



November 7, 2021

Saint Thomas Lutheran

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

www.stl-eastpointe.org

Rev. Mark W. Hetzner, Senior Pastor, Deacon Don Cooley

Specific Ministry Pastors - Rev. Richard VanBriggle, Rev. Jerry Corbett

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

Celebrating Lutheran Women in Mission

Stories of God @ Work

RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening Praise

“Seek Ye First”

[LSB 712]

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev’ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia!

Text: © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. EMI.

Entering Prayers

[Psalm 90]

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

C: Amen.

L: Teach us to number our days, O Lord, that we may get a heart of wisdom

C: Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants!

L: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

C: Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen evil.

L: Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

C: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands; yes, establish the work of our hands!

L: Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Grant us so firmly to believe in Your Son Jesus that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise

"To God on High be Glory"

[LSB 204]

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.

To You, O sole begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy' You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" Our glad reply.

The Holy Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, chapter 12.

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

In his teaching [Jesus] said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

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.



We would like to know you attended service today!

To record your attendance, you can scan this QR code with your phone's camera, it will take you to the web page/form for attendance. Fill out the form and hit the submit button.

Hymn of the Day

“Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings”

[LSB 782]

Gracious God, You send great blessings New each morning all our days.
For Your mercies never ending, For Your love we offer praise. **Refrain**

**Refrain: Lord, we pray that we, Your people Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings May bring glory to Your name.**

In His earthly life, our Savior Knew the care of faithful friends;
May our deeds of dedication Offer love that never ends. **Refrain**

Heav'nly Father, may our caring Bear the imprint of Your grace;
With the Son and Holy Spirit, Praise be Yours in ev'ry place! **Refrain**

Text: © 2004 Gregory J. Wismar.

Sermon

“Go, But First ...”

1 Kings 17:13-14

Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the LORD the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.’”

Voluntary

Time for reflection and prayer.

[Personal notes and reflections]

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many,
will appear a second time, not to deal with sin
but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him. (Hebrews 9:28)

How does this effect the way you treat, and view, other people?



- 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.elexiogiving.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 Old Testament

L: Here is the full story of Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath as discussed in today’s sermon.

(1 Kings 17:8-16) Then the word of the LORD came to [Elijah], “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” And she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the LORD the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.’” And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Prayer of the Church

L: Let us pray to the Lord, our God and Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.

(after each petition)

L: Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, O Lord, and bring us at last to the joy of Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Offertory

[LSB 192]

Create in me a clean heart. O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.

We Profess 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

Confession and Absolution

L: Our Lord Jesus Christ, though he was rich, for our sakes became poor.

C: So that by his poverty we might become rich.

L: God has chosen to give us new birth through his Word of truth,

C: That we might be a kind of first-fruits of all he created.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Make haste to deliver me, O God:

C: Make haste, O Lord, to help me, for I am hurting on the inside, and have failed in helping others around me. In you, Lord Jesus, do I take my refuge. In your mercy take away my sin and rescue me from all evil. You are my help and my deliverer. O Lord, do not delay.

L: God has come in the person of Jesus to rescue you. He died for your sins and was raised for your justification. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus, and by His authority, I announce the full forgiveness of 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

Service of the Sacrament

L: Oh, give thanks to the Lord for he is good.

C: His steadfast love endures forever.

L: He raises the needy up out of affliction

C: And makes their families blossom and bloom.

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

The Distribution of the Sacrament

Cantor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

Distribution Hymns

"The Temple Rang with Golden Coins"

[LSB 787]

The temple rang with golden coins The rich in bright array
Contributed from gleaming hoards Their scales could scarcely weigh.

A widow came with copper coins And offered them in praise.
They were the last she had to give Or save for darker days.

When Jesus saw her costly gift And knew she had no more,
He praised a love that spared not self And called her rich, though poor.

At last He brought His offering And laid it on a tree;
There gave Himself, His life, His love For all humanity.

Lord, help us all, with You, to yield Whatever love demands
And freely give, as You have giv'n, With open hearts and hands.

Text: © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

[LSB 789]

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer
For all things living, Created good:
Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.

Bless, Lord, the labor We bring to serve You
That with our neighbor We may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, We would work with You,
Harvesting, milling For daily bread.

