



Let the little children
come to me

LUKE 18:16

October 23, 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 about ministry in the community, go to 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

Stories of God @ Work – God is Faithful

RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening Praise

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

[LSB 660, vv. 1, 2, 4]

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross.
Lift high His royal banner; It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army He shall lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The trumpet call obey;
Stand forth in mighty conflict In this His glorious day.
Let all His faithful serve Him Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger And strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle, The next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming, Their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.

Entering Prayers

[Psalm 5]

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

C: Amen.

L: Give ear to our words, O Lord; consider our groaning.

C: Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray.

L: Let all who take refuge in you rejoice, let us ever sing for joy.

C: Spread your protection over us, that we who love your name may exult in you.

L: Almighty and everlasting God, You are always more ready to hear than we to pray and always ready to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour down on us the abundance of Your mercy; forgive us those things of which our conscience is afraid; and give us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except by the merits and mediation of 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

“Speak O Lord”

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word;
take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
that the Light of Christ may be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;
test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow’r that can never fail, let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truth unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we’ll stand on Your promises, and by faith we’ll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, ‘til Your Church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glory!

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
Copyright © 2006 Thankyou Music

The Holy Gospel

Luke 18:9-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter 18.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹⁵**Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. ¹⁶But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁷Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”**

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.

Hymn of the Day

“Fight the Good Fight”

[LSB 664, vv. 1, 2, 4]

Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be Your joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God’s good grace; Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.
Life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He changes not who holds you dear;
Only believe, and you will see That Christ is all eternally.

Sermon

“Like a Child”

Luke 18:15-17

Voluntary

“My Soul Cries Out”

M. Hayes

Time for reflection and prayer.

[Personal notes and reflections]

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“The tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

(Luke 18:13-14)

Today is a great day to thank God for his mercy through Jesus.



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 2 Timothy

L: In his second mentoring letter to Timothy, St. Paul focuses upon what true leadership in the church looks like. In today’s reading from chapter 4, he concludes his letter with the simple doxology that echoes through his entire life and ministry, “to him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

(2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18) ⁶For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. . . .

¹⁶At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion’s mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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: Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: O Lord, if we trust in ourselves for righteousness, we are lost and dead in our sins. Yet You mercifully draw us to Yourself in repentance and hear the cries of those who trust in Your Son. Grant us humility, that we may not exalt ourselves or treat our brothers and sisters with contempt. Rescue us from every evil and bring us into Your kingdom as Your beloved children. To You alone be all glory, O Father, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the Treasure that I seek. You are my All in All.
Seeking You as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool. You are my All in All!

**Chorus: Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.**

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame,
rising again, I bless Your name. You are my All in All.
When I fall down, You pick me up;
When I am dry, You fill my cup. You are my All in All! **Chorus**

Written by Dennis Jernigan ©Copyright 1991 Shepherd's Heart Music Inc. (Adm. By Dayspring Music, Inc.) (BMI),

We Confess our Faith

"The Apostles Creed"

P: Let us join in confessing our faith in our gracious and eternal Triune God:

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

Confession and Absolution

(Psalm 130)

L: Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord.

C: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our pleas for mercy.

L: If you, O Lord, kept an account of our wrongdoings, who could stand?

C: But with you there is forgiveness, and you are therefore worshipped and adored.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Father, hear us as we pray:

C: O Lord, hear my voice, and have mercy! Both me and my family have sinned; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedness. Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we as one people may give thanks to your holy name and give glory in your praise.

L: Blessed be the Lord, our God, from everlasting to everlasting. He has remembered his covenant, and sent Jesus to pay for our sins, and the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENT TO THE MISSION FIELD

Service of the Sacrament

[Psalm 54]

L: When we are afraid, we put our trust in God the Lord, whose word we praise.

C: In God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

L: We will perform our vows to him and render to the Lord our offerings of thanks.

C: For he delivers my soul from death, that I may walk before him in the light of life

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

Canticle

[LSB 606]

I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious Till not a spot remains.

Distribution Hymn

“Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed”

[LSB 560]

Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in Thee my life, my rest, Christ crucified, I come.

Thou knowest all my griefs and fears, Thy grace abused, my misspent years;
Yet now to Thee with contrite tears, Christ crucified, I come.

Wash me and take away each stain; Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing, though it be through pain, Christ crucified, I come.

And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so sweet a service be
That angels well might envy me, Christ crucified, I come.

Post-Communion Canticle

[LSB 181]

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Sending

Dismissal

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven”

[LSB 877, vv. 1, 3, 4]

God, who made the earth and heaven, Darkness and light:
You the day for work have given, For rest the night.
May Your angel guards defend us, Slumber sweet Your mercy send us,
Holy dreams and hopes attend us All through the night.

Guard us waking, guard us sleeping, And when we die,
May we in Your mighty keeping All peaceful lie.
When the last dread call shall wake us, Then, O Lord, do not forsake us,
But to reign in glory take us With You on high.

Holy Father, throned in heaven, All-holy Son,
Holy Spirit, freely given, Blest Three in One:
Grant us grace, we now implore You, Till we lay our crowns before You
And in worthier strains adore You While ages run.

