



**These are written
so that you may
believe...and...believing...
have life in his name. John 20:31**

2nd Sunday of Easter - April 16, 2023

Saint Thomas Lutheran

23801 Kelly Road, Eastpointe, Michigan 48021 - 586-772-3370

www.stl-eastpointe.org

*Rev. Jerry Corbett - Vacancy Pastor, Deacon - Don Cooley
Specific Ministry Pastor - Rev. Richard A. VanBriggle*

Connecting Individuals to Jesus and to One Another Educating Minds – Growing Faith – Serving People

We are here to serve our community. As you worship with us online, the Lord Jesus is at work, uniting us as friends and family. If you are curious to learn more out ministry in the community, go to www.stl-eastpointe.org, or like us on Face Book. To get your questions answered in a more personal way, contact the church office (586-772-3370) and ask for a pastor/staff member to give you a call.

Divine Service

Call To Worship

“In Christ Alone”

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe.
This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save.
‘Til on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev’ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin’s curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow’r of Christ in me.
From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow’r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.
‘Til He returns or calls me home, here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand.
Here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand.

Words and Music by STUART TOWNEND and KEITH GETTY
© 2002 Thankyou Music

Opening Liturgy

(Isaiah 55)

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

C: **Amen.**

L: We stand in the presence of the Lord as His redeemed people. Knowing God's grace to us in Christ has made us even more aware of our sinfulness and our unworthiness to be in His presence. We make confession of our sins, trusting in His promise of forgiveness.

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

L: Good Lord, deliver us from all sin, error, and evil within us and around us.

C: **Father in heaven, we confess to You our sinfulness and our unworthiness to stand in Your presence. We have sinned by disobeying You and Your will for our lives. We confess also our failure to accomplish the good You desire for our lives. Grant us forgiveness for Jesus' sake and with Your Spirit renew us to live our lives in praise and glory to You.**

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

L: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God upon all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

“This is the Feast”

LSB 155

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

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

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

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

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

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

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

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

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

Prayer of the Day and the Sharing of Peace

L: Almighty God, we have celebrated with joy the festival of our Lord’s resurrection. Graciously help us to show the power, and the peace, of the resurrection in all that we say and do; through your Son, Jesus Christ 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)

Acts Reading

Acts 5:29-42

But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

(after the reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

(after the reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

(all rise)

John 20:19-31

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 20.

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

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

(after the reading)

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

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

LSB 720

We walk by faith and not by sight, No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e’er spoke, But we believe Him near.

We may not touch His hands and side, Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice And cry “My Lord and God!”

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near And seek where You are found.

For You, O resurrected Lord, Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word, Beneath the bread and wine.

Lord, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are, With full and endless sight.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

“That YOU May Believe”

John 20:30-31

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Voluntary

“There is a Redeemer”

M. Green/L. Larson

Time for reflection and prayer.

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

“Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you.’” **(John 20:21)**

To whom is Jesus sending you to share with them His peace?



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).

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 Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Profession of Faith

“Lord of Hope, of Life, of Love”

We believe in God our Father, Maker of the universe,
Doing acts of awesome power, To sustain all heaven and earth;
He, my Maker; I, His creature, He, the Potter; we, the clay;
All we need, His hand provides us; Guards, protects us night and day.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Only Son of God Most High,
Came to earth, born of a virgin, Born to live, to love, to die;
Sinless Sacrifice to free us From captivity to sin,
Rose to life, our King triumphant; His kingdom will never end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, Giver of all faith and Life;
Through the Word, convicts and comforts, Seals us when we are baptized.
Holy Fire, Faith Igniter, Spirit of truth, of joy, of peace;
Sanctifies our frail bodies, Makes them His own dwelling place.

We believe God has one people, His forgiven, holy Church;
Eager for their resurrection, God’s new heaven, and new earth.
Love unending, praises sending, To the one and only God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Lord of hope, of life, of love.

© 2004 Tim Onnen, Permission for use granted without cost to all Christian Churches
(tune: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”, LSB 803)

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: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should give thanks to You always and everywhere, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. For You so loved the world that You gave Your only-begotten Son into the destruction of death, that all who believe in Him might not be destroyed, but have everlasting life. Renew our faith in His real presence in, with, and under the bread and wine, that we may be strengthened in faith by the forgiveness of sins. We lift our voices with all Your holy saints and angels, joining in their eternal praise:

C: **Thanks be to God, Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

LSB back cover

Words of Institution

Hymn of Preparation

"The Risen Christ"

vv. 1-2

O breath of God, come fill this place; revive our hearts to know Your grace;
and from our slumber make us rise that we may know the risen Christ.

O word of God, so clear and true, renew our minds to trust in You;
and give to us the bread of life that we may know the risen Christ.

