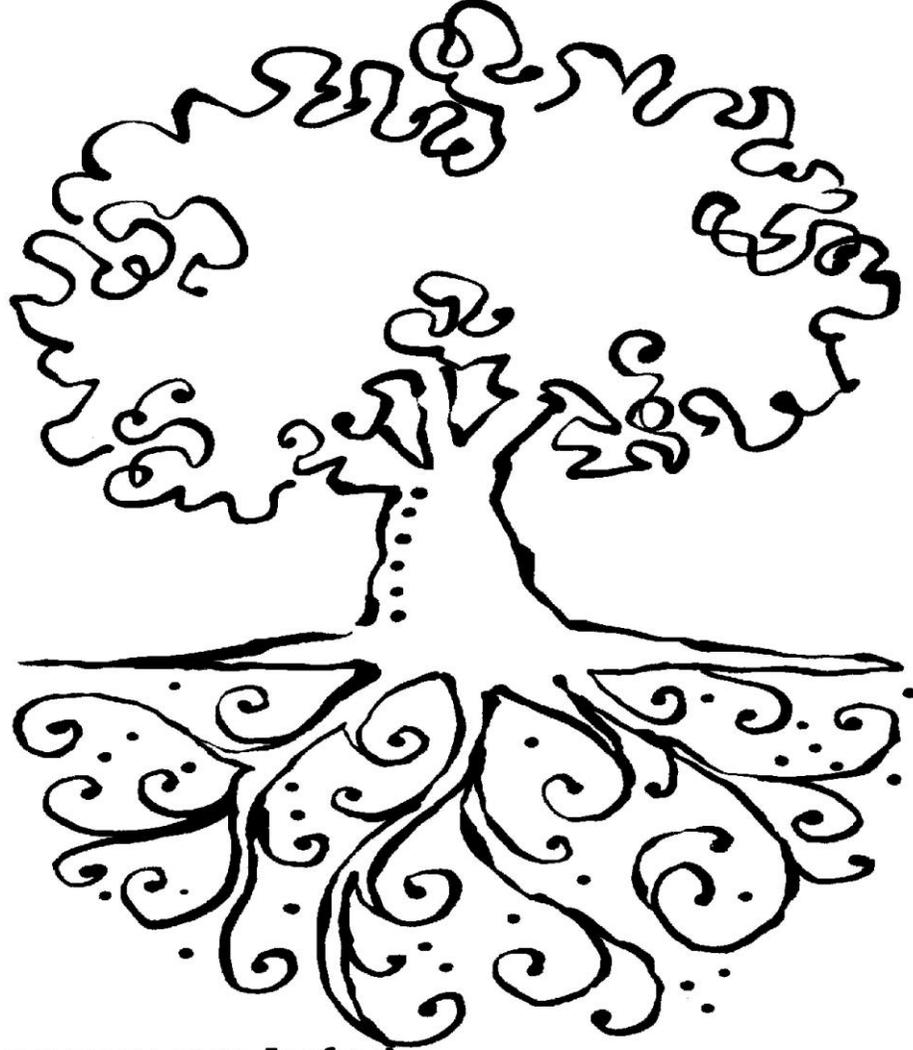


**I pray that ... Christ may dwell in
your hearts through faith,**



**as you are being
rooted and grounded in love.**

July 25, 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

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

[LSB 806]

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.
And now let the weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,”
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,”
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks, give thanks.

Text: © 1978 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music.

Entering Prayers

[from Psalm 145]

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

C: Amen.

L: On the glorious splendor of God’s majesty, and on his wondrous works, let us meditate.

C: We will extol you our God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

L: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised – his greatness is unsearchable.

C: We will speak of the might of his awesome deeds and will declare his greatness to all the world.

L: Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all who trust in You, strengthen our faith, and give us courage to believe that in Your love You will rescue us from all adversities; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Open now thy gates of beauty; Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty Waits for Him who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place, Filled with solace, light, and grace!

Here Thy praise is gladly chanted; Here Thy seed is duly sown.
Let my soul, where it is planted, Bring forth precious sheaves alone,
So that all I hear may be Fruitful unto life in me.

Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be done indeed.
May I undisturbed draw near Thee While Thou dost Thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

INSTRUCTION

God feeds our heart, soul, and intellect.

