



I praise you, for I am  
fearfully and wonderfully made.

Psalm 139:14, NRSV

*January 23, 2022*

***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, 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](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*

### *Sanctity of Life Sunday*

*Stories of God @ Work*

## **RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS**

**Opening Praise**

*“Jesus, Come! For We Invite You”*

[WOV 648]  
(tune LSB 367)

Jesus, come! For we invite you, guest and master, friend and Lord;  
Now, as once at Cana’s wedding, speak and let us hear your word:  
Lead us through our need or doubting, hope be born and joy restored.

Jesus, come! Transform our pleasures, guide us into paths unknown;  
Bring your gifts, command your servants, let us trust in you alone:  
Though your hand may work in secret, all shall see what you have done.

Jesus, come! In new creation, heav’n brought near in pow’r divine;  
Give your unexpected glory, changing water into wine:  
Rouse the faith or your disciples come, our first and greatest Sign!

Jesus, come! Surprise our dullness, make us willing to receive  
More than we can yet imagine, all the best you have to give:  
Let us find your hidden riches, taste your love, believe, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle, b 1938, Music: Harold Friedell, 1905-1958  
Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Co., Music © 1957, 1985 H. W. Gray, admin, CPP/Belwin

**Entering Prayers**

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

**C: Amen.**

L: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

**C: Day by day they pour out speech and night to night they reveal his knowledge.**

L: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

**C: The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.**

L: Keep your servants from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over us.

**C: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

L: Heavenly Father, before the foundation of the world you chose us in Christ to be your sons and daughters. Grant us to behold every human life as created redeemed, and called to be your precious treasures, that we receive each neighbor as a gift with whom we may rejoice as brothers and sisters in your everlasting kingdom, through the same 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***

### *“To God on High Be Glory”*

[LSB 204]

To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth;  
Good-will 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 heavenly 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 power are seated at God’s right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, be worshipped 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***

**John 15:12-17**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, chapter 15.

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

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

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**

### ***"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"***

[LSB 849]

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co.

## **Sermon**

### ***"Eternal Knowing Eternal Life"***

**Jeremiah 1:4 and John 17:3**

*Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,  
And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God,  
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.*

## **Voluntary**

*Time for reflection and prayer.*

[Personal notes and reflections]

# RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

## KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.” (Psalm 19:14)

*How would God have you think and speak differently 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 1-586-800-2223
- 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 New Testament***

L: The Bible recognizes that at many times the world’s wisdom is at odds with God’s ways. Today’s New Testament reading summarizes God’s approach to worldly wisdom.

**(1 Corinthians 1:26-31)** Consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

L: This is the word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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

*(see the prayer page for this week’s prayer concerns)*

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 this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **Offertory**

*“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.

## **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**

[Romans 10]

**L:** The word is near you; in your mouth and in your heart, that is, the word of faith that we proclaim.

**C:** **If we declare with our mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in our heart that God raised him from the dead, we will be saved.**

**L:** There is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him.

**C:** **Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**

**L:** Together as His children let us call upon the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ.

**C:** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, open our ears and our hearts to your Word, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

*(silence for reflection and self-examination)*

**L:** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and by his blood you 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***

## **Service of the Sacrament**

[Psalm 117]

**L:** Praise the Lord, all nations! Celebrate him, all peoples!

**C:** **For great is his steadfast love toward us.**

**L:** The faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

**C: Yes, his faithfulness endures forever.**

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***

#### ***The Cantic***

#### ***"Your Table I Approach"***

[LSB 628, vv. 1, 3, 5]

Your table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer.  
Let not an unrepentant heart Prove hurtful to me there.

Your body and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,  
Are taken at Your table, Lord, In blest reality.

O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined  
May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

#### ***Distribution Hymn***

#### ***"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"***

[LSB 398, vv. 1-3, 5]  
(tune LSB 644)

Hail to the Lord's anointed, Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression And rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth.  
Before Him on the mountains Shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness in fountains From hill to valley flow.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand forever That name to us is Love.

**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**

*“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.

***Prayer Sending Us into the Mission Field***

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put upon ourselves the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus came to visit us in great humility, that in the last day, when he shall come again in glory, we may rise to the life immortal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***You are now 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)*

## NEXT SUNDAY

### *The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

January 30, 2022

Scripture Readings: Luke 4:31-43 / 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13.13

Sermon Topic: "Authority" - Text: Luke 4.34-37

### **Congregational Forum via Zoom - January 25<sup>th</sup> – 7 p.m.**

Everyone is invited to participate in an informational congregational forum on Zoom this coming Tuesday (January 25) evening at 7:00 P.M. In order to participate, email your request to [info@stl-eastpointe.org](mailto:info@stl-eastpointe.org) by 2:00 p.m. Tuesday. Items on the agenda for the forum include:

- Congregational Goals for STL in 2022 (Mark Matheson)
- Mid-year (fiscal year) Financial Reports for STL (Beverly Gray-Booth)
- News from the Board of Elders (Fred Bauss)
- Board of Community Service Updates (Kelly Crivella)
- Capital Projects (Gary Lysse)
- Volunteer Opportunities (Tony Berkseth)
- Follow-Up Questions and Answers (Pastor Mark Hetzner)

If you are unable to participate on Tuesday night (or forget), the forum will be available for viewing on the STL website ([www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org)) soon afterwards.



**2022 Envelopes are available in the west hallway!** Please stop by the table, print your name on the list next to the envelope # you are taking home. Information for electronic giving is printed in the worship folders. If you have any questions, contact Linda in the church office. **Please, use only these envelope #'s 2022!**

**Flower Chart** for 2022 is up in the west hallway! If you would like to have flowers on the Altar in memory of or celebration of, please sign the chart. Price is very affordable and is listed on the chart. Money is due prior to the date.

**Woman of the Year** nominee for St. Thomas Lutheran, Eastpointe is Nancy Gutowsky. Nancy has been very active over the many years as a member of St. Thomas. She volunteered as a parent in the school, worked for many years on the Annual Women's Retreat, she is a member of the women's HIS II. She has worked quietly behind the scenes in the Altar Guild, taking care of ordering flowers especially for the holidays, she is a crucial part of the Clothing Closet and is always willing to step forward when something needs to be done.

Lutheran Women of the Year event luncheon will be Tuesday March 15, 2022, at 11:00, at Macomb Community College Sports and Expo Center, 14500 12 Mile Rd., Warren MI 48088. The speaker is Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberties. If you'd like to attend, please contact Judy Michelsen at 586-295-7111 or 586-445-7717. Tickets are \$32.00 and can be paid to Judy. The Deadline to purchase tickets is March 1st.

## **Faith Hope Love Gatherings**

*Please join one to experience spiritual growth, personal encouragement  
and a supportive community*

### **Sunday: 10:45 a.m. Women only - S†L Room 204**

Facilitator Host: Elizabeth Kruse (cell: 313-801-4387)  
"Living Beyond Yourself" By Beth Moore

### **Sunday: 10:45 a.m. Multi-generational – S†L Room 101**

Facilitator Host: Don Cooley (cell: 586-291-7538)  
Sunday Gospel Talks

### **4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month: H.I.S. II (1/24 next one)**

### **Women only at 7:00 p.m. in the S†L - Fireside Lounge**

Bible Study, friendship and service

### **Wednesday: 6:30 a.m. Men only – S†L - Fireside Lounge**

Facilitator Host: Mike Dolan (cell: 586-899-5895)  
"The Book of Romans"

### **Thursday: 9:30 a.m. Multi-generational – S†L Room 101**

Facilitator Host: Mark Hetzner (cell: 586-854-5634)  
"The Book of Genesis"

### **Thursday: 1:00 p.m. Multi-generational – S†L Room 101**

Facilitator Host: Mark Hetzner (cell: 586-854-5634)  
"The Book of Genesis"

### **Saturday: 8:00 a.m. Men only – S†L - Fireside Lounge**

Facilitator Host: Steve Northcott (cell: 586-871-3175)  
"The Book of Proverbs"

**St. Peter's Eastpointe Early Childcare Center is looking for childcare aides** in their toddler rooms. They are looking for people who are interested in either full time, part time or even a day or two a week. Covid has made it very hard to hire and they are trying to find people who understand their mission to teach the little ones about Jesus. If you are interested in receiving more information, you can either call them at 586-447-9280 or notify the STL church office and we will have them contact you.

**You're Invited** – to Peace Lutheran Church's annual Valentines' Dinner Dance on Friday, February 11 at The Gazebo (31104 Mound Rd, Warren). Dinner, open bar, door prizes and dancing included in the ticket price of \$45 per person. Deadline for purchasing tickets is Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Peace Lutheran for tickets (586)751-8010.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

January 23, 2022

### In your prayers this week please remember:

- The poor, the homeless, the hungry, and all who struggle.
- Hospital workers and all who serve in health care ministries.
- Those who feel isolated or alone, along with those who suffer with depression.
- The ministry of St. Luke Clinic.

And we remember those who protect and nurture life on this earth, this week remembering global healthcare needs and political situations.



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

✚ **Praise and Thanksgiving:** To Margaret Bittner and family, on the birth of a great-grandson, Arthur, born this past week.

✚ **God's Healing Hand on:** Betty Williams, Steve Kruse, William Eubanks, Janet Semenjok, Pam Winkle, Warren Cooley, Marg Bittner, Henry Bradychok, Bill Brinkey (husband of Debra Barowicz), Brandi Valley (friend of Karen Strugs), Ashley Gladden (daughter of Pastor Gladden), Mya (niece of Rosie Solano – GSRP teacher), Mary Carlini (friend of Geri Liechfelt), Don Habermas (husband of Veda), Scott Baker (Diane Ustick's grandson).

✚ **Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Larry Cichocki, Brenda Finger, Joanne Awe, Lori Kucharek, Sieg Gannon, Chris Huber, Crystal Morris, 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).

## *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).

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](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org) – videotaping in progress during service