

"I AM" Gives Life to the Living and the Dead.



November 6, 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

Prelude

Hymn Medley

Stories of God @ Work – God is Faithful

RECEIVING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening Praise

“Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise”

[LSB 946]

Cantor: Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heav’nly joy and earthly peace we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav’nly King.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, the Father’s only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world’s sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict’ry won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

All: Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God’s right hand in majesty most high:
Who with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav’nly host we glorify.

Text: © 1991 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

Entering Prayers

[Psalm 148]

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

C: Amen.

L: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

C: Praise him, all his angels; praise him all his hosts!

L: Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

C: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord for he established them forever and ever.

C: Young men and maidens together, old men and children, let us praise the name of the Lord for his name alone is exalted, his majesty is above earth and heaven.

L: Living God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace to lay hold of Your promises and live forever in Your presence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise

"Surely It Is God Who Saves Me"

[WOV 635]
(Tune: LSB 686)

Surely it is God who saves me; I shall trust and have no fear.
For the Lord defends and shields me and his saving help is near.
So rejoice as you draw water from salvation's healing spring;
in the day of your deliv'rance that the Lord, his mercies sing.

Make God's deeds known to the peoples; tell out his exalted name.
Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works God's might proclaim.
Zion, lift your voice in singing; for with you has come to dwell,
in your very midst, the great and Holy One of Israel.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr, © 1982, 1990 Hope Publishing Co.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 20:27-40

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter 20.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

There came to [Jesus] some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. And the second and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. Afterward the woman also died. ³³In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife."

And Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. **But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.**" Then some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, you have spoken well." For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

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

"Christ, the Word of God Incarnate"

[LSB 540, vv. 1, 2, 4,5]

Cantor: Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;
Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I AM;
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light and life You bring to all;
Light our path with Your own presence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.

All: Christ, the living bread from heaven, Food for body, food for soul;
Christ, the manna daily given, Nourish, strengthen, make us whole.
Feed us with the food of heaven, Foretaste of the feast to be;
Quench our thirst with living water Springing up eternally.

All: Christ, our good and faithful shepherd, Watching all Your lambs and sheep;
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold, Never-failing vigil keep.
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home;
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice alone.

All: Christ, the way that leads unfailing To the Father's home on high,
Christ, the truth that frees the captive, Christ, the life that cannot die.
Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest:
Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, There to share Your wedding feast.

Text: © 2001 Steven P. Mueller

Sermon

"I Am" Gives Life to the Living and the Dead

Luke 20:37-38

Voluntary

"Me On Your Mind"

M. West

Time for reflection and prayer.

[Personal notes and reflections]

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,
His praise in the assembly of the godly!” (Psalm 149:1)

What song of praise will you be whistling on the way home 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 New Testament

L: God uses the second letter to the Thessalonians to clear up the thoughts of many on the subject of The Day of the Lord and the return of Jesus on the Last Day. Today we turn our attention to 2 Thessalonians, chapter 2.

(2 Thessalonians 2:1-8, 13-17) Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. . . .

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

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: Eternal Father, though death still claims our mortal bodies, You have raised up Christ, that we may pass through death to our own joyful resurrection and to the great reunion with those who have died in Christ and now rest from their labors. Receive our thanks for all the saints and for their witness, and hear us on behalf of those who mourn the loss of those they love. Bring us at last to the place of everlasting light and life, that we may see You face to face and live in Your presence forevermore; 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**

Offertory

“10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)”

**Chorus: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.**

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. **Chorus**

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. **Chorus**

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore! **Chorus x2**

Worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name,
Worship Your holy name, Worship Your holy name.

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SAID AND DONE MUSIC (SACAP) and THANKYOU MUSIC (PRS)

We Profess our Faith

“Nicene Creed”

**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

Confession and Absolution

L: If the Lord our God kept a record of sins, who could stand before him?

C: **But with Him there is forgiveness, therefore He is feared.**

L: God has gathered us together to hear His Word, call upon Him in prayer, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. In His presence we recognize our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot save ourselves. Together as God's people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and pray:

C: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

L: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen. Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

L: Hear this Good News and believe: Your sins are forgiven 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

L: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

C: **In love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.**

L: Pour out you Holy Spirit that we may know the unity we share with all your people

C: **In the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,**

L: As we further pray as he has taught us:

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

Distribution of the Sacrament – Continuous Line

The Canticle

"This is the Feast"

[LSB 171]

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen

This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain
has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

Distribution Hymn

Anthem

"Doxology"

L.
Holmes

"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.

The 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

“Christ the Eternal Lord”

[LSB 829, vv. 1-4]

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word To ev’ry passing age,
Whose timeless teachings still are heard Set forth on Scripture’s page;
Transform our thought and mind, Enlighten all who read,
Within Your Word by faith to find The bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son, Who shares our human birth,
And by His death salvation won For ev’ry child of earth;
Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad,
That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth’s brief journey ends.

Text: © 1999 Hope Publishing Co

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)

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

Looking for volunteers to participate in the Christmas Eve 4:00 service. This years' service will focus on the symbols of Christmas. There will be a brief organizational meeting today following the service 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/>

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.

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.

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).

Up Coming Events:

November 12 – Clothing Closet open 11 am – 1 pm

November 13 – Drive Thru Communion 11:30

November 18 – Holiday food basket packing

November 19 – Holiday food basket distribution 9 am

November 20 – Remembrance Sunday – worship 9:30 am

**Rejoicing in God's grace and receiving his comfort in our grief
as we remember baptisms, weddings, anniversaries, and the departed**

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)

Weekly Worship with Communion - Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Monday at 7:30 p.m.

Drive Thru Communion - Third Sunday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

*"The Flock" for children and Crosstraining JC Style for youth
Staying connected through summer emails*

Faith Hope Love Gatherings - Sunday and throughout the week

**Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week
November 6, 2022**

In your prayers this week please remember:

- The elections and ballot proposals of November 8
- Those being asked to serve on the pastoral call committee.
- Families that are torn apart by strife or conflict.
- Those who feel isolated or alone, along with those who suffer with depression.
- Christian schools and our GSRP Preschool as they further Christ's mission on earth.



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.

And we remember the unborn and newly born, the elderly and those nearing life's end, remembering all grieving families, Jane Gurnack who is in hospice care.

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

✝ **For Loved Ones Called Home:** The family of Christine Coffee, Beverly Gray-Booth's mother who was called home on 10/27. The family of Lillian Bickel, Monica Hetzner's aunt, who was called home last week (9 days after her 100th birthday).

✝ **God's Healing Hand on:** Marge Bittner, Shirley Gessert, Walter Jakubiec, Debra Barowicz, Kim Dunaway, Lloyd White, Mary Evans, Shelby Jones, Marquis (friends of the Hogans), Angela DeMuynck (niece of Joyce Vincent), Sprezza Sabo (Marlene & John Cherry's neighbor and friend), Cheryl Frontiera (daughter of Joann Dieball), Bill & Sue (brother and sister-in-law of Roblynn Smith).

✝ **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), 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).