



July 5, 2026

Saint Thomas Lutheran

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

www.stl-eastpointe.org

Pastor - Rev. Dietrick Gladden – 248-719-2766 pastorgladden@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.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost *Matins*

LSB page 219 – All responses will be sung

Prelude

“America the Beautiful”

K. Bates / S. Ward

Announcements and Attendance/Communion 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.

Opening Hymn

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

LSB 966

- 1 Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring In joy and praise, Our hearts we raise To You, our King!
- 2 The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.
For this bright day, For this fair land— Gifts of Your hand— Our thanks we pay.
- 3 May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise A grateful song.
- 4 Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone. Cast down your pride,
Your sin deplore, And bow before The Crucified.
- 5 And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, With joy to sing To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!

Text: Public domain

Opening

LSB 219

L: O Lord, open my lips,

C: **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

L: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

Venite

L: Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: **O come, let us worship Him.**

C: **O come, let us sing to the Lord,
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving,
let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.**

**For the Lord is a great God
and a great king above all gods.
The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
the strength of the hills is His also.**

**The sea is His, for He made it,
and His hand formed the dry land.
O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.**

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

L: Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: **O come, let us worship Him.**

Sharing of the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

(share the peace with one another then be seated)

Anthem

"Battle Hymn of the Republic"

J. However/G. Rhodes

Service of the Word

Epistle 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: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Verse (all rise)

Matthew 11:25-30

Gospel Responsory

L: Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

L: Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

L: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

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

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: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Apostles Creed

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"God Bless Our Native Land"

LSB 965, vv. 1 - 2

- 1 God bless our native land; Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night. When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave, Do Thou our country save By Thy great might.
- 2 So shall our prayers arise To God above the skies; On Him we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh, Guarding with watchful eye,
To Thee aloud we cry: God save the state!

Text: Public domain

Sermon

"Serving God, Serving Flesh"

Romans 7:14-25a

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: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: Amen.

Kyrie

LSB 227

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

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.]

Words of Institution

Distribution

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

“Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord”

LSB 771

- 1 Be still, my soul, before the Lord, For God is always near.
Before your mind is moved to pray, God listens and will hear.
- 2 You need not multiply your words Nor pray with practiced art.
Beyond all speech, God understands The hunger of your heart.
- 3 Wait, then, in quiet confidence, Your anxious thoughts at rest.
God knows your needs before you ask And works for what is best.
- 4 Be still, my soul, before the Lord; On God in patience wait.
God’s love, unseen, surrounds your life; God’s help will not be late.

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“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

LSB 524

- 1 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer’s ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, And drives away our fear.
- 2 It makes the wounded spirit whole And calms the heart’s unrest;
’Tis manna to the hungry soul And to the weary, rest.
- 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My shield and hiding place;
My never-failing treasury filled With boundless stores of grace.
- 4 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my life, my way, my end, Accept the praise I bring.
- 5 How weak the effort of my heart, How cold my warmest thought!
But when I see Thee as Thou art, I’ll praise Thee as I ought.
- 6 Till then I would Thy love proclaim With ev’ry fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name Refresh my soul in death!

Text: Public domain

Post-Communion Collect

L: Let us pray.

C: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect of Grace

L: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, be righteous in Your

sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Benedicamus

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Benediction

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

"Onward, Christian Soldiers"

LSB 662

1 Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.
Christ, the royal master, Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle See His banners go! **Refrain**

**ref Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.**

2 Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided, All one body we, One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity. **Refrain**

3 Crowns and thrones may perish, Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus Constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never 'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise, And that cannot fail. **Refrain**

4 Onward, then, ye faithful, Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices In the triumph song:
Glory, laud, and honor Unto Christ, the king;
This through countless ages Men and angels sing. **Refrain**

Text: Public domain

Please place your offering in the boxes at the entrances!



**Today's Flowers are given to praise and honor our Lord
for blessings received.**



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).

Upcoming Events:



(visit the web page or see the STL publications for more information)

Family Night – July 9th from 6 pm – 8 pm

(meal is served at 6 pm)

Join with the community to share a meal & fun!

Clothing Closet – July 11th from 11 am – 1 pm

Your help is needed! Contact Kathy Smith for more information

Fundraiser for MCREST July 15th at Red Robin

Family Night – July 16rd from 6 pm – 8 pm

(meal is served at 6 pm)

Join with the community to share a meal & fun!

Food Closet July 18th 11am – 12pm

Your help is needed!



Today is Mite Box Sunday!

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

I-Can Tutoring

Free tutoring for grades K – 8

Room 210 (enter through door #2)

Session 2 is July 13 – August 27th

Monday – Thursday, from 9 am – 12 pm

Includes: Reading, Math, Spelling, Writing, Prayer, Games & Activities

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

STL FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED

Thank you for supporting our community!

Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Crackers, Snacks, Feminine Hygiene Products

Shelf Stable Juice, Body Wash, Peaches, Pears, Pineapple (Can)

Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonnaise Salt and Pepper

All items must be nonperishable and at least 6 months before expiration date.

We cannot distribute dented cans, opened or damaged packaging, vitamins, OTC medications and items beyond the Expiration Date, "Use By", "Sell By" or "Best By" dates.

Your generosity makes a real difference.

Thank you for your understanding and continuing to support our neighbors in need.

World for Life Uganda

July and August Mission Envelopes

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).

Next Sunday

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 55:10-13 / Romans 8:12-17 / Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH – July 5, 2026

In your prayers this week please remember:

- Keep us mindful of the eternal rest of salvation that is only found in the work of Christ, our only hope of eternal life.
- Give to Your Church pastors who will faithfully proclaim the hidden things and make them known to us and our children.
- Be the companion of those who are alone.
- Let all Christians give respect, honor and love where each is due, as servants of Christ in this world whose eternal citizenship is in heaven.
- The ministry of **World for Life Uganda**

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:** Janice Engel, Melvin Ferdinande, Steve Kruse, John Cherry, Marge Bittner, Nancy Wargo, Doug Klawender (son of Shirley), Dorothy Rumsey (Becky Gladden's mother), Emily Henze (Caroline’s daughter-in-law), Beatrice Paden (Pastor Gladden’s aunt), Carol Hawkins (cousin of Jan Patty), Jennifer Patterson (friend of Jan Patty), Floro (Delia Greve’s nephew), Regina (aunt of Jan Patty) Marlene Debrosse and Donna Karas and Kathy Bommarito and Matt Kaye (Debbie Kujawski’s relatives and friends).

✠**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Harrison Ahee, Kennedy Pank (great-granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond), Andrew Brejnak, 19, (grandson of Gerry & Nola Klonowski, son of their daughter, Lisa), Robert Laroche (family of Jan Adams), Claire Armstrong (granddaughter of Clyde & Carolyn Armstrong), Sally Burk (sister of Lois Revard), Tamara Sommer (Connie’s daughter-in-law). Palliative care: Dolly Houth.