

**The promise that he would
inherit the world did not
come to Abraham...**



**through the law but through
the righteousness of faith.**

August 14, 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

INVITATION

God draws us into his presence.

Opening Hymn

“How Great Thou Art”

[LSB 801]

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed; **Refrain**

**Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; **Refrain**

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; **Refrain**

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” **Refrain**

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Entering Prayers

[from Psalm 55]

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

C: Amen.

L: Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

C: Give ear to our prayer, O God, and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy.

L: What is it that taunts you, O people of God? Can you not hide from your adversaries?

C: It is my flesh, and those among my family and friends. We used to take sweet counsel together; within God's house we walked together in fellowship.

L: Call upon the Lord, your God, and he will save you.

C: Give ear to our prayer, O God, and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy.

L: Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; 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

"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.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 12:49-56

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

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

“Jesus Sat with His Disciples”

[LSB 932]

Jesus sat with His disciples On a mountainside one day;
As the crowds of people gathered, He began to teach and say:
“Blessèd are the poor in spirit, Heaven’s kingdom they will share.
Blessèd are the sad and mourning, Joy and comfort will be theirs.

“Blessèd are the meek and humble, All the earth to them is willed.
Those who hunger to be holy, They are bless’d and will be filled.
Yes, the merciful are blessèd, Mercy will to them be shown.
And the pure in heart are blessèd, They have eyes for God alone.

“Blessèd are God’s sons and daughters, Making peace where there is strife.
Blessèd are the persecuted, Who for righteousness lose life;
Their reward is great in heaven, In the kingdom up above
So be glad to share My suff’ring And rejoice to know My love.”

Text: © 1997 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House.

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Voluntary

"Ivory Palaces"

Time for reflection and prayer

INTROSPECTION

God convicts us to action.

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

"Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us." (**Hebrews 12:1**)

What weights is Jesus inviting you to lay aside with him today?



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, from chapter 11, continues the thoughts presented in today's sermon.

(**Hebrews 11:17-19, 22-26, 29-31; 12:1-3**) By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ...

By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he was

grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ...

By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as if on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

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: Hear us, most merciful Father, in these our humble requests, which we offer unto You in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

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 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 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**

Text and Music by Brad and Donna Hoefs.

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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.**

The Words of Institution

The Distribution of the Sacrament

Distribution Hymn

"I'm But a Stranger Here"

[LSB 748]

I'm but a stranger here, Heav'n is my home;
Earth is a desert drear, Heav'n is my home.
Danger and sorrow stand Round me on ev'ry hand;
Heav'n is my fatherland, Heav'n is my home.

What though the tempest rage, Heav'n is my home;
Short is my pilgrimage, Heav'n is my home;
And time's wild wintry blast Soon shall be overpast;
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.

Therefore I murmur not, Heav'n is my home;
Whate'er my earthly lot, Heav'n is my home;
And I shall surely stand There at my Lord's right hand;
Heav'n is my fatherland, Heav'n is my home.

Post-Communion Canticle

"Holy Is Our God"

[BOTB 89, 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.

The Sending

Dismissal and Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

[LSB 924]

Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing, Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us, Trav'ling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration For Your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful To Your truth may we be found.

Savior, when Your love shall call us From our struggling pilgrim way,
Let not fear of death appall us, Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever Reign with You in endless day.

*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)*

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.

Attention Singers!!!! Kapelle rehearsal will begin on Sunday, September 18, at 8:30 am in the music room. The season will follow the same rehearsal schedule and singing schedule as last season: Rehearsals are the first, third and fifth (when a fifth Sunday) of the month. Occasionally, the choir will sing on a fourth Sunday, if a major church holiday or Festival Service falls on a fourth Sunday. Also, the Ladies and men from the group will sing a few times throughout the season. Since the rehearsal schedule has been curtailed, a majority of the music is part dominant prerecorded and sent to your email, so members individually rehearse prior to group rehearsals. In addition, there are no rehearsals during the month of January; however, I will ask for a volunteer group to sing on Epiphany Sunday, January 8. Pentecost falls on Memorial Day Weekend, May 28, next year, so a volunteer ensemble will also be asked to sing on that day. Hoping to see all Kapelle members eager to return to singing together again, along with some new members to join this great group! Any questions, please contact Lori. "I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Psalm 104:33

Patrons are needed to help defray the cost of the professional musicians hired for Christmas Eve. If you would like to be a patron for Christmas Eve, please place your contribution in an envelope marked "patron" or "Kapelle" in the offering plate/box or bring your gift to the church office. If you choose to give online, please specify "kapelle" when giving. Thank you for supporting the choir and their efforts in edifying the church through worship in song.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

The 11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 21, 2022

Scripture Readings: Luke 13:22-30 / Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15, 22-24

Sermon Topic: "The Narrow Door" - Text: Luke 13:23-27

**Make plans to stay next week for our
Fellowship Brunch Picnic
following the 9:30 worship service (about 11).**

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).

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

August 14, 2022

Our Primary Prayer focus this week is upon God's Work through STL:

- As we reflect upon what God has done through STL over the years.
- As we praise God for his activity in and among us today.
- As we look to how he is shaping STL for a dynamic future.
- As we invite and welcome new people into our fellowship.

And we remember those on our cradle role, and 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 †

† **For Loved Ones Called Home:** The family of Lois Hoeft, who was called home this week.

† **God's Healing Hand on:** Jackson Engel, 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), Rick Semenjuk (brother of Russ), Elowin Pollard (cousin of Shannon Dawda).

† **Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Vada Habermas, 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).

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

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