



*September 18, 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 about ministry in the community, go to [www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org), or like us on FaceBook. 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*

### **Welcome**

## **RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS**

### **Opening Praise**

*“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”*

[LSB 793, vs. 1, 3 & 4]

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet your tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Father-like He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hand He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him; You behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him, All who dwell in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

### **The Rite of Holy Baptism**



**Eleanor May Perich** is baptized into the Lord's family.  
*She was born on May 27, 2022*  
She is the daughter of **Brad and Patricia Perich**.  
Her sponsors are **Michael and Lauren Nowicki**.

H: Through Baptism God has added **Eleanor May** to his own people here at Saint Thomas, to join with us in declaring the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

**C: We welcome you into the Lord's family, and to our family here at Saint Thomas. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, to work with us in his kingdom.**

L: And you, **Eleanor May**, the Lord bless you in all your ways from this time forth and even forevermore.

**C: Amen.**

### **Hymn of Praise**

*“See This Wonder in the Making”*

[LSB 593, vs. 1 & 2]

See this wonder in the making: God Himself this child has taken.  
As a lamb safe in His keeping, His to be, awake and sleeping.

Miracle each time it happens As the door to heaven opens  
And the Father beams, "Beloved, Heir of gifts a king would covet!"

## ***The Holy Gospel***

**Luke 16:1-15**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter 16.

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

[Jesus] also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' **The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.**

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of 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.

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: © Oxford University Press

**Sermon**

*“I’m so Confused”*

**Luke 16:8-9**

**Voluntary**

*“Lord, for Thy Tender Mercies’ Sake”*

R. Farrant

[Personal notes and reflections]

## ***RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS***

### **KINGDOM THOUGHTS**

“If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth,  
who will entrust to you the true riches?” (Luke 16.11)

*In what ways is God challenging you to be a better steward?*



**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 written by Paul to Timothy***

L: Our second scripture reading is from a letter of Saint Paul written to Timothy, providing his young pastor friend advise on life and ministry. Today's reading is 1 Timothy 2:1-10

**(1 Timothy 2:1-10)** First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.

L: This is the word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

*(after each petition)*

L: Let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: We give thanks to You, O Lord, for You have forgiven our debt of sin for the sake of Jesus. Preserve us in His grace and life until that day when You gather us to be among the saints in glory around Your throne; 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***

*"Knowing You"*

[BOB 138]

All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres and wars to own.  
All I once thought gain I have counted loss, spent and worthless now compared to this.

**Chorus: Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you, there is no greater thing.  
You're my all, you're the best, you're my joy, my righteousness, and I love you Lord.**

Now my heart's desire is to know you more, to be found in you, and known as yours.  
To possess by faith what I could not earn, all surpassing gift of righteousness. **Chorus**

Words and Music by Graham Kendrick, © Copyright: 1994 MAKE WAY MUSIC

## ***Confession and Absolution***

L: Holy Spirit, grant us each a true conviction leading to a true repentance.

**C: Indeed, it is our desire to serve you, O God, but we continue to fall short of your righteousness in our thoughts, our intentions, our actions, and our utterances. Forgive us for the harms we have done, and for**

**the good we might have done, but failed to do; forgive us also for the constant condition of our hearts, for the self-serving impulses, inclinations, and desires which keep us every moment in need of a Savior.**

(time for personal reflection)

L: How graciously he receives our repentance!

C: **God be merciful to me, sinner that I am!**

L: Children of God, hear these words of favor: He has eternally forgiven all your sin. They will never be held against you. You are free to love and to serve him in joyful assurance, knowing his grace will always be more than sufficient to your own failings.

C: **Amen.**

## ***SENT TO THE MISSION FIELD***

### ***The Words of Institution***

#### ***Distribution of the Sacrament***

#### ***The Agnus Dei***

[LSB 210]

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

### ***Distribution Hymns***

#### ***“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.

*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)*

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

***The 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***  
September 25, 2022

Scripture Readings: Luke 16:19-31 / 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Sermon Topic: "Convincing Evidence" - Text: Luke 16:29-31

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

**Attention Singers!!!!** Kapelle rehearsal began today, at 8:30 am in the music room, but more voices raised in praise are always welcome. 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.

