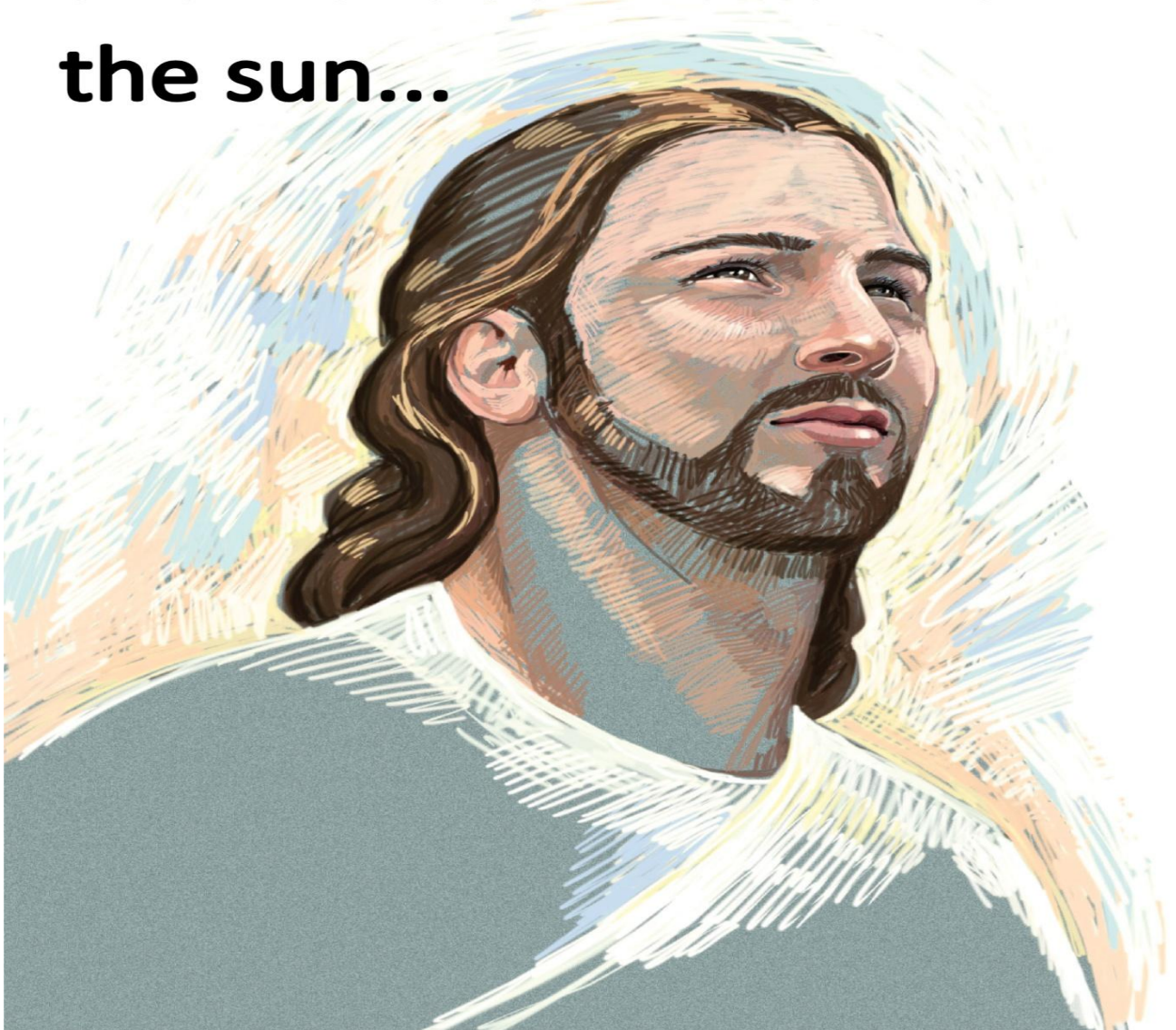


**He was transfigured
before them,
and his face shone like
the sun...**



March 2, 2025

Saint Thomas Lutheran

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

www.stl-eastpointe.org

Senior Pastor - Rev. Dietrick Gladden – 248-719-2766

pastor@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 want to learn more about ministry in the community, go to www.stl-eastpointe.org, or like us on FaceBook. To get your questions answered more personally, contact the church office (586-772-3370) and ask for a pastor to call you.

