



*August 21, 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.*

### **Opening Hymn**

*“O Worship the King”*

[LSB 804, vv. 1-3, 6]

O worship the King, all-glorious above.  
O gratefully sing His pow’r and His love;  
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

This earth, with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, Thy pow’r hath founded of old,  
Established it fast by a changeless decree,  
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

O measureless Might, ineffable Love,  
While angels delight to hymn Thee above,  
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,  
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.

### **Entering Prayers**

[from Psalm 50]

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

**C: Amen.**

**L:** The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**C: Our God comes; he does not keep silence; before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty tempest.**

**L:** He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, “Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me.”

**C: The heavens declare his righteousness.**

**L:** Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and perform your vows to the Most High.

**C: We will call upon him in the day of trouble; he will deliver us and we will glorify him.**

L: O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, 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.

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend Copyright © 2005 Thankyou Music (Adm. by CapitolCMGPublishing.com excl. UK & Europe, adm. by Integrity Music, part of the David C Cook family, [songs@integritymusic.com](mailto:songs@integritymusic.com))

## ***INSTRUCTION***

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

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

**Luke 13:22-30**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter 13.

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

[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. **And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’** In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and

west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Announcements**

### **Hymn of the Day**

*“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”*

[LSB 563, vv. 1, 2, 5, 6]

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;  
Fully absolved through these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies,  
This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me,  
For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

### **Sermon**

*“The Narrow Door”*

**Luke 13:23-27**

### **Voluntary**

*He Leadeth Me – Medley*

W. Bradbury

**Time for reflection and prayer**

[Personal notes and reflections]

## ***INTROSPECTION***

*God convicts us to action.*

### **KINGDOM THOUGHTS**

“Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows  
to the Most High.” (**Psalm 50:14**)

*What comes to your mind when you hear “sacrifice of praise”?*



**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](http://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 12 reminds us that God’s discipline is always done in love.

**(Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15, 22-24)** In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.<sup>6</sup>For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ...

For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ...

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,<sup>2</sup>nd to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

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: To You, O Lord, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be all glory, honor, worship and praise, now and even to the end of all the ages.

**C: Amen.**

## **Offertory**

*“Take My Life and Let It Be”*

[LSB 783/784. Vv./ 1, 4 & 6]

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

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

## **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**

# **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 long to 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.  
©Copyright 1998 Wings of Grace, Inc. \*Text by Reginald Heber/Music by John B. Dykes.

### ***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***

#### *“Jesus Comes Today with Healing”*

[LSB 620, vv. 1-4]

Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door, appealing,  
Off’ring pardon, grace, and peace. He Himself makes preparation,  
And I hear His invitation: “Come and taste the blessed feast.”

Christ Himself, the priest presiding, Yet in bread and wine abiding  
In this holy sacrament, Gives the bread of life, once broken,  
And the cup, the precious token Of His sacred covenant.

Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy,  
Blood and body, giv’n for me, Very Lamb of God from heaven,  
Who to bitter death was given, Hung upon the cursed tree.

God descends with heav’nly power, Gives Himself to me this hour  
In this ordinary sign. On my tongue His pledge receiving,  
I accept His grace, believing That I taste His love divine.

Text: © David W. Rogner

#### ***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 long to worship you alone.

**The Sending**

**Dismissal and Post-Communion Collect**

**Benediction**

**Sending Hymn**

*"You Are the Way; through You Alone"*

[LSB 526]

You are the way; through You alone Can we the Father find;  
In You, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.

You are the truth; Your Word alone True wisdom can impart;  
You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.

You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,  
And those who put their trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.

You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,  
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.

*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 12<sup>TH</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***

**August 28, 2022**

Scripture Readings: Luke 14:1-11 / Hebrews 13:1-9, 16-17

Sermon Topic: "Sabbath Work" - Text: Luke 14:1-5

**Please join us for the  
Fellowship Brunch Picnic today,  
outside in the back parking lot at the south end,  
(inside the gym if a rainy day)**

## following the service!

**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.

**Flu Shots** will be offered here on October 2, 2022, following the church service from 11 - 12! Make you plans to get your shot! See the poster in the west entrance for the information on getting your appointment. Go to <https://alanas.vna.org> Clinic ID: 1302 | Passcode: ALANAS2022. Talk to Sue Wensink if you have any questions.

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

**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 Heather Miller 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

**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 – October 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!

**CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE** - Lutheran Benefits Group in Sterling Heights is seeking a full time customer service representative (CSR) to work with clients and prospects. Provide excellent customer care to churches, schools and employees while assisting in the growth of the agency. Self-motivated with strong administrative and organizational skills. Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, Adobe, general technology and learn third party software. Job descriptions on the bulletin boards. If interested, please contact Keith Mueller at 586-739-5700 or [keith@luthben.com](mailto:keith@luthben.com)

## *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 Cross†raining JC Style for youth  
Staying connected through summer emails*

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

Copyright Permission CCLI License #1438022 - Created with Lutheran Service Builder  
© 2018 Concordia Publishing House. LSB Hymn License #110002509

Watch services on Facebook or at [www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org) – videotaping in progress during service

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - August 21, 2022

**Our Primary Prayer focus is the life transforming power of Christ's Word, and especially:**

- Through our FHL groups, THE FLOCK for children, and CrossTraining for youth.
- At work in the redeemed, increasing our generosity and joy in giving.
- In those who are new to STL.
- In the ministry of **M.C.R.E.S.T.**

**And we remember those who protect and nurture life on this earth,** this week remembering global healthcare needs and political situations.



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 †

†**For Loved Ones Called Home:** The family of Beverly Schnepper, who was called home last week. Funeral at STL on 9/26 at 11am. The family of Paul Kress, who was called home last week. Funeral at STL on 9/24 at 11am.

†**God's Healing Hand on:** Marge Bittner, Ed Redmond, Betty Williams, 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), Renee Schulta (cousin of Caroline Henze), Matthew Stier (brother of Sandra Patch), Jeff Miller (brother of Diane Blocki), Melissa Murray, Roberta Shosh, Linda Pare' (niece of Janice Engel), John Wentworth (cousin of Jan Patty), Lillyona Bain (granddaughter of Jan Patty).

†**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).

Memorial service for Vicki Leberg will be held on Saturday, August 27, at STL, 10:30 in state, 11:00 am service.