



Set your
MINDS
on things
ABOVE
not on
EARTHLY
things.

July 3, 2022

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

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

INVITATION

God draws us into his presence.

Entrance Hymn

“Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying”

[LSB 826, vv. 1,2, 4]

Hark, the voice of Jesus crying, “Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth; Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me”?

If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked With the judgment’s dread alarms,
You can lead the little children To the Savior’s waiting arms.

Let none hear you idly saying, “There is nothing I can do,”
While the multitudes are dying And the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly, Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth, “Here am I, send me, send me!”

Entering Prayers

[from Isaiah 66]

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

C: Amen.

L: Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her.

C: Rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her.

L: That you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast.

C: That you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious abundance.

L: For thus says the Lord, “Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river.

C: And the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream.

L: Almighty God, You have built Your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone. Continue to send Your messengers to preserve Your people in true peace that, by the preaching of Your Word, Your Church may be kept free from all harm and danger; 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

“God Bless Our Native Land”

[LSB 965]

God bless our native land; Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night. When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave, Do Thou our country save By Thy great might.

So shall our prayers arise To God above the skies;
On Him we wait. Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye, To Thee aloud we cry: God save the state!

INSTRUCTION

God feeds our heart, soul, and intellect.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter 10.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’ I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. ...

“The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Announcements and Attendance/Communion Registration



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

“Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing”

[LSB 691, vv. 1, 3, 4]

Fruitful trees, the Spirit’s sowing, May we ripen and increase,
Fruit to life eternal growing, Rich in love and joy and peace.

Rooted deep in Christ our Master, Christ our pattern and our goal,
Teach us, as the years fly faster, Goodness, faith, and self-control.

Fruitful trees, the Spirit’s tending, May we grow till harvests cease;
Till we taste, in life unending, Heaven’s love and joy and peace.

Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co.

Sermon

“Priorities”

Luke 10:16-20

Voluntary

[Personal notes and reflections]

INTROSPECTION

God convicts us to action.

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

And (Jesus) said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” **(Luke 10:2)**

Is the Spirit urging you to respond, “Send me. Send me”?



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 Galatians

L: In Paul's letter to the churches in Galatia he reaffirms the core message of the Gospel that faith in the Messiah is the basis of membership in God's new community. In today's reading he closes out this letter and summarizes it with this benediction, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit."

(Galatians 6:14-18) ¹⁴But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. ¹⁷From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. ¹⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Prayer of the Church

L: As God's chosen people and at his invitation, let us join together in prayer:

(after each petition)

L: Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

L: How awesome are Your deeds, O Lord. You have planted us and directed us to pray that You would send workers into Your vineyard. You have answered that prayer through Your Son and His Church. As Your kingdom draws nearer each day, teach us to boast only in the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ, rejoicing that our names are written in heaven; 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

"Before You, Lord, We Bow"

[LSB 966, vv. 1-2]

Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring In joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise To You, our King!

The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.
For this bright day, For this fair land
Gifts of Your hand Our thanks we pay.

Confession and Absolution

L: Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God of hosts, who is here to heal and save us.

C: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

L: From the rising of the sun to the setting of the same, we cry aloud with joyful voice and say:

C: Glory be to you, O God, the Savior of all, forever and ever. Amen.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Lord Jesus Christ, hear us as we pray:

C: We confess that we have run away from you, and have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves. We have refused to bear the troubles of others and have turned from our neighbors. We have ignored the pain of the world and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. Lord Jesus, in your mercy, forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; in Your name we pray. Amen.

P: Christ Jesus did, indeed, die for your offences, and was raised for your justification. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

We Confess our Faith

“The Apostles Creed”

P: Let us then join in confessing our faith in the God who forgives us and gives us eternal life:

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.

INVOLVEMENT

God makes his absolution shown in the world.

The Sanctus

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

[LSB 966, vv. 4-5]

Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore,
And bow before The Crucified.

And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, With joy to sing
To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!

Service of the Sacrament

L: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

C: We give thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

L: Grant us your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of his cross,

C: And receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in his body and blood.

L: Hear us as we pray in his name and as he 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

Pre-Communion Canticle

“Lord Jesus Christ”

[LSB 623, vv.1-2]
(tune 810)

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine Enrich us with Your grace divine.
Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv’n, The certain joys of heirs of heav’n.

The Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymn

“Spread the Reign of God the Lord”

[LSB 830]

Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spoken, written, mighty Word;
Ev’rywhere His creatures call To His heav’nly banquet hall.

Tell how God the Father’s will Made the world, upholds it still,
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.

Tell of our Redeemer’s grace, Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion’s price, Gave Himself as sacrifice.

