



*Faith is the assurance
of things hoped for,
the conviction
of things not seen.*

August 7, 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

Prelude

“Polonaise in G Minor”

F. Chopin

Stories of God @ Work

INVITATION

God draws us into his presence.

Opening Hymn

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

[LSB 809]

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. **Refrain**

Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

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 as we serve the Lord with gladness.

C: **We will come into his presence with singing!**

L: Know that he Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his;

C: **We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

L: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

C: We give thanks to him and bless his name, for the Lord is good, and his steadfast love endures forever – 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.

Hymn of Praise

“Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God”

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, Breathe new life into my willing soul.
Bring the presence of the risen Lord To renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause Your Word to come alive in me; Give me faith for what I cannot see;
Give me passion for Your purity. Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within; May Your joy be seen in all I do
Love enough to cover ev’ry sin In each thought and deed and attitude,
Kindness to the greatest and the least, Gentleness that sows the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace. Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation’s birth, Giving life to all that God has made,
Show Your power once again on earth; Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise. Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ Will be clear for all the world to see.

Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

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INSTRUCTION

God feeds our heart, soul, and intellect.

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:22-34

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations

of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Announcements and Attendance 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. **For the next 2 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

“Seek Ye First”

[LSB 712]

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev’ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia!

Text: © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. EMI.

Sermon

“Faith and Trust”

Hebrews 11:1-3

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Voluntary

“Have No Fear Little Flock”

H. Zimmerman

Time for reflection and prayer

[Personal notes and reflections]

INTROSPECTION

God convicts us to action.

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“By faith, Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts.” **(Hebrews 11:4)**

How do you think God is looking at your gifts to him this week?



EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT THE STL MISSION There is a variety of ways to give your support to the mission of STL. For many the easiest is to simply mail in a check or drop your offering off at the church. If you prefer electronic giving, STL offers multiple options:

- Text “GIVE” to 1-586-800-2223
- Visit: stl-eastpointe.org and click on “Mission Support”
- 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 Letter to the Hebrews

L: Neither the author nor the audience of this book is specifically named, but the book is written for Jesus-believing Jews who are in danger of falling away from the faith. Our reading today is from chapter 11, the great “faith chapter.”

(Hebrews 11:1-13, 16) Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ... But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

L: This is the word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Offertory

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

[LSB 783/784, vv. 1, 2 & 4]

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.

Confession and Absolution

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness**

L: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Most merciful God,

C: **We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: Upon this your confession, I as a servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I 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**

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: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, knowing that You will hear the prayers of Your people and answer us with Your mercy, providing all things needful and beneficial to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen**

INVOLVEMENT

God makes his absolution shown in the world.

The Sanctus

"Holy Is Our God"

[BOTB 89, v. 3]

Chorus: Holy is our God, whose name we praise forever.

Holy is the Son, who reigns in majesty!

Come, Spirit, come and fill our hearts with wisdom, that we may worship you alone.

Oh, Spirit, come and unite us in one communion with our Lord.

Free us from the chains that bind us, for the Comforter has come. **Chorus**

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Service of the Sacrament

[Psalm 42]

L: As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.

C: **My soul thirsts for God, the living God.**

L: These things I remember as I pour out my soul to him.

C: **How in days of old we came to him with glad shouts and songs of praise.**

L: Our hope is in Jesus, for we shall again praise him.

C: **He is our rock and our salvation – our God who loves us forever.**

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymn

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

[LSB 781]

We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled Are straying from the fold.

To comfort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless Is angels' work below.

The captive to release, To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee.

Post-Communion Canticle

“Holy Is Our God”

[BOTB 89]

Holy is our God, whose name we praise forever. Holy is the Son, who reigns in majesty!
Come, Spirit, come and fill our hearts with wisdom, that we may worship you alone.

The Sending

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

[LSB 918]

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow'ful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, Be Thou still my strength and shield;
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

*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)



Today's flowers were given to honor and thank God and in celebration of the birth of Charlotte Christine to David and Danielle Ferdinande by her Grandparents are Keith and Christine Coderre.

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

M.C.R.E.S.T. (Macomb Country Rotating Emergency Shelter Team) Our week for helping/hosting the women and children in the MCREST program is September 25 – August 1. During this week, we provide them with 3 meals a day, bus tickets, gas gift cards, and personal items. We will prepare the meals here at STL and then serve the dinner meal at the MCREST facility in Mt. Clemens. Many hands and funds are needed to accomplish this ministry. Please watch for the sign-up sheets in the west entrance to donate your time or talents. Donations are needed!

School Kits – HIS II is participating in the Lutheran World Relief program that provides much needed school supplies for children. Can you help provide the following for one backpack? Backpacks will be provided by HIS II. Please drop off in the west entrance. Contact Joyce Vincent if you have any questions.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH SCHOOL KIT

- **FOUR** 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose-leaf paper
- **ONE** 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- **ONE** pencil sharpener
- **ONE** pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- **FIVE** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- **FIVE** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- **ONE** box of 16 or 24 crayons
- **ONE** 2 ½" eraser

July through September Mission Envelopes
M.C.R.E.S.T.
(Macomb Country Rotating Emergency Shelter Team)

100% of your Mission Envelope donations (either using the envelope provided in your box or through your designation electronically or with a different envelope) to STL 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.

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 10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 14, 2022

Scripture Readings: Luke 12.49-56 / Hebrews 11.17-19, 22-26, 29-31; 12.1-3

Sermon: "Abraham and Isaac" Text: Hebrews 11.17-19

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - August 7, 2022

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

- In all those who were elected or nominated this past week.
- 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, and Lois Hoeft (who are in hospice care).

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

✠ **Praise and Thanksgiving:** For the birth of Charlotte Christine to David and Danielle Ferdinande (Coderre).

✠ **God's Healing Hand on:** Marge Bittner, Ed Redmond, Betty Williams, Beverly Schnepfer, Chris Huber, Mike Parkin (son-in-law of Caroline Henze), Christine Coffee (mother of Beverly Gray-Booth), David Dieball (Diane Carr's brother), Tom & Sharon Smith (in-laws of Ann Schepper).

✠ **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).

Memorial Service for Gertrude and Suzanne Opperman will be held at St. Thomas on Saturday, August 13th, visitation at 10:30 a.m. and service at 11:00.

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 Crosstraining JC Style for youth

Staying connected through summer emails

Faith Hope Love Gatherings - Sunday and throughout the week