The Distribution of the Sacrament, at Altar

Hymns during Distribution

"O Sons and Daughters of the King"

LSB 470,
vv. 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9

O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

An angel clad in white they see, Who sits and speaks unto the three,
"Your Lord will go to Galilee." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

"My piercèd side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

On this most holy day of days Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Public domain

"The Joyful Eastertide"

LSB 872

Come, Thou bright and Morning Star, Light of Light without beginning;
Shine upon us from afar That we may be kept from sinning.
Drive away by Thy clear light Our dark night.

Let Thy grace, like morning dew Falling soft on barren places,
Comfort, quicken, and renew Our dry souls and dying graces;
Bless Thy flock from Thy rich store Evermore.

May Thy fervent love destroy Our cold works, in us awaking
Ardent zeal and holy joy At the purple morn's first breaking.
Let us truly rise ere yet Life has set.

Ah! Thou Dayspring from on high, Grant that at Thy next appearing
We who in the graves do lie May arise, Thy summons hearing,
And rejoice in our new life, Far from strife.

Light us to those heav'nly spheres, Sun of grace, in glory shrouded;
Lead us through this vale of tears To the land where days unclouded,
Purest joy, and perfect peace Never cease.

Text: Public domain

Post-Communion Canticle

"The Risen Christ"

vv. 3-4

O love of God, so unrestrained, refresh our souls in Jesus' name.
Let us reflect Your sacrifice that we may know the risen Christ.

May God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit make us one.
In holiness let us unite that we may know the risen Christ.

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Phil Madeira
Arranged by Tom Fettke, Orchestrated by Thomas Grassi
© 2010 THANKYOU MUSIC (PRS) and MAIL TRAIN MUSIC (ASCAP) (Adm. By FUN ATTIC MUSIC)

The Sending Prayer and Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

LSB 474, vv. 1, 3, 5

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! **Refrain**

**Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise:
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

Jesus the vine, We are the branches;
Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
Heaven to earth, Christ to the people,
Gift of the future now flowing to me. **Refrain**

City of God, Easter forever,
Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
River of life, Saints and archangels,
Sing with creation to God the I AM! **Refrain**

Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002509

*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)*

Lifeline Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Saint Thomas Lutheran Church on Friday, May 19, 2023. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <https://llsa.social/HC>.

***April through June Mission Envelopes
ABIGAYLE MINISTRIES***

Lutheran Special Education Ministries is looking for candidates to fill part-time resource room teacher position at **Concordia** Lutheran School in **Redford** MI. Please include the paragraph below in your weekly church bulletin or newsletter, or electronic communication to your church members, and post this e-mail in a place where your church members will see it.

Lutheran Special Education Ministries is looking for a part-time resource room teacher position at **Concordia** Lutheran School in **Redford** MI. Applicants must hold a current Michigan Teaching License and have a special education certification/endorsement. Interested applicants looking for more information or wishing to submit a resume are asked to contact Richard Schumacher at (734) 748-5253 or email him at rschumacher@luthsped.org.



Today's flowers were given to honor our Risen Lord
by John Cook in celebration and thanksgiving
of his wife, Theresa's birthday.

*Next Sunday
3rd Sunday of Easter - April 23, 2023*

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41/1 Peter 1:17-25/John 10:1-10

Sermon Title: "First Sermon" – Text: Acts 2a, 36-41

LUTHERAN NORTHWEST SPORTS CAMPS

Calling all students entering grades 5 through 9 next school year! Join us at Lutheran Northwest this summer for some fun and exciting athletic opportunities. Please contact Joe Lower at LHNW (248) 852-6677, or via e-mail at jlower@lhsa.com with any questions.

Girls Basketball: June 12-15, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Soccer: June 12-15, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Boys Basketball: June 19-22, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Football: June 19-22, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Softball: June 20-22, 9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Girls Volleyball: June 26-29, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Learn more and register at www.LutheranNorthwest.com/summercamps or scan the QR code below.



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 Crossftraining JC Style for youth

Faith Hope Love Gatherings - Sunday and throughout the week

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

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

April 16, 2023

In your prayers this week please remember:

- All mothers, grandmothers, and God-mothers.
- The childless and parents who have buried a child.
- Families that are torn apart by strife or conflict.
- Those who feel isolated or alone, along with those who suffer with depression.
- The ministry of **Abigayle Ministries**.

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



To connect to the **STL PRAYER CHAIN**, contact Karen Dolan (mdolan421@gmail.com), 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:** Betty Williams, Marlene Cherry, Karen Hubbard, Roy Leidich, Kurt Gutowsky, Harrison Ahee, David Stolzenfeld, Helen Harper (friend of Cathy Meer), Mark Topal (son of Stan).

†**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Beth White, Robert Laroche and Jan Adams (family of Karen Hubbard), Tiffany Crow (granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond), Claire Armstrong (granddaughter of Clyde & Carolyn Armstrong), Payton Gifford (great-granddaughter of Jane Gurnack), Kennedy Pank (great-granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond).