
The
“SON *of* MAN
is to be betrayed...
they will kill him, and
three days after being
killed, he will rise again.”



September 19, 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

RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening Praise

“Father Welcomes”

[LSB 605]

**Refrain: Father welcomes all His children To His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

Little children, come to Me, For My kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give, Mercy for your sin. **Refrain**

In the water, in the Word, In His promise, be assured:
Those who are baptized and believe Shall be born again. **Refrain**

Let us daily die to sin; Let us daily rise with Him,
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God. **Refrain**

Text: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

Entering Prayers

[Psalm 54]

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

C: Amen.

L: O God, save us by your name, and vindicate us by your might.

C: **Lord God, hear our prayer; give ear to the words of our mouth.**

L: Behold, God is our helper; the Lord is the upholder of our lives.

C: **For he has delivered us from every trouble and given us his victory.**

L: O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise

“Ancient Words”

Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,
they resound with God’s own heart. Oh, let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope give us strength, help us cope.
In this world where e’er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

***Refrain: Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.
We have come with open hearts, oh, let the ancient words impart.***

Holy words of our faith handed down to this age, came to us through sacrifice.
Oh, heed the faithful words of Christ. ***Refrain***

In this world where’er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

We have come with open hearts, oh, let the ancient words impart.

Arranged by John Purifoy, Words and Music by Lynn DeShazo
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The Holy Gospel

Mark 9:30-37

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

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

[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, **“The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.**

And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. Then he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

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

“Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”

[LSB 706]

Love in Christ is strong and living, Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving. May His will in us be done.

Love is patient and forbearing, Clothed in Christ’s humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring, Reaching out in charity.

Love in Christ abides forever, Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven, Shall endure until life’s end.

Text: © 1979 Concordia Publishing House.

Sermon

“The Difference Maker”

Mark 9:31-32

Voluntary

“We Are the Church”

D. Besig

[Personal notes and reflections]

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to You, O Lord;
I will give thanks to Your name, for it is good.” (Psalm 54:6)

How are the words offering and sacrifice expressed in your life?



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 the letter written by James

L: Today as we continue to read from the letter of James, we will hear how God's wisdom sets his people apart as difference makers in a world filled with evil.

(James 3:13 – 4:10) Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

L: This is the word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

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: O Lord of hosts, grant that what we ask from You may not be squandered after our passions, but sought rightly in faith, that we may receive them and put them to service for You and our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: Amen

Offertory

“Knowing You”

[BOB 138]

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.

**Chorus: 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.**

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. **Chorus**

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

We Confess our Faith

“The Apostles Creed”

P: Let us join in confessing our faith in our gracious and eternal Triune God:

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: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

L: One does not live by bread alone,

C: But by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Gracious God:

C: Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Give us a greater hunger for your Word, that, upheld by your Spirit, we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

SENT TO THE MISSION FIELD

Service of the Sacrament

L: As God's forgiven people, let us pray the prayer our Lord himself 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**

The Words of Institution

The Distribution of the Sacrament

The Agnus Dei

[LSB 210]

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Private Prayer before Communing

O Jesus, our great high priest, be present with us as you were present with your disciples and make yourself known to us in the breaking of bread. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

"Let Me Be Thine Forever"

[LSB 689]

Let me be Thine forever, My faithful God and Lord;
Let me forsake Thee never Nor wander from Thy Word.
Lord, do not let me waver, But give me steadfastness,
And for such grace forever Thy holy name I'll bless.

Lord Jesus, my salvation, My light, my life divine,
My only consolation, O make me wholly Thine!
For Thou hast dearly bought me With blood and bitter pain.
Let me, since Thou hast sought me, Eternal life obtain.

And Thou, O Holy Spirit, My comforter and guide,
Grant that in Jesus' merit I always may confide,
Him to the end confessing Whom I have known by faith.
Give me Thy constant blessing And grant a Christian death.

O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.

The Sending

The Dismissal

The Post-Communion Collect

The Benediction

The Sending Hymn

"Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go"

[LSB 920, vv. 1, 4, 5]

Forth in the peace of Christ we go; Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips, Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.

Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak; Prophets are we whose deeds proclaim
Christ's truth in love that we may be Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.

We are the Church; Christ bids us show That in His Church all nations find
Their hearth and home where Christ restores True peace, true love to all mankind.

Text: © 1969, 1987 OCP Publications.

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)

Return from Exile

"This is The Day"

Psalm 118 says it this way: *"The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."*

We might say it this way: "The Lord Jesus has sustained us through the pandemic, and now has opened the door for us to be together again. This is the Lord's doing, and we will make the most of it. This is The Day that the Lord has made, and we will rejoice and be glad in it."

Coffee Hour is coming back ... as are all our program ministries and Sunday mornings in the fullness. What about you ... and your neighbors? What can we do to help?