*You are living
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 we are thankful for the women of L.W.M.L.
(Lutheran Women’s Missionary League)
CELEBRATING 80 YEARS!**



Mite Box Sunday – October 30th

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 – videotaping in progress during service

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.

Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at St. Thomas Lutheran Church on **11/11/2022**. Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441, text the word "circle" to 797979, or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle. We have received 3 complimentary screenings – if you are interested in receiving one, please contact Linda in the church office. These will be on a first come first serve basis.

Looking for volunteers to participate in the Christmas Eve 4:00 service. This year's service will focus on the symbols of Christmas. There will be a brief organizational meeting on November 6 that will detail the program. Any questions, please see Lori.

Reading the Bible in a Year

Last week Pastor Hetzner gave the best advice about maturing in Jesus and the Christian faith: this year, read through the entire Bible. When you are done, repeat the same (at least) once every year for the rest of your earthly life. No other single activity will enhance your effectiveness as a follower of Jesus more than this. And it will take you just 20-30 minutes of daily reading or listening.

Here is a link to the reading plan - a PDF file: <http://www.faithabilene.org/resources/Reformation-Reading-Plan-Printable.pdf>

And another link to an article promoting the Reformation Reading Plan from the Michigan District, LCMS: <https://michigandistrict.org/healthy-workers/reformation-reading-plan/>

You can also use You Version Bible app and they have a Bible in a Year plan that guides you through. <https://my.bible.com/>

Pastor Nomination for the Call List

Members who would like to submit a Pastor's name to be nominated for consideration to the call list have until November 6th to fill out the nomination form. The forms are available in the church office.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Reformation Day

October 30, 2022

Scripture Readings: John 8:31-36 / Romans 3:19-28

Sermon Topic: "Freedom" - Text: John 8:31-32

Up Coming Events:

- November 12 – Clothing Closet open 11 am – 1 pm
- November 18 – Holiday food basket packing
- November 19 – Holiday food basket distribution 9 am
- November 20 – Remembrance Sunday – worship 9:30 am
- November 20 - Faith & Fellowship Brunch, following the 9:30 worship service in the gym.
- November 23 – Thanksgiving Eve Worship – 12 pm & 7 pm
- November 30, December 7 & 14 – AvenT CAROLing – 12 pm (inside) & 7 pm (front parking lot)
- December 21 – Caroling in the neighborhood – 6 pm
- December 24 – Christmas Eve worship – 4 pm & 11 pm
- December 25 – Christmas worship – 9:30 am

This fall's **Detroit Lutheran Singers** concert, "All Nature Sings," celebrates God's hand in all of nature. From excerpts of Haydn's "Creation" to Arvo Pärt's "The Deer's Cry," you will be treated to an outstanding collection of hymns and anthems which remind us of the beauty of our world. You may even decide raking leaves is a thing of beauty. Come join us today, October 23 at 3:00 pm at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 North Sheldon Road, Canton, MI.

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS GRIEFSHARE EVENT

November 13 | Clinton Township

Many who have experienced grief aren't looking forward to the holidays this year. While some are decorating, celebrating and enjoying the company of their family and friends, grief can leave others depressed, lonely, and hopeless. On Sunday, November 13, from 12:30-3 p.m. in the Church Lounge, Trinity, Clinton Twp. hosts *Surviving the Holidays*, a one-day event sponsored by GriefShare to help the grieving cope during the holiday season. To register, <https://www.griefshare.org/holidays/events/42583>.

October through December Mission Envelopes CAMP RESTORE - DETROIT (Housed in Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church)

DID YOU KNOW? The area surrounding Camp Restore Detroit (9th Precinct of Detroit) is only 20% populated. This means many houses, lots, and even entire blocks are abandoned. Camp Restore works to restore hope in the community through hosting groups of all ages and sizes, housing and feeding them, and partnering with community leaders and community organizations in activities of environmental cleanup, construction, and human care.

100% of your Mission Envelope donations (either using the envelop provided in your box or through your designation electronically or with a different envelope) to STL during the months of October, November, and December will be given directly to CAMP RESTORE DETROIT. For more information on the ministry, go to www.camprestore.org or call 313-527-3366.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

October 23, 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 blessings through Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML).
- 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 John Parker (Mike Dolan's brother in law) passed away Sunday 10/15.

✝ **God's Healing Hand on:** Shirley Gessert, Walter Jakubiec, Debra Barowicz, Kim Dunaway, Elowyn Pollard (cousin of Shannon Dawda), Jason Mowen (son of Kelly Crivella), Mike Parkin (son-in-law of Caroline Henze), Hank Papenheim, Tony Rizzo (neighbor of Ben Stuenbauch), Tom McKay (husband of Mary Lee), Lloyd White, Mary Evans, Shelby Jones, Marquis (friends of the Hogans), Angela DeMuyneck (niece of Joyce Vincent), Spessa Sabo (Marlene & John Cherry's neighbor and friend).

✝ **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).

✝ **Praise and Thanksgiving:** For Jackson Engel for his healing following a fall and surgery for a brain bleed.

Interested in receiving a little midweek encouragement every Thursday morning?

Send your request to pastor@stl-eastpointe.org
and we will start sending you "Thursday's Thirst".

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