*Divine Service
Transfiguration Sunday*

Please place your offering in the boxes at the entrances!

Prelude

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

J. Van Valey/S. Berry

Announcements



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.

Opening Praise

*“Jesus on the Mountain Peak”
(verse one Cantor)*

LSB 415

- 1 **Cantor:** Jesus on the mountain peak Stands alone in glory blazing;
Let us, if we dare to speak, Join the saints and angels praising. Alleluia!
- 2 Trembling at His feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking.
All the prophets and the law Shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia!
- 3 Swift the cloud of glory came: God proclaiming in its thunder
Jesus as the Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder, Alleluia!
- 4 This is God’s belovèd Son! Law and prophets sing before Him,
First and Last and only One. All creation shall adore Him! Alleluia!

Text: © 1977 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002509

Confession and Absolution

[Isaiah 6]

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.**

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

L: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and through his blood redeems you from all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus, and by his authority, 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

“O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair”

LSB 413, vs. 1, 3, 5
(tune 405)

- 1 O wondrous type! O vision fair Of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows, Where brighter than the sun He glows!
- 3 With shining face and bright array Christ deigns to manifest today
What glory shall be theirs above Who joy in God with perfect love.
- 5 O Father, with the eternal Son And Holy Spirit ever one,
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace To see Thy glory face to face.

Text: Public domain

Prayer of the Day and the Sharing of Peace

L: O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same 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.

(share the peace with one another)

Anthem

“God of Love, God of Mercy”

C. Berry

The Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. And the LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, ‘I will give it to your offspring.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there.” So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, and he buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day. Moses was 120 years old

when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated. And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

(after the reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading

Hebrews 3:1-6

Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

(after the reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

(all rise)

Luke 9:28-36

C: **(sung)**

“’Tis Good, Lord, to be Here”

LSB 414, vs. 1-3

- 1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.
- 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.
- 3 Fulfiller of the past And hope of things to be,
We hail Thy body glorified And our redemption see.

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9th chapter.

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

Now about eight days after these sayings [Jesus] took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!” And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

(after the reading)

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

C: (sung)

“’Tis Good, Lord, to be Here”

LSB 414, vs. 4, 5

- 4 Before we taste of death, We see Thy kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.
- 5 ’Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Children’s Sermon / Farewell to Alleluias

L: Today we conclude the Epiphany season by saying farewell to the Alleluias, as we prepare ourselves for our penitent journey through Lent. When our Alleluias are locked away, we anticipate the joyous celebration of His resurrection from the dead and the glorious day when we will see Him face to face.

The Alleluia Procession

“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

LSB 417

Choir – Verse 3

- 1 Alleluia, song of gladness, Voice of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem Ever raised by choirs on high;
In the house of God abiding Thus they sing eternally.
- 2 Alleluia, thou resoundest, True Jerusalem and free;
Alleluia, joyful mother, All thy children sing with thee,
But by Babylon’s sad waters Mourning exiles now are we.
- 3 **Choir only:** Alleluia cannot always Be our song while here below;
Alleluia, our transgressions Make us for a while forgo;
For the solemn time is coming When our tears for sin must flow.
- 4 Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, blessèd Trinity,
At the last to keep Thine Easter With Thy faithful saints on high;
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

Text: Public domain

P: May God the Father, who created us, may God the Son, who by his blood redeemed us, may God the Holy Spirit, who by Holy Baptism brings us into God’s Kingdom, keep us and this word of praise safe until the great day when we celebrate our Lord’s victory over sin, death and the devil.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn of the Day

“We Are Singing, for the Lord Is Our Light”

**Congregation and Choir Refrain: We are singing, for the Lord is our light,
we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing, for the Lord is our light,
we are singing, for the Lord is our light.**

Choir: We are singing, singing, we are singing, we are singing,
for the Lord is for the Lord is our light.
We are singing, singing, we are singing, we are singing,
for the Lord is for the Lord is our light.