**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. Sign-up sheets are in the west entrance to donate your time or talents. Monetary donations are needed, please mark your envelopes “STL MCREST”.

**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

**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).

### **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., not the STL MCREST.** For more information on the ministry, go to [mcrest.org](http://mcrest.org) or call 586-415-5101.

### **FHL, JC and “The Flock”**

Greetings in Christ Jesus! Welcome back! We have started our FHL (faith hope love) ministry back up. Right now, in our world we need to gather with each other around God’s Word and be refreshed and strengthened by His presence in that Word. I pray that you will join us in a group this fall, currently we have two groups that will be meeting on Sunday after service. Elizabeth Kruse will be hosting a women’s only group in room 207 (west hallway) and I will be hosting my Exploring the Gospel lesson in conference room 1. Our youth ministries will also be starting up with JC Style, room 202, and the Flock. We also have groups that meet during the week, if you are interested in more information, please contact the church office. We are looking for facilitators to host more groups, so if you are interested in that please contact me at [dkchome@hotmail.com](mailto:dkchome@hotmail.com).

Blessings, Deacon Don

## Interested in a Weekday FHL Gathering?

Pastor Mark Hetzner hosts two FHL gatherings on Thursday - mornings at 9:30 am and in the afternoons at 1:00 pm. First gatherings this year will be on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the study will be starting in the Psalms. Please join him for this gathering, if not every Thursday, come when you can to either one, both are the same study.

Men have 2 FHL gatherings every week – one on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am, and one on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am, both in the Fireside Lounge. Men, please join in one that is convenient for you.

**HIS II – Hearts In Study and Hands In Service** begins its Fall Study on Monday September 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. This year we will be using the Bible Study titled “Women Like Us” (wisdom for today’s issues) by Ruth Haley Barton. This FHL gathering is for Woman only, studying God’s word, and planning their upcoming Service events.

**Handbells** – Are you interested in helping with the praise music during worship at St. Thomas? Handbells will be starting on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:15 p.m., and you’re invited to join them! They meet in the back of the worship center. You do not need any experience to join, training is provided. They are in need of at least one more ringer – is that you?

**Lutheran Northwest is hosting an Open House on Wednesday, September 21!** Prospective families with students at all grade levels are invited to learn more about us during this informative evening. Guided tours will cover the full range of the high school experience at Lutheran Northwest: Acclaimed academics, awesome athletics, amazing fine arts, active student life & leadership and, above all, a caring, Christ-centered family. Meet our administrative team, members of our faculty, and current students! Tours begin every 10 minutes from 6:30-7:30. (Plan an hour for the entire experience.) Visit our website at [www.lutherannorthwest.com/events](http://www.lutherannorthwest.com/events) to pre-register. Questions? Call our Admissions Office at 248-852-6677.

**Clothing Closet open 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month – 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Food Pantry open 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month – 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Drive Thru Communion – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month**

**11:30 a. m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Online Sermons:** [Sermons – Saint Thomas Lutheran \(stl-eastpointe.org\)](http://Sermons – Saint Thomas Lutheran (stl-eastpointe.org))

***Thursday’s Thirst – either you share it with them, or give us their email address***

## **LISTEN TO SCRIPTURE SUNG:**

[Living Water - Lutheran Bible Translators Experience Scripture \(lbt.org\)](http://Living Water - Lutheran Bible Translators Experience Scripture (lbt.org))

**or try listening to our "Faith Connection Podcasts"**

[Faith Connection Podcast – Saint Thomas Lutheran \(stl-eastpointe.org\)](http://Faith Connection Podcast – Saint Thomas Lutheran (stl-eastpointe.org))

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

September 18, 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 - especially Jan Hetzner, sister-in-law of Pastor and Monica.



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:** Jane Gurnack, Lori Kucharek, Marge Bittner, Ed Redmond, Chris Huber, Rick Semenjuk (brother of Russ), Elowin Pollard (cousin of Shannon Dawda), John Wentworth (cousin of Jan Patty), Lillyona Bain (granddaughter of Jan Patty), Barb Szymanski (former member), Alicia Baker (daughter of Diane Ustick), Robert Binge (friend of Russ Semenjuk).

†**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Betty Williams, 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), Linda Taggart (former member).

## *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*