NEXT SUNDAY

The 18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 28, 2021

Scripture Readings: James 5:13-20 / Mark 9:38-50

Sermon Topic: "For and Against" - Text: Mark 9:38-40

FHL, JC and "The Flock"

Greetings in Christ Jesus! Welcome back from exile! We have started our FHL (faith hope love) ministry back up. Right now, in our world we need to gather with each other around God's Word and be refreshed and strengthened by His presence in that Word. I pray that you will join us in a group this fall, currently we have two groups that will be meeting on Sunday after service. Elizabeth Kruse will be hosting a women's only group in room 204 (west hallway) and I will be hosting my Exploring the Gospel lesson in conference room 1. Our youth ministries will also be starting up with JC Style and the Flock. We also have groups that meet during the week, if you are interested in more information, please contact the church office. P.S we are looking for facilitators to host more groups, so if you are interested in that please contact me at dkchome@hotmail.com.

Blessings

Deacon Don

Interested in a Weekday FHL Gathering?

Pastor Mark Hetzner hosts two FHL gatherings on Thursday - mornings at 9:30 am and in the afternoons at 1:00 pm. First gatherings this year will be on September 23rd, and the study will be on the Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Please join him for this gathering, if not every Thursday, come when you can to either one, both are the same study.

Men have 2 FHL gatherings every week – one on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am, and one on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am, both in the Fireside Lounge. Men, please join in one that is convenient for you.

Handbells Practice

Calling all ringers! Our handbell choir will begin their practices on Thursday, September 30th at 7:00 pm, in the back of the church. Our handbell choir will be directed by Alicia Anno and she is welcoming past ringers and new members. Training will be provided for those wanting to learn and become a part of this choir as we praise the Lord with our music. If you have any questions, call the church office.

Kapelle Practice

Are you interested in becoming a part of our Kapelle? It's not too late! Their next practice is October 3rd at 8:30 am (before service), in room 206 (in the west hallway). Your voice would be a welcome addition to the voices lifted in praise. Talk to Lori our organist and director or call the church office if you have any questions.

Children's Library

The children's library is now open following the service in room 210 (west hallway). Children can come in and "borrow" a book for their reading enjoyment. Parents please accompany your children to this room.

July through September Mission Envelopes M.C.R.E.S.T. (Macomb Country Rotating Emergency Shelter Team)

DID YOU KNOW? 43% of homeless population in Michigan are families with children. In 2018-2019 there were 1,441 homeless children in Macomb County. 500-600 homeless people are taken in and offered a fresh start by MCREST each year. As you make your missions contribution, please also say a prayer that the MCREST facility for women and children will be able to open this calendar year.

100% of your Mission Envelope donations (either using the envelop provided in your box or through your designation electronically or with a different envelope) to STL during the months of July, August, and September will be given directly to M.C.R.E.S.T. For more information on the ministry, go to mcrest.org or call 586-415-5101.

St. Peter's Eastpointe 175th Celebration

You are invited to attend St. Peter's Eastpointe's 175th anniversary service celebration on Sunday, September 26th at 10:30 am. Following the anniversary service, there will be a banquet at the Lutheran Fraternities of America (behind St. Peter's). The banquet is \$12.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children (12 and under). The banquet is by reservation only and reservations must be made by September 19th. For any questions or to make banquet reservations please call St. Peter's main office (586) 777-6300.

Clothing Closet open 2nd Saturday of the month – 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

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

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).

Weekly Worship with Communion - Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Monday at 7:30 p.m.

Drive Thru Communion - Third Sunday of the month at 11 a.m.

"The Flock" for children and Crossfraining JC Style for youth Sunday at 10:45

Faith Hope Love Gatherings - Sunday and throughout the week

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Your personal prayer guide for the week of:

September 19, 2021

Our Primary Prayer focus for this week is on Christ's people on earth:

- For the Holy Spirit to be at work enriching faith through our Barnabas Ministry.
- Giving us hearts that are growing in the joy of giving generously to the mission of STL.
- For children to be raised in the nurture and encouragement of the Gospel.
- For new individuals to become members of the STL Prayer Chain.

And we remember all children who hear the gospel in church and from their parents, and those 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:** Larry Pietangelo, Helen Ham, Janice Engel, Janet Semenjok, Roy Leidich, Vera LaFrate, Walter Jakubiec, Betty Knox, Marg Bittner, Dan Dolan, Davis Cardamone, Loletta Hogan, Henry Bradychok, Bill Brinkey (husband of Debra Barowicz), Dr. John Herzog, Jim Osterman (cousin of Sue Wensink), Harold Edwards (brother of Connie and Dale).

✠**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Brenda Finder, Joanne Awe, 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).

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