

Rejoice
in the Lord
always; again

I will say,

Rejoice



July 9, 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

Preparation of the Heart

Prelude

Opening Hymn

“Father Welcomes”

LSB 605

**Refrain: Father welcomes all His children To His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

Little children, come to Me, For My kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give, Mercy for your sin. **Refrain**

In the water, in the Word, In His promise, be assured:
Those who are baptized and believe Shall be born again. **Refrain**

Let us daily die to sin; Let us daily rise with Him,
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God. **Refrain**

Text: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

The Preparation of our Hearts

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

C: Amen.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(time for personal reflection)

L: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

C: We admit and confess our sinfulness. We have turned away from each other in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil you forbid and have not done the good you demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us, kind Father, because of the obedience of our brother, Jesus Christ, your Son. Forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit move us to serve you faithfully. Set our feet upon the new path of life, and build your kingdom here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto 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.

All glory be to God alone, Forevermore the highest one,
Who did our sinful race befriend And grace and peace to us extend.
Among us may His gracious will All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

Lord God, our King on heaven's throne, Our Father, the Almighty One.
O Lord, the sole-begotten One, Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,
True God from all eternity, O Lamb of God, to You we flee.

You only are the Holy One And over all are Lord alone.
O Jesus Christ, we glorify You and the Spirit, Lord Most High;
With Him You evermore shall be One in the Father's majesty.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House

Prayer of the Day and the Sharing of Peace

L: O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through 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)

The Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

(after the reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Romans 7:14-25a

We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

(after the reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel

(all rise)

Matthew 11:25-30

C: (sung)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

LSB 190

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter 11.

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

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

(after the reading)

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Apostles

LSB, inside back cover

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

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

LSB 699
(tune 444)

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down Thy head upon My breast."

I came to Jesus as I was, So weary, worn, and sad;
I found in Him a resting place, And He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one, Stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light.
Look unto Me; thy morn shall rise And all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found In Him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav'ling days are done.

Sermon

"Rejoice"

Zechariah 9:9

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king
is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

Our Response to God's Word

KINGDOM THOUGHTS

"Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." **(Luke 12:15)**

In what ways does greed tend to creep up into your life?



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.**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
 Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life.
 Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
 Grace our table with Your presence, and give us A foretaste of the feast to come.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.

The Service of the Sacrament

“As we receive the True Body and Blood of our Lord, our faith is fed, our spirits are encouraged, and we are moved to share God's grace with the world.”

[Because of the closeness of this sharing (and the concerns expressed in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29) we ask that those who have not been taught the faith at STL speak with a pastor or elder before communing.]

Preface

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 at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

C: Thanks be to God, Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB, inside back cover

Words of Institution

The Canticle

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution - Continuous Line

Alcohol-free wine is available in the center of each individual cup tray.
Gluten-free host is available upon request from the host server.
If you are coming for a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest.

Hymns during the Distribution

“When Peace, like a River”

LSB 763

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way; When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul. **Refrain**

Refrain: It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul), It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate And hath shed His own blood for my soul. **Refrain**

He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought; My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! **Refrain**

And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; Even so it is well with my soul. **Refrain**

The Sending

The Post-Communion Canticle

LSB 199

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of the people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, word without end. Amen.**

Dismissal

Post-Communion Prayer

Benediction

Sending Hymn

“May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill”

LSB 698

May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill And do on earth our Father’s will
As angels do above; Still walk in Christ, the living way,
With all Thy children and obey The law of Christian love.

So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace adore, Thy pow’r confess,
From sin and strife to flee. One is our calling, one our name,
The end of all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.

Spirit of life, of love and peace, Unite our hearts, our joy increase,
Thy gracious help supply. To each of us the blessing give
In Christian fellowship to live, In joyful hope to die.

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

*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

**The 7th Sunday after Pentecost
July 16, 2023**

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 55:10-13 / Romans 8:12-17 / Matthew 13:1-9

Sermon Topic: "Sowing and Reaping" – Sermon Text: Matthew 13:3-9



Help Needed

Would you like to be a part of the audio/visual team? Team members would be responsible for Facebook recordings, sound system, slide presentation, and more. No experience necessary - training will be provided. Contact the church office.

Lutheran High School Northwest Employment Openings - It's an exciting time to be in the field of Lutheran education and to have the opportunity to positively impact our young men and women with the Gospel of Christ! Lutheran High School Northwest has employment openings for the 23-24 school year. If you know of someone who is qualified and interested, please have applicants contact Principal Matt Tschudy at mtschudy@lhsa.com.

Co-curricular Opportunities

Drama Director
Girls Soccer Coach

Cross Country Coach
Cheerleading Coach

Teaching Opportunities

- Math
- Science
- Theology

Teacher Needed - St. Peter's Lutheran School in Eastpointe is looking to hire a 3/4 grade split classroom teacher for the upcoming school year. We are looking for a self-motivated, Christian teacher who is organized and has great communication skills. This person should be able to teach in various ways to help children grow spiritually, academically, and emotionally. A valid Michigan certification in elementary education is required. If you are interested in applying, please send your applications to Beth Jablonowski at bjablonowski@stpeterslutheranchurch.net

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

Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week
July 9, 2023

Our Primary Prayer focus this week is upon God's Work through STL:

- As we continue in prayer for Pastor Douglas Kregel , STL, and The Family of Faith Lutheran as he considers our call.
- As we praise God for opportunities to rest and vacation during the summer months.
- As we look to how He is shaping us for a dynamic future.
- Safe travel during the summer months

And we remember all children who hear the gospel in church and from their parents, and those in hospice care. We remember the family of Karen Hubbard.



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 †

†**Praise and Thanksgiving:** For the family of Mike Manion, Kelly Andary's brother, who was called home on July 2nd.

†**God's Healing Hand on:** Larry Cichocki, Art Wensink, Marge Bittner, Janet Semenzuk, Diane Ustick, Betty Williams, Harrison Ahee, Scott Baker (grandson of Diane Ustick), Mae Topel, Norm Peraino (friend of Larry Cichocki), Judy Michelsen, Billy Quinn, Debby Kuehn, Lacey Collins and Cathy Orlowski (niece and friend of Debbie Kujowski), Tiffany Crow (granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond), Shelby Lysse, (niece of Gary & Sandi Lysse) .

†**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).

Memorial service for Karen Hubbard, who was called home on May 24th, will be on July 10 at 11 am, at St. Thomas.