Father, providing Food for Your children,
By Your wise guiding Teach us to share
One with another, So that, rejoicing
With us, all others May know Your care.

Text: © 1987 Oxford University Press.

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 Dismissal

The Post-Communion Collect

The Benediction

The Sending Hymn

"For the Fruits of His Creation"

[LSB 894]

For the fruits of His creation, Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev'ry nation, Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping, Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co.

*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)*



Today's Flowers were given to glorify and honor our Lord
in celebration of Jackson Engel's 2nd birthday.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

The 25th Sunday after Pentecost

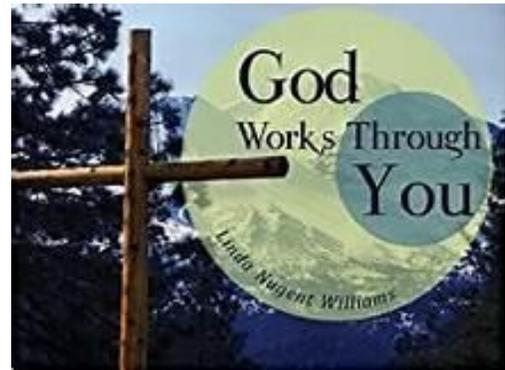
November 14, 2021

Scripture Readings: Mark 13:1-13 / Daniel 12:1-3

Sermon Topic: "He Who Endures" - Text: Mark 13:12-13

Fellow Workers on God's Team

**WORKING WHOLEHEARTELY
FOR THE LORD**



**ONLY BY ALLOWING GOD TO WORK IN AND THROUGH US
CAN WE ACCOMPLISH HIS WILL AND PLAN FOR OUR LIVES.**

In Ephesians 3:20 we are told, "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." As **Fellow Workers on God's Team**, our calling is to "Work Wholeheartedly for the Lord." Approximately 20 years ago, the U.S. Army's slogan was "Be all you can be." There is Biblical truth in this slogan. God calls us to develop all the gifts and abilities He gives to us to our fullest potential so we can serve wholeheartedly. In so doing, God is honored. We know that God has given us His best and that we show our gratitude for His love and what He has done for us by doing our best to serve others and to extend His kingdom. With God's help, we can work wholeheartedly for the Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

November 7, 2021

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

- As we prepare for the Faith and Fellowship Brunch on November 21.
- As we continually encourage one another to grow in faith, hope, and love.
- Empowering God's people, to live and share the Gospel on a daily basis.
- Hosting community organizations that extend his care beyond our congregation.

And we remember those on our cradle role, and those who are in hospice care - especially Donna Mertz and Elsie Adams.



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 †

✠ **For Loved Ones Called Home:** For the family of Ernest Medd, who was called home on November 3rd.

✠ **God's Healing Hand on:** Roy Michelsen, Cathy Meer, Warren Cooley, Marg Bittner, Henry Bradychok, Bill Brinkey (husband of Debra Barowicz), Charlene Kuehn (former member), Nancy Murray, Crystal Morris.

✠ **Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Larry Cichocki, Brenda Finger, Joanne Awe, Lori Kucharek, Sieg Gannon, 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), 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).

Order Your Poinsettias

Would you like to help beautify the church for Christmas? There are order forms on the tables around the church to order your poinsettia to be put in the church for this special holiday. Fill out the form and give to Nancy Gutowsky with the money, orders are due by November 21st. You can put the form/payment in her mailbox, put in the church office mailbox outside the office door, or give to her directly. Make checks out to St. Thomas Altar Guild. Following the Christmas services, you can take them home, must be picked up before New Year's.

Flu Vaccination Clinic – November 9th from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

ALL attendees must complete an online consent form: REGISTRATION SITE: <https://flu.vna.org> Clinic ID: 1261 | Passcode: L56RzHS Children under 17 must have consent form completed/signed by parent/guardian. QR codes are on the posters in the hallways, that will take you right to the site and form. Participants will be serviced first come, first served. Pre-registration ensures adequate vaccine supply. Face masks are required of all participants.



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

**Holiday Food Baskets November 20th & December 18th at 10 a.m.
First come first serve from the west parking lot.**

**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

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