The Holy Gospel

Mark 6:45-56

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, chapter 6.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁵Immediately [Jesus] made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶After he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. ⁴⁷And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. ⁴⁸He saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, ⁴⁹but when they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, ⁵⁰for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” ⁵¹He got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. They were utterly astounded, ⁵²for they did not understand about the loaves, and their hearts were hardened.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. ⁵⁴And when they got out of the boat, the people immediately recognized him ⁵⁵and ran about the whole region and began to bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

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

“How Wide the Love of Christ”

[LSB 535]
(tune 567)

How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race
But holds our one humanity Within its broad embrace.

How long the love of Christ! Its patience will not cease
Until this broken world is bound In everlasting peace.

How high the love of Christ! Beyond all thought it soars,
And yet upon our passing lives Unmeasured mercy pours.

How deep the love of Christ, Descending to a cross!
He bears within His wounded hands All human pain and loss.

All praise to You, O Christ, For love whose depth and height,
Whose length and breadth fill time and space With endless life and light!

Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc.

Sermon

“Your Inner Wellbeing”

Ephesians 3:14-16

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being.

Voluntary

[Personal notes and reflections]

INTROSPECTION

God convicts us to action.

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“They all ate and were satisfied.” (Mark 6:42)

Dear Lord, help me to be satisfied with your provision.



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 1-586-800-2223
- Visit: <https://www.stl-eastpointe.org/2015/07/13/mission-support/>
- Go to <https://www.elixiogiving.com/app/giving/stthoms>
- Through your Pay Pal account
- Scan this Quick Response (QR) code

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).

A Reading from Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians

L: After describing how we are made to be one in Christ through the Gospel Paul breaks into prayer for the spiritual strength of the Church. Our reading today provides some context around the words you just heard in pastor’s sermon.

(Ephesians 3:14-21) ¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

L: This is the word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Offertory

“Draw Us to Thee”

[LSB 701, vv. 1, 2, 5]

Draw us to Thee, For then shall we Walk in Thy steps forever And hasten on
Where Thou art gone To be with Thee, dear Savior.

Draw us to Thee; O grant that we May walk the road to heaven! Direct our way
Lest we should stray And from Thy paths be driven.

Draw us to Thee Unceasingly, Into Thy kingdom take us; Let us fore’er
Thy glory share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

Confession and Absolution

L: Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God of hosts; heaven and earth are full of His glory.

C: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

L: From the rising of the sun to the setting of the same, we cry aloud with joyful voice and say:

C: Glory be to you, O God, the Savior of all, forever and ever. Amen.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:

C: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to us, poor sinful beings; forgive our sins, give us your Holy Spirit for the amendment of our sinful lives, and bring us to life everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession, I as a servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

We Confess our Faith

“The Nicene Creed”

P: Let us then join in confessing our faith in the God who forgives us and gives us eternal life:

C: 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

The Prayer of the Church

L: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

(after each petition)

L: Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

L: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: Amen

INVOLVEMENT

God makes his absolution shown in the world.

The Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

[LSB 178]

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow’r and might: Heav’n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Service of the Sacrament

- L: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for you have had mercy on those whom you created and sent your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior.
- C: With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of his body and blood on the cross.**
- L: Grant us faithfully to eat his body and drink his blood as he bids us do in his own testament.
- C: Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth, to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom.**
- L: To you alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.**
- 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, I come to your table at your gracious invitation 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, on God, now and forever. Amen.

The Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymn

“Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

[LSB 715]

Jesus, Savior, pilot me Over life’s tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll, Hiding rock and treach’rous shoal.
Chart and compass come from Thee. Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

As a mother stills her child, Thou canst hush the ocean wild;
Boist’rous waves obey Thy will When Thou say’st to them, “Be still!”
Wondrous Sov’reign of the sea, Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

When at last I near the shore And the fearful breakers roar
Twixt me and the peaceful rest, Then, while leaning on Thy breast,
May I hear Thee say to me, “Fear not, I will pilot thee.”

The Post-Communion Canticle

"Thank the Lord"

[LSB 181]

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Sending

The Post-Communion Collect

The Benediction

The Closing Hymn

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

[LSB 649]

Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.

When here our pathways part, We suffer bitter pain;
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet again.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.

