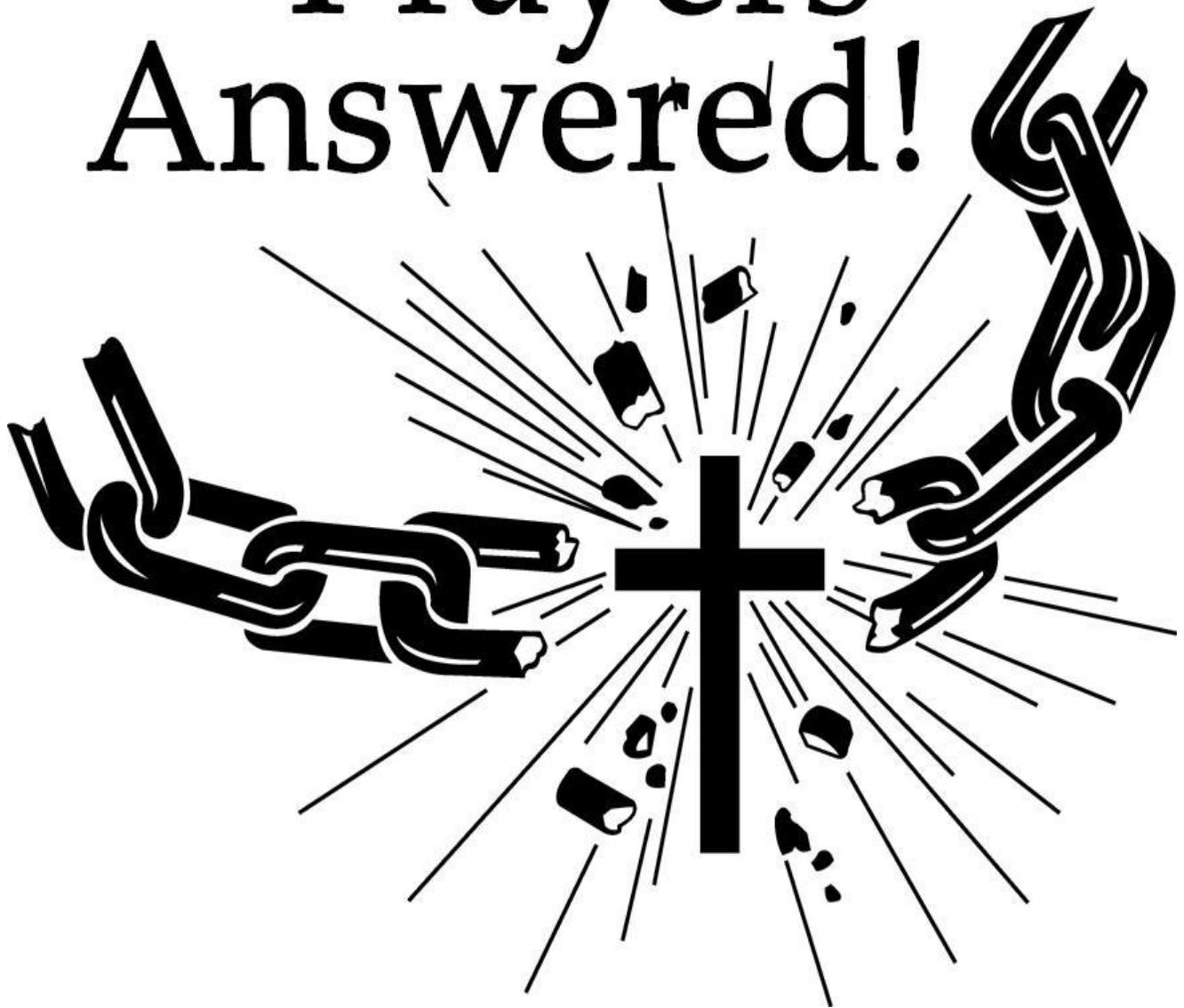


Prayers Answered!



March 21, 2021

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

INVITATION

God draws us into his presence.

Entrance Hymn

“Christ, Our Human Likeness Sharing”

[LSB 847, vv. 1,
3 & 4]
(tune 367)

Christ, our human likeness sharing, Heaven’s love on earth portrayed;
Christ the Shepherd, tending, caring, In His death our ransom paid:
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant, Be Your life in us displayed.

Christ, in ev’ry congregation Build Your temple, stone by stone,
With Your word as firm foundation For a faith matured and grown:
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant, Make in us Your Gospel known.

Come, O living Christ, renew us, As of old in wind and flame;
With the Spirit’s pow’r endue us, Servants of Your saving name:
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant, Christ whose kingdom we proclaim.

Text: © 2003 Hope Publishing Co.

Entering Prayers

[Psalm
119:9-16]

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

C: Amen.

L: With my whole life I will seek you, O Lord; let me not wander from your commandments.

C: I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

L: Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes that with my lips I might declare the word of your mouth.

C: I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways so that I will not forget your word.

L: For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

C: They will lift us up in their hands, so that we will not strike our foot against a stone.

L: Yes, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

C: Who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

L: Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love; 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

“Knowing You (All I Once Held Dear)”

All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres, and wars to own.
All I once thought gain I have counted loss, spent and worthless now, compared to this:

**Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you, there is no greater thing.
You’re my all, you’re the best, You’re my joy, my righteousness,
And I love you, Lord.**

Words and Music by Graham Kendrick, © Copyright: 1994 MAKE WAY MUSIC

INSTRUCTION

God feeds our heart, soul, and intellect.

