

If we live by  
the Spirit,  
let us



also be  
guided by  
the Spirit

*May 15, 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 A. VanBriggle, Rev. Jerry Corbett*

# *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*

*Prelude*

*“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”*

S. Berry/J. Van Valey

*Stories of God @ Work*

## **RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS**

*Call to Worship*

*“Lift High the Cross”*

[LSB 837, vv. 1, 2, 4, 6]

**Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,  
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. **Refrain**

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu’ring ranks combine. **Refrain**

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. **Refrain**

So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! **Refrain**

Text: © 1974 Hope Publishing Co.

*Entering Prayers*

[Psalm 98]

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

**C: Amen.**

L: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

**C: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

L: The Lord has made known his salvation. He has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**C: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to his people. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**C: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!**

L: Christ has risen from the dead and God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

**C: He has given him dominion over the works of his hands; he has put all things under his feet.**

L: O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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***

### ***"In Christ Alone"***

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.  
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Words and Music by STUART TOWNEND and KEITH GETTY

### ***The Holy Gospel***

**John 16:12-22**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, chapter 16.

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

[Jesus said:] **"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.**

"A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has

been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”

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**

*“Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”*

[LSB 848]  
(tune 445)

Lord, whose love through humble service Bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Offered mercy’s perfect deed,  
We, Your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to Your purpose Ev’ry gift that You impart.

Still Your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion Healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love Your Spirit kindles Still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, Till Your love’s revealing light  
In its height and depth and greatness, Dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to Your service, Forth in Your dear name we go,  
To the child, the youth, the aged, Love in living deeds to show;  
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, Counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom May Your mercy know and live.

Text: © Oxford University Press.

## **Sermon**

*“The Spirit of Truth”*

**John 16:12-15**

## **Voluntary**

*“What Can Wash Away My Sin”*

S. Berry/J. Van Valey

[Personal notes and reflections]

# RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

## KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“And he who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’” **(Revelation 21:5)**

*How do you feel about God’s Word being trustworthy and true?*



**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 Revelation of John***

L: Decades after the first Easter, our Lord Jesus, in a vision, revealed to St. John what would take place in the cosmos in the new age that began with our Lord’s first coming and will end when he returns. Today we are given a preview of what life will be like in eternity.

**(Revelation 21:1-7)** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

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.

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.**

### **Offertory**

### *“Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul”*

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul – Worship his holy name.  
Sing like never before, oh my soul; I’ll worship Your holy name.

Music by M. Redman, ©Copyright 2011 SHOUT! Publishing (ASCAP), Sixsteps Music (ASCAP), SAID AND DONE MUSIC (SACAP) and THANKYOU MUSIC (PRS)

### **Nicene Creed**

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

**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.**

### **Confession and Absolution**

**L: Having heard God’s Word, we recognize that we all too often place too much confidence in our own abilities, and not enough confidence in God’s calling on our lives. Left alone, we cannot possibly walk in our callings. But we are never alone, and God is our strength in the midst of our weakness.**

**C: Strengthen us, Lord, and grant us your forgiveness. We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of our many sins, those known to us and those unknown as well. Create in us clean hearts, gracious Lord, and put new and right spirits within us that we may know the fullness of your love and be at peace with all people. Grant that the Holy Spirit guide and direct us into new opportunities for growth in Christian learning and strengthened faith.**

*(silence for reflection and self-examination)*

**L: By grace, you are known and loved by the God who made you, by the God who saved you, by the God who calls you now to serve his world faithfully. Through the suffering, death, and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, he has redeemed you, and by the power of his Holy Spirit, he gives us all we need to serve him in our vocations. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by his authority, I 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*

L: Christ has risen from the dead! Alleluia!

C: **God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor. Alleluia!**

L: Alleluia. Alleluia. Since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again.

C: **Death no longer has mastery over him or us. Alleluia!**

L: Empowered by our Risen Christ we are bold 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*

### *Pre-Communion Canticle*

*“This is the Feast”*

[LSB 171]

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

**All:** 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.

## *The Distribution of the Sacrament*

### *Anthem*

*“Simple Gifts”*

D. Wagner

### *Distribution Hymn*

*“Blessed Assurance”*

[WOV 699]

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

**Chorus: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **Chorus**

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. **Chorus**

Text by Fanny J. Corosby, 1820–1915, Music by Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908

**Post-Communion Canticle**

*“Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul”*

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul – Worship his holy name.  
Sing like never before, oh my soul; I’ll worship Your holy name.

You’re rich in love and You’re slow to anger, Your Name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all your goodness I will keep on singing, Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul – Worship his holy name.  
Sing like never before, oh my soul; I’ll worship Your holy name.

Music by M. Redman, ©Copyright 2011 SHOUT! Publishing (ASCAP), Sixsteps Music (ASCAP),  
SAID AND DONE MUSIC (SACAP) and THANKYOU MUSIC (PRS)

**Dismissal**

**Sending Prayer and Benediction**

**Sending Hymn**

*“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”*

[WOV 723]

The Spirit send us forth to serve: we go in Jesus’ name  
to bring glad tidings to the poor, God’s favor to proclaim.

We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free:  
where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.

We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed  
and, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.

Then let us go to serve in peace, the Gospel to proclaim.  
God’s spirit has empower’d us: we go in Jesus’ name.