You are now entering

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 - August 1, 2021

The 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Readings: John 1:1-18 / Genesis 22:1-14

Sermon Topic: "God is Able" - Text: 2 Corinthians 2:98

Return from Exile

“God is Faithful, part two”

Ezra and Nehemiah tell the story of God’s people returning from exile. Many struggled with the loss and changes experienced. Others did not return, choosing instead to form a group of God’s people known as the “diaspora” (scattered ones). They would come to Jerusalem for festivals, while providing support for the temple. Through it all, God was at work, faithfully uniting them as one people in faith and mission.

Each family ... each individual ... has been touched by the pandemic in different ways. Many continue to struggle with the loss and changes they have experienced. As the people of STL return from exile, we know that some will choose different paths ... worshiping online, growing their faith through Zoom gatherings, taking advantage of our multiple electronic ministries, returning for special occasions, and providing support STL. Through it all, God will continue to be at work, faithfully uniting us as one people in faith and mission.

Please spread the word and encourage others to faithfully receive Christ in Word and Sacrament.

MCREST 2021 - AUGUST 8TH – 15TH Our 2021 MCREST week will once again be held in our church building and it’s time to start getting ready! As usual we will be responsible for the daily needs of 30 women and children. The MCREST guests have been vaccinated. I will be visiting a church this week to learn new protocols put in place to ensure everyone safety.

We will need money for expenses like gas, bus tickets & laundry, as well as donations of prepared food. We will need volunteers for kitchen help, bag searching, laundry duty, shower and overnight supervision, set up and take down. Sign-up sheets will be in the narthex.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers over the coming weeks that we may be blessed with the volunteers, funds and donations that we will need to serve His children through this wonderful ministry.

If you have questions, please feel free to call me at 313-550-2950.

Attention All Choir Members Please return all your music to the office or give to Lori so she can organize for the Fall. Mark September 19th on your calendars as the day to start practice for the upcoming year. Practice will be at 8:30 on Sunday mornings. Watch for more information.

Al Knopp Memorial Service - There will be a gravesite memorial service for Al Knopp (former teacher at St. Thomas) on July 31, 2021, at 11:00am. Richmond Cemetery, Richmond, MI. Al Knopp passed away on December 6, 2020, but a memorial service was not feasible at that time due to Covid restrictions.

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).

**Mark Your Calendars
Faith and Fellowship Brunch (picnic)
Following the service on August 22nd
Watch for more information!**

**Clothing Closet open 2nd Saturday of the month – 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
NO CLOTHING CLOSET IN AUGUST – MCREST IN BUILDING**

Food Pantry open 3rd Saturday of the month – 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Drive Thru Communion – 3rd Sunday of the month
11:00 a. m. – 12:00 p.m.**

God's True Comfort Foods from STL

(ADD THESE TO YOUR CALENDAR – and tell a friend)

Mondays – Hymn Sing-Along with Tony

Wednesdays – Virtual Prayer Vigils

Thursdays – Thursday's Thirst

Tuesdays & Fridays – Video Devotions

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=st.+thomas+eastpointe

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

July 25, 2021

Our Primary Prayer focus this week is upon God's Work through STL:

- As families are blessed through our Virtual Vacation Bible School.
- As preparations are made for fall's spiritual growth ministries.
- As we continually encourage one another in our united faith journey.
- Empowering God's people, to live and share the Gospel on a daily basis.

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



To connect to the **STL PRAYER CHAIN**, contact Karen Dolan (mdolan421@gmail.com), text "Prayer" to 1-586-800-2223, or scan this QR code, with your phone's camera, to be taken to the prayer request form.

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

†**God's Healing Hand on:** Rick Vanbriggles, Alicia Kersy, Betty Knox, Marg Bittner, Dan Dolan, Davis Cardamone, Loletta Hogan, Henry Bradychok, Harold Edwards (brother of Connie and Dale), Jim Rowland (brother of Jan Patty), Bill Brinkey (husband of Debra Barowicz), Dr. John Herzog.

†**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Lori Kucharek, Sieg Gannon, Elsie Adams, Chris Huber, Vada & 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), Linda Taggart (former member).

Copyright Permission CCLI License #1438022 - Created with Lutheran Service Builder

© 2018 Concordia Publishing House. LSB Hymn License #110002509

Watch services on Facebook or at www.stl-eastpointe.org – videotaping in progress during service