



And God,  
who searches  
**the**  
**heart,**  
knows  
what is the  
mind of  
the Spirit.



*February 5, 2023*

***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*

### ***Prelude***

### ***Stories of God at Work – the faithfulness of God***

### ***Opening Hymn***

*“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”*

LSB 873

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light,  
Sun of righteousness, arise; Triumph o’er the shades of night.  
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day’s return Till Thy mercy’s beams I see,  
Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, radiancy divine, Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

### ***Opening Liturgy***

*(Romans 10)*

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

**C: Amen.**

**L:** The Word made flesh is near you; he is in your mouth and in your heart, that is, the message concerning the faith that we proclaim.

**C: If we declare with our mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in our heart that God raised him from the dead, we will be saved.**

**L:** There is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him.

**C: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**

**L:** Together as His people let us call upon the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ.

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

*(silence for reflection and self-examination)*

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and by his blood we are made new. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

### ***Hymn of Praise***

### ***"Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten"***

[LSB 914, vv. 1, 4]

(tune: LSB 367)

Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten Radiance of the Father's face,  
Word made flesh, who lived among us Full of truth and full of grace,  
Shine upon our human darkness; Pierce the night that shrouds our race.

Come, Lord Jesus, by Your Spirit In our hearts Your work begin,  
Bring the healing restoration Of Your image lost by sin;  
From Your fullness all receiving Grace on grace, new life within!

Text: © 1992 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House.

### ***Prayer of the Day and the Sharing of Peace***

L: O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

*(We share the peace with one another)*

### ***Old Testament Reading***

**Isaiah 58:3-9a**

"'Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?' Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD? 'Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'"

*(after the reading)*

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### ***New Testament Reading***

**1 Corinthians 2:1-12**

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible

words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

*(after the reading)*

R: This is the word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

***Holy Gospel***

*(all rise)*

**Matthew 5:13-20**

**C: (sung)**

*“To God on High be Glory”*

LSB 204, vv.1-2

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav’nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten, The Father’s Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow’r are seated At God’s right hand on high—

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, Chapter 5.

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

[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

*(after the reading)*

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: (sung)**

*“To God on High be Glory”*

LSB 204, v.3

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;

You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

### ***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***

*"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.

### ***Sermon***

*"Who Knows?"*

**1 Corinthians 2:11-12**

*For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.*

### ***Voluntary***

*"In Remembrance"*

R. Courtney/L. Larson

*Time for reflection and prayer.*

### **KINGDOM THOUGHTS**

**"You are the salt of the earth. ... You are the light of the World."  
(Matthew 5:13-14)**

*How do you feel as Jesus says this about you?*



**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).

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

*(after each petition)*

**L:** Lord in your mercy,

**C:** Hear our prayer.

**L:** ... who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

### ***Offertory***

*"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"*

LSB 208

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### ***The 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

### ***Preparation for the Sacrament***

**L:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**L:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

L: To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

**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***

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

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

#### ***"Lamb of God"***

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.

### ***Hymns During Distribution***

#### ***"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"***

LSB 563

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.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God  
Pleads for the captives' liberty, Was also shed in love for me.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,  
Thou hast for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.

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.

O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav’nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God’s triune name resounding Through all eternity.

***Dismissal and Sending Prayer***

***Benediction***

***Sending Hymn***

*“Thy Strong Word”*

LSB 878, vv. 1, 4, 6

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.  
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu’ring might;  
From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.  
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.



Today’s Flowers are given to praise and honor our Savior  
in memory of Donald Habermas Jr.  
from his daughter Shannon Dawda and family

*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)*

**Special Voters Assembly** – Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, following the 9:30 worship service, to issue a call to the pastor to fill Pastor Hetzner's position.

**Game Night!** Join us on February 4th at 5pm for a Game Night! We'll have board games, cards, food, and movies. Event will take place in the gym. Feel free to bring your favorite game! For questions or more information, contact Tony Berkseth at [missionmgr@stl-eastpointe.org](mailto:missionmgr@stl-eastpointe.org). See you there!

**Baking Breads for SASS** - Wednesday night, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm, we'll be in the kitchen baking breads for SASS! Join us to prep, bake, and put together take-home bags. For this event, there's no such thing as having too many cooks in the kitchen so invite a friend! For more info, contact Tony Berkseth at [missionmgr@stl-eastpointe.org](mailto:missionmgr@stl-eastpointe.org). See you there!

**Flower Chart** for 2023 is up in the west hallway! If you would like to have flowers on the Altar in memory of or celebration of, please sign the chart. Price is very affordable and is listed on the chart. Money is due prior to the date.

**2023 Envelopes are available in the west hallway!** Please stop by the table, print your name on the list next to the envelope # you are taking home. Information for electronic giving is printed in the worship folders. Please do not use any prior years envelopes. If you have any questions, contact Linda in the church office.

**Financial Peace University** started on January 10, 2023, at 7:00 pm. But It's not too late to join. Cost is \$80/household, we have the materials, so you will pay St. Thomas. Contact the church office to get more information.

**January through March Mission Envelopes  
THE LUKE CLINIC**

## Reading the Bible in a Year

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/>

### **Crafted by Truth**

A Plan to read through the entire Bible in One year  
(10 minutes a day ... 6 days each week)

Download the plan at  
[Bible Reading Initiative - Michigan District, LCMS](#)  
Or contact the church office and we will email it to you

## *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 – Second Sunday of the month at 11:30 a.m.*

*“The Flock” for children and Cross†raining JC Style for youth*

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

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

***The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany***

February 12, 2023

Scripture Readings:

2 Samuel 11:1-17, 26-27 / 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12 / Matthew 5:21-26, 33-37

Sermon Topic: "David, Bathsheba, and ??"

Text: 2 Samuel 11:26-27

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

February 5, 2023

**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 pray for the pastoral call committee and people on the call list.
- 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 Jane Gurnack .



**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:** Karen Cichocki, Steven Kruse, Sherry Kourles, Joseph Jiminey, Marsha Shelepts, Lori Kucharek, Marge Bittner, Shirley Gessert, Walter Jakubiec, Ruth Greve (Ron's mother), Joe Andary (brother-in-law of Kelly), Amy Grunow (sister of Debbie Churchill), Richard Burkholder, Elowyn Pollard (cousin of Shannon Dawda), and all those with COVID.

†**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).