

# *The Rich Fool*



*July 31, 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*

### **Stories of God @ Work**

## **INVITATION**

*God draws us into his presence.*

### **Entrance Hymn**

*“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”*

[LSB 791, vv. 1-3, 5]

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.  
Him serve with mirth, His praise forthtell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make.  
We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise; Approach with joy His courts unto.  
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, For it is seemly so to do.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav’n and earth adore,  
From us and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore.

### **Entering Prayers**

[from Psalm 100]

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

**C: Amen.**

**L:** Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness and come into his presence with singing!

**C: Know that the Lord is God – it is he who made us, and we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

**L:** Enter his gates with thanksgiving – give thanks to him and bless his name.

**C: For the Lord is good – his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.**

**L:** O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! Oh, victory!  
Loud shouting army! Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

**Refrain: He has done marvelous things. I too will praise Him with a new song!**

Children of God, Dying and rising,  
Sing to the Lord a new song! Heaven and earth,  
Hosts everlasting, Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

Text: © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House.

## ***INSTRUCTION***

*God feeds our heart, soul, and intellect.*

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

**Luke 12:13-21**

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

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

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

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. **For the next 4 weeks a survey will be attached, and we ask that you fill out this survey every week. (see article at end of folder)**

## Hymn of the Day

*“Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings”*

[LSB 782, vv. 1-3]  
(tune 848)

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

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

By Your Word You formed creation Filled with creatures large and small;  
As we tend that endless treasure May our care encircle all. **Refrain**

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

Text: © 2004 Gregory J. Wismar.

## Sermon

*“Rich Fools”*

**Luke 12:13-21**

## Voluntary

*“The Lord’s My Shepherd”*

A. Wohlfeil

[Personal notes and reflections]

# INTROSPECTION

*God convicts us to action.*

## KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” **(Luke 12:15)**

*In what ways does greed tend to creep up into your life?*



**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 Colossians***

L: Though Paul was in prison, and had never been to the church in Colossae, he wrote them an encouraging letter that emphasizes the fact that “When you’ve got Jesus the Messiah, you’ve got it all.” And this reality unities us in freely living lives filled with love for all.

**(Colossians 3:1-11)** If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.<sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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

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: Answer all doubt and fear, O Lord, with confidence in Your Word and Sacraments, that by these Means of Grace we may be kept in holiness and guarded from temptation and despair until the day when You bring all things to their perfect fulfillment and we are delivered to everlasting life; 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***

*“Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old”*

[LSB 846, vv. 1, 3]

Your hand, O Lord, in days of old Was strong to heal and save;  
It triumphed over ills and death, O'er darkness and the grave.  
To You they came, the blind, the mute, The palsied and the lame,  
The lepers in their misery, The sick with fevered frame.

O be our great deliv'rer still, The Lord of life and death;  
Restore and quicken, soothe and bless, With Your life-giving breath.  
To hands that work and eyes that see Give wisdom's healing pow'r  
That whole and sick and weak and strong May praise You evermore.

## ***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 Nicene 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 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**

## ***INVOLVEMENT***

*God makes his absolution shown in the world.*

### ***The Sanctus***

*“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

[LSB 208]

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### ***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.

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***

***“Praise and Thanksgiving”***

[LSB 789]

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

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

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

Text: © 1987 Oxford University Press

***“Renew Me, O Eternal Light”***

[LSB 704]

Renew me, O eternal Light, And let my heart and soul be bright,  
Illumined with the light of grace That issues from Your holy face.

Remove the pow’r of sin from me And cleanse all my impurity  
That I may have the strength and will Temptations of the flesh to still.

Create in me a new heart, Lord, That gladly I obey Your Word.  
Let what You will be my desire, And with new life my soul inspire.

Grant that I only You may love And seek those things which are above  
Till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.

**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**

**Sending Hymn**

*“Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”*

[LSB 707]

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His statutes still!  
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Thy Word And make my heart sincere;  
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;  
And should I e'er forget Thy way, Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in Thy commands 'Tis a delightful road—  
Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.

**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.

*You are living in  
the (your)  
Mission Field*

*“The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few.  
Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send YOU out into his harvest.” (Matthew 9:37-38)*



## **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.

### **Mission and Ministry Inventory Instructions for the four-consecutive week worship survey**

One sheet should be filled out for each person present at worship every week you're in attendance for the next 4 weeks and collected at each service.

Four content areas are to be marked:

1. Categories of individuals – member, non-member, adult, child
2. Length of membership, if a current member
3. Male or female
4. Age

Each person will make four checkmarks per sheet. Parents should fill out a sheet for each child. **One sheet per person is best!**

After four Sundays, this information will be totaled on the summary sheet for the Mission and Ministry Inventory.

#### **NEXT SUNDAY:**

*The 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

August 7, 2022

Scripture Readings: Luke 12:22-34 / Hebrews 11:1-13, 16

Sermon Topic: "Faith and Trust" - Text: Hebrews 11:1-3

**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.



**Today is Mite Box Sunday!**

**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 of thanksgiving – the MCREST facility for women and children is now open, and through a major donation from Trinity Lutheran Church (Mt. Clemens) an adjacent building has been purchased for a men's facility.

**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](http://mcrest.org) or call 586-415-5101.**

***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 Crossfraining JC Style for youth  
Staying connected through summer emails*

*Faith Hope Love Gatherings - Sunday and throughout the week*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Your personal prayer guide for the week of:*  
**July 31, 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 in those in our sanctuary as well as those joining us online.
- 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 especially Lois Heft.



**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 †**

†**God's Healing Hand on:** Diane Ustick, Marge Bittner, Joanne Awe, Paul Kress, Ed Redmond, Betty Williams, Beverly Schnepfer, John Cherry, Lori Kucharek, Chris Huber, Janet Semenjuk, Dolly Houth, Mike Parkin (son-in-law of Caroline Henze), Christine Coffee (mother of Beverly Gray-Booth), David Dieball (Diane Carr's brother).

†**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).