Choir: The Lord is the strength of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?
Though foes may be near to destroy; the Lord will be our light. **Refrain**

Choir: One thing have we asked of the Lord, yes, this is the thing we seek:
To dwell in the house of the Lord; yes, live with God forever. **Refrain**

Choir: When burdens are heavy to bear, our shelter is God alone.
Our feet are lifted high; yes, high upon a rock. **Refrain**

Choir: We walk in the strength of the Lord, God's love is ever sure.
We shout that the world may hear, sing a joyful song. **Refrain**

Hal H. Hopson, ©1994 by Agape, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188

Sermon

"Transfigured to be Transformed"

Luke 9:28-36

Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Responding to the Good News

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: Lord God, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember on this day the glorious manifestation of Your Son's divinity on the Mount of Transfiguration. Teach us to listen to Jesus and ever fix our eyes on Him and His innocent suffering and death for our forgiveness. By Your grace and mercy, strengthen us to remain faithful in all circumstances of trial, temptation and persecution. Preserve us to the end, that we may die a blessed death believing in Your beloved Son with whom You are well pleased; 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.

+ Service of Holy Communion +

"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.]

Preparation for the Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us proclaim our Lord's death until He comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Amen!

The Lord's Prayer

back cover

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

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.

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

Anthem

"God Himself Is With Us"

J. Van Valey/S. Berry

"What Is This Bread"

LSB 629

- 1 What is this bread? Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break, This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release. O taste and see—the Lord is peace.
- 2 What is this wine? The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace Brings His embrace
Of life and love until I sing! O taste and see—the Lord is King.
- 3 So who am I, That I should live and He should die
Under the rod? My God, my God,
Why have You not forsaken me? O taste and see—the Lord is free.

- 4 Yet is God here? Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,
In mouth and soul He makes us whole—
Christ, truly present in this meal. O taste and see—the Lord is real.
- 5 Is this for me? I am forgiven and set free!
I do believe That I receive
His very body and His blood. O taste and see—the Lord is good.

Text: © 1991 Fred and Jean Baue. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002509

Post-Communion Canticle

“Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace”

LSB 937

Lord, bid Your servant go in peace, Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation’s dawn, This child so long foretold.

This is the Savior of the world, The Gentiles’ promised light,
God’s glory dwelling in our midst, The joy of Israel.

With saints of old, with saints to come, To You we lift our voice;
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest Be honor, love, and praise.

Text (sts. 1–2): © 1969, 1989 OCP Publications; (st. 3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

Sending Prayer and Benediction

Sending Hymn

“Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory”

LSB 416
(tune 650)

- 1 Swiftly pass the clouds of glory, Heaven’s voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish; Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James, and John fall silent, Turning from the summit’s rise
Downward toward the shadowed valley Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.
- 2 Glimpsed and gone the revelation, They shall gain and keep its truth,
Not by building on the mountain Any shrine or sacred booth,
But by following the Savior Through the valley to the cross
And by testing faith’s resilience Through betrayal, pain, and loss.
- 3 Lord, transfigure our perception With the purest light that shines,
And recast our life’s intentions To the shape of Your designs,
Till we seek no other glory Than what lies past Calv’ry’s hill
And our living and our dying And our rising by Your will.

Text: © 1994 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002509

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



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).

Lent 2025

Ash Wednesday – March 5

Ashes: 8 a.m. – in church

Worship at Noon and 7 p.m.

Midweek Wednesdays at noon and 7 p.m.

March 12 – April 9

We will gather in the sanctuary for reflections, prayers, and singing.