Tell of God the Spirit giv’n Now to guide us on to heav’n,
Strong and holy, just and true, Working both to will and do.

Enter, mighty Word, the field;Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few For the work there is to do!

Lord of harvest, great and kind, Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath’ring nations all See Your light and heed Your call.

Post-Communion Canticle

“O Jesus, Blessed Lord”

[LSB 632]
(tune 810)

O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.
Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Dismissal

Sending Prayer and Benediction

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen.

Prayer as you go home

Dear Lord Jesus, I thank and praise you that you have again refreshed me with the gift of your holy body and blood in this comforting sacrament. Bless my participation that I may depart from your presence with peace and joy in the knowledge that I am reconciled to God. I ask this in your name. Amen.



**Today's Altar Flowers were given to honor
and glorify our risen Lord in memory
of Dennis Dieball
on his birthday by his wife Joann.**

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)

NEXT SUNDAY

The 5th Sunday after Pentecost

July 10, 2022

Scripture Readings: Luke 10:25-37 / Colossians 1:3-14

Sermon Title: "Walking with Jesus" - Text: Colossians 1:9-13



PRESCHOOL

ATTENTION FREE PRESCHOOL FOR 4 YEAR OLDS

St. Thomas has a wonderful Great Start Readiness Program Preschool for 4 year olds. **We are taking applications for our fall class.** Our preschool is all day from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday, **and it is FREE.**

This is a great opportunity for your 4-year-old to start their lifetime of learning! Call TODAY to make an appointment to enroll. The program fills up FAST! Call Michele 586-260-6576.

**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.

Summer Office Hours: STL will have reduced office hours through August 14.
The Church Office will be open 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 P.M., Monday through Thursday.
The office will be **closed Fridays**, through August 15.
Office is closed on Monday, July 4th!

No Monday night service on July 4th!

CLOTHING CLOSET WILL NOT BE OPEN ON JULY 9th!

***Interested in receiving a little midweek encouragement every Thursday morning?
Send your request to pastor@stl-eastpointe.org
and we will start sending you "Thursday's Thirst".***

Michigan District, LCMS Convention Notes

Two important notes (more to follow at a later date) from our District Convention held in Ann Arbor on June 26-28. Our two representatives were Mark Matheson and Pastor Mark Hetzner. You can contact them for more information

1. With our District President (Rev. Dr. David Maier) and three of the four regional VP's ineligible for re-election due to term limits, we have a virtually new presidium. Rev. Dave Davis (former VP) is the new District President. The four VP's, in order of their ranking are: 1) Rev. Dean Davenport (incumbent, Metro West); 2) Rev. Darryl Andrzejewski (Metro East); 3) Rev. Craig Bickel (West); and 4) Rev. Erik Cloeter (North and East).
2. An important resolution in light of the Supreme Court's recent ruling states: "**Resolved** that we encourage our churches and schools to step forward and meet the needs of expectant mothers and their babies by upholding local crisis pregnancy centers and by promoting foster care and adoption among our members; and be it **further resolved** that we continue to affirm our calling to protect and minister to the life of mother and child personally and through the support of ministries such as the Luke Clinic, Flint Mission Networks Mercy House and Wellspring Lutheran Services' Child and Family Services." STL supports the Luke Clinic with our mission offerings in January – March. Or you can support them directly by going to: [Free Prenatal Care | The Luke Clinic Free Prenatal Care](#).

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 11:30 a.m.

*"The Flock" for children and Crossftraining JC Style for youth
Staying connected through summer emails*

Faith Hope Love Gatherings - Sunday and throughout the week

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

July 3, 2022

Our Primary Prayer focus for this week is on Christ's work through his Word:

- Bringing joy and Godly freedom into our hearts through the Good News of Jesus.
- Healing all who are stymied by fear, shame, pain, or grief.
- Expanding the ways we search the scripture together and care for our neighbor remotely.
- Bring repentance and active faith to the people of our nation.

And we remember those at both ends of life on this earth, the unborn and newly born, the elderly and those nearing life's end, remembering especially all pregnant mothers, those who are 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:** Diane Ustick, Marge Bittner, Heather Miller, Joanne Awe, Paul Kress, Ed Redmond, Betty Williams, Beverly Schnepfer, John Cherry, Lori Kucharek, Chris Huber, Janet Semenjuk, Dolly Houth, Eric Semenjuk (brother of Russ) Lisa Riviera (former member), Linda Taggart (former member), Tina Croke (sister of Debbie Churchill), Mike Parkin (son-in-law of Caroline Henze), Christine Coffee (mother of Beverly Gray-Booth).

✠**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 Davis Cardamone), Payton Gifford (great-granddaughter of Jane Gurnack), Kennedy Pank (great-granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond).