



March 31, 2024

Saint Thomas Lutheran

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

www.stl-eastpointe.org

Specific Ministry Pastor - Rev. Richard A. VanBriggle, Deacon Don Cooley

*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.

The Resurrection Of Our Lord Easter Day Festival March 31, 2024

The First Reading

Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Prelude

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

J. Van Valey/S. Berry

Easter Greeting

(Spoken three times, each one louder than the previous)

L: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Processional Hymn

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

LSB 457

(choir sings introduction, watch director for cue to begin singing)

Jesus Christ is ris’n today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heav’nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He’s king, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav’nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Invocation and Prayer

L: In the Name of God the Father,

C: Who created us;

L: And in the Name of God the Son,

C: Who redeemed us with His blood;

L: And in the Name of God the Holy Spirit,

C: Who sets us apart as God's Holy People,

L: Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Who is risen from the dead! Alleluia! Amen.

Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

LSB 155

Refrain: 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. ***Refrain***

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

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 ***Refrain***

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

The Second Reading

Luke 24:1-7

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise."

Anthem

"All Heaven Declares"

N. Richards/T. Richards/T. Fettke

The Third Reading

Luke 24:8-12

And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

Children's Lesson/Attendance Registration



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.

The Easter Gospel

John 20:19-23

Procession (1st time cantor, 2nd time congregation)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 20th chapter.

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.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

Procession (1st time cantor, 2nd time congregation)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Fifth Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Creedal Hymn

“We Believe”

In this time of desperation when all we know is doubt and fear,
there is only one foundation: We believe, we believe.

(feel free to sing along with choir)

In this broken generation, when all is dark, You help us see.
There is only one salvation: We believe, we believe.

***Chorus All: We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He’s given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion, We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He’s coming back again. We believe.***

So Let our faith be more than anthems, greater than the songs we sing,
in our weakness and temptations we believe, we believe. ***Chorus All***

***Chorus All: We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He’s given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion, We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He’s coming back again.***

Choir: Let the lost be found, let the dead be raised;
In the here and now let love invade. Let the church live loud!
Our God, we’ll say, “We believe! We Believe!”
And the gates of hell will not prevail, for the pow’r of God has torn the veil.
Now we know Your love will never fail. We believe! We believe!

***All: We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He’s given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion, We believe that He conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection, and He’s coming back, coming back again, coming back again.
We believe, We believe!***

Words and Music by Travis Ryan, Matthew Hooper and Richie Fike, Arranged by Heather Sorenson
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Integrity Worship Music (ASCAP) and Integrity’s Praise! Music (BMI)
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The Sixth Reading

1 Corinthians 15:50-57

I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Anthem

"Alleluia Round"

W. Boyce/R. Proulx

Sermon

"Behold! This is Our God!"

Isaiah 25:6-7

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

Anthem

"Crown Him"

C. Machen

Prayers of the Church

L: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Almighty God, You kept Your promise and delivered up Your own Son to be our Savior. By His sacrificial death, our sins are forgiven, and by His rising again, we have the hope of everlasting life. Keep us in this holy joy throughout the Easter season and all our daily lives, that we may not fear our enemies nor give in to the temptation of despair in our days of trouble.

(after each petition)

L: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

L: We join today in singing eternal alleluias with innumerable angels in festal gathering, with the assembly of the firstborn enrolled in heaven and with the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and we bring these petitions before You, dear Father, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

† 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.]

Words of Institution

Pre-Communion Canticle

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

LSB 461, vv. 1, 2

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.

Distribution of the Sacrament - 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.*

Anthem

"Ode to Joy"

C. Maggs

"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

"Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"

LSB 474, vv. 1-3

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!

Walking the way, Christ in the center
Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread, Giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. **Refrain**

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**

Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Instrumental

Post-Communion Canticle

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

LSB 461, vv. 3, 8

He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.

He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Dismissal

Sending Prayer

The Seventh Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Benediction

Closing Resurrection Praise

"Hallelujah Chorus"
(Join in singing with the choir)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world is become
The Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and of His Christ;
And He shall reign for ever and ever
And He shall reign for ever and ever
And He shall reign for ever and ever
And He shall reign for ever and ever

King of Kings, for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
And Lord of Lords, for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings, for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
And Lord of Lords, for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings, for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
And Lord of Lords,

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,
And He shall reign for ever and ever
And He shall reign for ever and ever

King of Kings for ever and ever.
And Lord of Lords, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And He shall reign for ever for ever and ever,
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,
And He shall reign for ever and ever,

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (Pause)

Hallelujah!

By G. F. Handel
Hallelujah Chorus lyrics © Warner/Chappell Music, Inc., Universal Music Publishing Group

Easter Greeting

Pastor: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

People: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Faith Hope and Love Gathering – New Start date - the Thursday Bible study will start on **April 11 @ 1PM** and we will be studying the book of Romans! This Study will be held in the conference room 1 (across from the office). Please join Jim Wolfe, facilitator, for this exciting study.

The church office is closed tomorrow, Monday, April 1st.

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 (see 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.

“The Flock” for children and Cross/raining JC Style for youth Sunday at 10:45

Faith Hope Love Gatherings - Sunday and throughout the week

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





Thank You to our Patrons for their generous gifts to continually support the music we truly enjoy each Easter as we praise our risen Lord.



Thank You to our Musicians



*The Kapelle, under the direction of Lori Stolzenfeld
Handbells, under the direction of Alicia Anno*

<i>Ramon Garza</i>	<i>Viola</i>
<i>Sander Kastallari</i>	<i>Violin</i>
<i>Jon Luebke</i>	<i>String Base</i>
<i>Judith Teasdale</i>	<i>Violin</i>
<i>Irina Tikhonova</i>	<i>Cello</i>
<i>Bruce Pollatz</i>	<i>Trumpet</i>
<i>Danielle Ferdinande</i>	<i>Flute</i>

NEXT SUNDAY:

The 2nd Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024

Scripture Readings: Acts 4:32-35 / 1 John 1:1-2:2 / John 20:19-31

Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week
March 31, 2024

Our Primary Prayer Focus this week is upon the work of the Holy Spirit IN:

- All expectant mothers, their unborn children, and their entire families.
- Those have lost children, born and unborn.
- Those who are being invited to participate in FHL and Cross⁺training.
- The ministry of **Abigayle Ministries**.
- For the call committee at Historic Trinity, or partnership and the pastor that will receive the call, that he will be led to follow your will.

And we remember the unborn and newly born, the elderly and those nearing life's end, remembering all grieving families, and Janet Schutt who is 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 †

†**God's Healing Hand on:** Marge Bittner, Brenda Finger, Harrison Ahee, Betty Nelson (sister of Caroline Henze), Andrew Brejnak, 19, (grandson of Gerry & Nola Klonowski, son of their daughter, Lisa), Ellen Walker (friend of Jan Adams), Sarah Schnepfer (niece of John Hupp and Ann), Rick Grager (nephew of Jan Adams), Scott Baker (grandson of Diane Ustick), Jennifer Holtz and Elowyn Pollard (friends of Shannon Dawda).

†**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Mary Burke- Gianino, Joanne Awe, Robert Laroche (family of Jan Adams), Jan Adams, 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).