Scripture Readings

L: Our first reading is from the Gospel of Mark, chapter 10.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

(Mark 10:35-45) ³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” ³⁹And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴²And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

L: Our second reading is from Hebrews 5:7-10.

¹Every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; ⁶as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

⁷**In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.**

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

"The Infant Priest Was Holy Born"

[LSB 624, vv. 1, 3, 4, 7]

The infant Priest was holy born
For us unholy and forlorn;
From fleshly temple forth came He,
Anointed from eternity.

The holy Lamb undaunted came
To God's own altar lit with flame;
While weeping angels hid their eyes,
This Priest became a sacrifice.

But death would not the victor be
Of Him who hung upon the tree.
He leads us to the Holy Place
Within the veil, before God's face.

With cherubim and seraphim
Our voices join the endless hymn,
And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Text: © 1997, 2003 Chad L. Bird.

Sermon

"Answered Prayer"

Hebrews 5:7-10

Voluntary

INTROSPECTION

God convicts us to action.

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“Whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” **(Mark 10:43-45)**

How will you demonstrate this in your life this week?



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).

Offertory

“Knowing You (All I Once Held Dear)”

Oh, to know the power of your risen life, and to know you in your sufferings,
To become like you in your death, my Lord, so with you to live and never die:

**Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you, there is no greater thing.
You’re my all, you’re the best, You’re my joy, my righteousness,
And I love you, Lord.**

Apostles Creed

L: Let us confess together our faith in the One True God with the words of the Apostles Creed:

C: 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

Confession and Absolution

L: If the Lord our God kept a record of sins, who could stand before him?

C: But with Him there is forgiveness, therefore He is feared.

L: Good Lord, deliver us from all sin, error, and evil within us and around us.

C: We poor sinners implore you to hear us, good Lord. Have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

L: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting. He is the God of our salvation who has defeated our enemies, atoned for our sins, overcome death and the devil, and authorized me to proclaim this good news to you: Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Prayer of the Church

L: As God's forgiven people and at his invitation let us pray:

(after each petition)

L: Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Hear us as we pray in Jesus' name and as he 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

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.

The development and introduction of our Barnabas Ministry.

To connect to the STL PRAYER CHAIN, contact Karen Dolan (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 †

†**For Loved Ones Called Home:** For the family Joshua Finger, son of Brenda and grandson of JoAnne Awe, who was called home on March 13th.

†**God's Healing Hand on:** Henry Bradychok, Loletta Hogan, Janice, Engel, Brenda Finger, Vada Habermas, Janet Semenjuk, Aletha Burbidge, Karen Hubbard, Larry Cichocki, David Stolzenfeld (husband of Lori), Jeff Shovein and Kareem O'Bryant (friends of Shannon Dawda), Pat Richer (friend of Sue Wensink), Carole Frazho-Knupp (friend of Caroline Henze).

†**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).

INVOLVEMENT

God makes his absolution shown in the world.

The Canticle

"Knowing You (All I Once Held Dear)"

Now my heart's desire is to know you more, to be found in you and known as yours,
To possess by faith what I could not earn – all-surpassing gift of righteousness:

**Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you, there is no greater thing.
You're my all, you're the best, You're my joy, my righteousness,
And I love you, Lord.**

Service of the Sacrament

[Jeremiah 31:31-34]

L: Behold the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with my people.

C: He will put his law within us, and he will write it on our hearts.

L: I will be their God, declares the Lord, and they shall be my people.

C: For he will forgive our iniquity, and he will remember our sin no more. Amen.

The Words of Institution

Private Prayer before Communing

Lord God, you taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending them the light of your Holy Spirit. Grant that we, by your Spirit, may have a right judgement in all things and evermore rejoice in his holy counsel, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymn

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

[LSB 430]

My song is love unknown, My Savior’s love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.

Oh, who am I That for my sake
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know.

But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.

Then “Crucify!” Is all their breath,
And for His death They thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.

Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
Themselves displease And ’gainst Him rise.

They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.

Yet cheerful He To suff’ring goes
That He His foes From thence might free.

In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.

What may I say? Heav’n was His home
But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.

This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
I all my days Could gladly spend!

Prayer as you go home

Holy Spirit, Curator of the holy church and Sanctifier of our lives, use us, earthen vessels that we are, as servants of Christ in the church and in the family of humanity; for we would follow the example of Christ who was Servant of us all, that the Father may be glorified by our devotion and by all to whom we minister; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with you and the Father re one God with dominion over us forever.

*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)*

Lent 2021

MIDWEEK LENTEN CAR-oling - Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

In the front parking lot AND or Facebook Live

THEME: “Lent – A Season of Renewal”

Weekly, Now through March 24th

Planning on worshipping virtually and would like a worship folder emailed or mailed to you, please contact the church office at churchoffice@stl-eastpointe.org or call us.

HOLY WEEK is March 28 – April 4th

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

Maundy Thursday – April 1st

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

VIRTUAL JOURNEY TO THE CROSS at www.stl-eastpointe.org

Good Friday Communion – April 2nd

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

Easter Sunday – April 4th

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

9:30 a.m. – Festival Communion Service

Virtual Sunday School

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

Clothing Closet open 2nd Saturday of the month – 11 a.m.

Food Pantry open 3rd Saturday of the month – 11 a.m.

**THIS SUNDAY - Drive Thru Communion
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Easter/Holiday Food Basket give away – April 3rd – 10 a.m.



NEXT SUNDAY
Palm Sunday
March 28, 2021

Scripture Readings: Philippians 2:5-11

Sermon Topic: “Anticipation” - Text: John 12:13-15





Now enrolling at CrossBridge, St. Thomas Preschool! We offer the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) free 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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