Text: Delores Dufner, Music: Thomas Haweis  
Text © 1993 Delores Dufner, OSB, admin. OCP Publications

***Prayer as you go home***

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you we may glorify your holy name and finally by your mercy obtain eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**NEXT SUNDAY:**

***The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter***

May 22, 2022

Scripture Readings: John 16:23-33 / Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

Sermon Topic: “The Father’s Love” - Text: John 16:27-28

*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)*

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Watch services on Facebook or at [www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org) – videotaping in progress during service

## **GriefShare Support Group**

*Help and encouragement after the death of  
a spouse, child, family member or friend.*

**MONDAYS @ 2:30 p.m.**

Offered jointly by **Dedicated Senior Medical Center**  
21811 Kelly, Eastpointe and **Saint Thomas Lutheran**

WHAT TO EXPECT: GriefShare is a support group that meets weekly. You'll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief. There are three key parts to your GriefShare experience:

- **Video Seminar** – encouraging, information-packed videos featuring leading grief recovery experts.
- **Support Group** – small group discussion about the weekly content.
- **Workbook** – journaling and personal study exercises that reinforce the weekly session topics.

GriefShare is a network of 15,000+ churches worldwide equipped to offer grief support groups. The program is nondenominational and features biblical concepts for healing from your grief. Learn more about GriefShare at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org). Facilitated by Mary Papenheim. If you need transportation, please call: 586-649-3388.

*LWML Macomb South Zone*

*Prayer Service*

**May 21, 2022 at 10 a.m.**

St. John Lutheran Church

16339 Fourteen Mile Road, Fraser, MI

Offering goes to MITES!

Potluck salad luncheon will follow the service.

You are encouraged to bring a salad or dessert, if you can.



**VBS** - Saint Thomas and Christ the King are having a combined Vacation Bible School this summer (June 20-24)! At VBS we'll learn about Jesus, our Savior, through five Bible stories, meet new friends, do fun activities, sing great songs, make crafts, play games, eat snacks, and more! It's going to be fun, but it would be more fun with you there. Can you join us? Registration is \$25 per child. VBS is for children Pre3 - 2nd grade. We will be using the Christ the King campus, 20338 Mack Ave, Grosse Pointe Woods.

**April through June Mission Envelopes  
ABIGAYLE MINISTRIES**

Abigayle Ministries is a Christian interdenominational non-profit organization in Southeast Michigan. The ministry assists adult pregnant women and their children by introducing them to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and equipping them to be self-sufficient through its residential housing program.

Their vision is to provide a two-year residential program for the single mother with child, whereby she can obtain mentoring and educational support for healthy child development and parent-child relationships while becoming self-supporting. We aspire to be a catalyst in promoting relationships based upon the love of Christ.

**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 April, May, and June will be given to Abigayle Ministries. For more information on the ministry, go to [Businessoffice@abigayleministries.org](mailto:Businessoffice@abigayleministries.org) or call 586-323-1411.**

## **LUTHERAN NORTHWEST SPORTS CAMPS**

Calling all students entering grades 5 through 9 next school year. Join us at Lutheran Northwest this summer for fun and exciting athletic opportunities. Complete your registration ASAP to reserve your spot. Please contact Joe Lower at LHNW (248) 852-6677, or via e-mail [jlower@lhsa.com](mailto:jlower@lhsa.com) if you have any questions

**Girls Basketball:** June 13-16; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Soccer:** June 13-16; 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

**Softball:** June 15; 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm & June 17; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Boys Basketball:** June 27-30; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Football:** June 27-30; 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

**Girls Volleyball:** July 11-14; 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

*For more information, and to register,  
go to [lutherannorthwest.com/summercamps](http://lutherannorthwest.com/summercamps) or scan the QR code below*



**RUMMAGE SALE:** Peace Lutheran Church - Warren

11701 E. 12 Mile, Warren, MI 48093

Saturday, June 11th. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. with Early Bird at 8 a.m. for \$1

\$2 Bag Sale 1 - 3 p.m. Great Deals!

**Lutheran Benefits Group** in Sterling Heights is seeking an account service representative to work closely with church and school clients to help them with their health care needs. Ultimately, the duties of an ASR are to give excellent customer support and to help in the growth of the agency. If interested, please contact Keith Mueller at 586.739.5700 or [keith@luthben.com](mailto:keith@luthben.com).

**Jackie Sturgess Retirement Celebration**

Sunday, May 22, 2022

10:30 am Worship Service

at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Eastpointe

Reception following the service

**Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week**  
**May 15, 2022**

**Our Primary Prayer focus is the life transforming power of Christ's Word, and especially:**

- As our FHL groups, CrossTraining for Youth, THE FLOCK, and PB+J discuss the Gospel.
- At work in the redeemed, increasing our generosity and joy in giving.
- In those who are new to STL.
- Through our planning and preparation for Vacation Bible School.



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.

**And we remember the unborn and newly born, the elderly and those nearing life's end,** remembering all grieving families, and Rev. John Rumsey (father-in-law of Rev. Dietrick Gladden at Charity) who is in hospice care.

**† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †**

†**For Loved Ones Called Home:** The family of Rudolph "Rudy" Hill, father of Terri Bauss, who was called home last week. The family of Barbara, Lois Revard's sister, who was called home last week.

†**God's Healing Hand on:** John Cherry, JoAnn Dieball, Lori Kucharek, Chris Huber, Janet Semenuk, Lisa Riviera (former member), Linda Taggart (former member), Rev. John Rumsey (father-in-law of Rev. Dietrick Gladden at Charity), Tressa Rizzo (neighbor of Ben Stubenrauch), Michael Landuyt (nephew of Ben Stubenrauch), Kaleigh (granddaughter of Glenna Wotherspoon), Ed Vanick (former member), Joe Posby (husband of the late Becky Doyle), Tina Croke (sister of Debbie Churchill), Thomas McKay (husband of Mary Lee).

†**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** John Lemke (friend of Monica Hetzner), Beth White, Robert Laroche and Jan Adams (family of Karen Hubbard), 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).