



May 22, 2022

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 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, 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

Call to Worship

“Alleluia! Let Praises Ring”

[LSB 822]

Alleluia! Let praises ring! To God the Father let us bring
Our songs of adoration. To Him through everlasting days
Be worship, honor, pow’r, and praise, Whose hand sustains creation.

Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy;
Spread the story Of our God, the Lord of glory.

Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto the Lamb of God we sing,
In whom we are elected. He bought His Church with His own blood,
He cleansed her in that blessed flood, And as His bride selected.

Holy, holy Is our union And communion.
His befriending Gives us joy and peace unending.

Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto the Holy Ghost we sing
For our regeneration. The saving faith in us He wrought
And us unto the Bridegroom brought, Made us His chosen nation.

Glory! Glory! Joy eternal, Bliss supernal;
There is manna And an endless, glad hosanna.

Alleluia! Let praises ring! Unto our triune God we sing;
Blest be His name forever! With angel hosts let us adore
And sing His praises evermore For all His grace and favor!

Singing, ringing: Holy, holy, God is holy;
Spread the story Of our God, the Lord of glory!

Entering Prayers

[Psalm 23]

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

C: Amen.

L: May the Lord be gracious to us and bless us, and make his face to shine upon us.

C: **That his way may be known on earth, his saving power among all nations.**

L: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

C: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity.

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: Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd, we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; 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

"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 16:23-33

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

"I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; **for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.**"

His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God." Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his

own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Announcements and Attendance Registration

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

“In Holy Conversation”

[LSB 772]

In holy conversation We speak to God in prayer,
And at His invitation Our deepest thoughts we share.
We come, His will obeying, As children bringing needs;
And to support our praying, His Spirit intercedes.

These holy conversations Begin in childlike ways;
We bring our supplications And words of thanks and praise.
With care our Father listens To ev’ry thought expressed,
Then answers our petitions In ways He knows are best.

As holy conversation, In silence or by word,
In ev’ry situation Through Jesus, we are heard.
So let us pray securely, Expressing hopes and fears
With confidence that surely Our Father ever hears.

Text: © 2004 Gregory J. Wismar. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002509

Sermon

“The Father’s Love”

John 16:27-28

Voluntary

[Personal notes and reflections]

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!” (Psalm 67:3)

What will you do this week to help others praise the Lord?



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’s reading takes us to the New Jerusalem.

(Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27) Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. . . .

And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass. And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

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: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

We Profess our Faith:

"We Believe"

In this time of desperation when all we know is doubt and fear,
there is only one foundation: We believe, we believe.

In this broken generation, when all is dark, You help us see.
There is only one salvation: We believe, we believe.

**Chorus: We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion, We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back again. We believe.**

So Let our faith be more than anthems, greater than the songs we sing,
in our weakness and temptations we believe, we believe.

**Chorus: We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion, We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back again.**

Let the lost be found, let the dead be raised;
In the here and now let love invade. Let the church live love!
Our God, will see, "We believe! We Believe!"
And the gates of hell will not prevail, for the pow'r of God has torn the veil.
Now we know Your love will never fail. We believe! We believe!

**We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion, We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back,
coming back again, coming back again.
We believe, We believe!**

Words and Music by Travis Ryan, Matthew Hooper and Richie Fike, Arranged by Heather Sorenson
This arrangement © 2015 Abundant Life Ministries UK (PRS), Travis Ryan Music (ASCAP)
Integrity Worship Music (ASCAP) and Integrity's Praise! Music (BMI)

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

"The Risen Christ"

[vv. 1 – 2]

O breath of God, come fill this place; revive our hearts to know Your grace;
and from our slumber make us rise that we may know the risen Christ.

O word of God, so clear and true, renew our minds to trust in You;
and give to us the bread of life that we may know the risen Christ.

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Phil Madeira
Arranged by Tom Fettke, Orchestrated by Thomas Grassi
© 2010 THANKYOU MUSIC (PRS) and MAIL TRAIN MUSIC (ASCAP) (Adm. By FUN ATTIC MUSIC)

Private Prayer before Communing

Dear Savior, we come to your table at your gracious invitation to eat and drink your holy body and blood. Let us find favor in your eyes to receive this holy sacrament in faith for the salvation of our souls and to the glory of your holy name; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymn

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

[WOV 738]

***Refrain: Healer of our ev’ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
Give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.***

You know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. ***Refrain***

In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding,
Give us all your vision, God of love. ***Refrain***

Give us strength to love each other, ev’ry sister, ev’ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. ***Refrain***

You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. ***Refrain***

Text & Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 ©1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

Post-Communion Canticle

“The Risen Christ”

[vv. 3-4]

O love of God, so unrestrained, refresh our souls in Jesus’ name.
Let us reflect Your sacrifice that we may know the risen Christ.

May God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit make us one.
In holiness let us unite that we may know the risen Christ.

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Dismissal

Sending Prayer and Benediction

Sending Hymn

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

[LSB 680]

Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be
Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth on bended knee
Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be
Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light
Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally
Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

Text: © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House.

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.

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)

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

April through June Mission Envelopes - ABIGAYLE MINISTRIES

NEXT SUNDAY:

The 7th Sunday of Easter

also celebrating the Ascension of our Lord
May 29, 2022

Scripture Readings: John 17:20-26 / Revelation 22:12-20

Sermon Topic: "One" - Text: John 17:20-24



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. **Deadline for registration is May 23rd!**

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 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 or scan the QR code below*



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.

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!

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:
May 22, 2022

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

- For the Holy Spirit to be at work enriching faith through our worship Gatherings.
- Keeping us faithful to him through the summer months.
- 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 †

‡**For Loved Ones Called Home:** The family of Rev. John Rumsey, father-in-law of Rev. Dietrick Gladden at Charity, who was called to his heavenly home this past week.

‡**God's Healing Hand on:** Betty Williams, Beverly Schnepfer, John Cherry, JoAnn Dieball, Lori Kucharek, Chris Huber, Janet Semenjuk, 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).