HOLY WEEK is April 13 - April 17

April 13: Palm Sunday Communion Service – 9:30 a.m.

Starting in the gym lobby with palms and singing, for those who are able.

April 17: Maundy Thursday

Journey to the Cross

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. & 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

April 18: Good Friday Communion

Worship Services at Noon and 7:00 p.m. (Tenebrae)

April 20: Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. – Easter Breakfast

10:00 a.m. – Festival Communion Service

NEXT SUNDAY

The 1st Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

Scripture Readings: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 / Romans 10: 8b-13 / Luke 4:1-13

Patrons are needed to defray the cost of the professional musicians hired for our Easter Festival Service. If you would like to be a patron, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Patron for Easter" and place it in the offering box; or bring it to the church office or donate electronically. Thanks for your continued support of the music at St. Thomas.

Outreach & Discipling: Jesus' Style

A workshop for laity, pastors, and all

With Greg Finke (Dwelling 1.14) as facilitator

Saturday, March 29, 2025

9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

(with time afterwards for additional conversations)

LFH Hall (16140 Aurora Ave, Eastpointe, Mi, 48021)

LUNCH INCLUDED

Greg Finke has personally used this model effectively and trained many congregations nationally. The components of the training will include strategic praying or the mission, using the Word of God as a guide, learning how to be a good neighbor, discovering our God story, and telling our God story. The day will provide an opportunity for congregations to encourage and support one another and a template to meet throughout the year for fellow up and feedback.

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR THIS FREE WORKSHOP:

Contact the church office or email Pastor Mark Hetzner at hetzmarkrev@gmail.com

(and ask your pastor about the leaders banquet the night before at 6:30 p.m.)



I-Can Tutoring
Free tutoring for grades K – 8
Monday – Thursday
From 3 pm – 6 pm
at St. Thomas Lutheran Church
Room 210 (enter through door #2)
Includes: Reading, Math, Spelling, Writing
Prayer, Games & Activities

Contact Mrs. Becky Gladden
for more information at (248) 821-4967

4 + 2 = 6

A B C D E F G H



*Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 5631 N. Adams Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
Phone: (248) 646-5041*

New Directories are located on tables around the church!

2025 Envelopes are available in the East hallway – by the church office!

January through March Mission Envelopes

THE LUKE CLINIC

(now in both Detroit and Flint)

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.

"The Flock" for children and Crossftraining JC Style for youth

Faith Hope Love Gatherings - Sunday and throughout the week

Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week
March 2, 2025

In your prayers this week please remember:

- Give us faith in Your promises.
- Our Lenten journey begins this week on Ash Wednesday.
- Sustain us from age to age and grant us teachers of righteousness to guide us in the days to come.
- Give wisdom to our president and those in public office, that they may govern according to Your good will.

And we remember the unborn and newly born, the elderly and those nearing life's end, remembering all grieving families and those who are 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:** Walter Jakubiec, Linda Bucholtz, Janet Semenjuk, Davis Cardamone, Debra Closures, Larry Cichocki, Roy Leidich, Mel Ferdinande, Beverly (friend of Connie Sommers), Allison Bottke (friend of Bucholtz's), Michele Jones (preschool director), Betty MacArthur (former member), Brad Tenn (friend of Brenda Zito), Thomas Patch (Sandra's husband), Karen Nieman (cousin of Sandra Patch), Terra Slatten (wife of Chris, organ repair man), Ed Vanic (former member), Kennedy Pank (great-granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond), Vicar Brad Thomas, Lynn Bellhorn (wife of Ken).

✠**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Joanne Awe, Brenda Finger, Harrison Ahee, Andrew Brejnak, 19, (grandson of Gerry & Nola Klonowski, son of their daughter, Lisa), Robert Laroche (family of Jan Adams), Jan Adams, Claire Armstrong (granddaughter of Clyde & Carolyn Armstrong), Sally Burk (sister of Lois Revard), Tamara Sommer (Connie's daughter-in-law).