



Matthew 13:24-30

July 19, 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.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost *Matins*

LSB page 219 – All responses will be sung

Prelude

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

"Praise and Thanksgiving"
(Rise on the last verse)

LSB 789

- 1 Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer For all things living,
Created good: Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.
- 2 Bless, Lord, the labor We bring to serve You That with our neighbor
We may be fed. Sowing or tilling, We would work with You,
Harvesting, milling For daily bread.
- 3 Father, providing Food for Your children, By Your wise guiding
Teach us to share One with another, So that, rejoicing
With us, all others May know Your care.

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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

"Alone Yet Not Alone"

D. Spiegel/B. Broughton

Service of the Word

Epistle Reading

Romans 8:18-27

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

(after the reading)

R: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Verse (all rise)

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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 13th chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" . . .

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

(after the reading)

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Apostles Creed

Children's Sermon

- 1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. **Refrain**
- ref** Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
- 2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above Join with all
nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**
- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

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Sermon

"He Speaks When We Cannot"

Romans 8:18-27

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: We entrust all these petitions to Your care, loving Father, confident in Your great mercy for the sake of Your
Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is worshiped together with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
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

“O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee”

LSB 632

- 1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.
- 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Text: Public domain

“There Is a Time for Everything”

(Rise on the last verse)

LSB 762

- 1 There is a time for ev’rything, A time for all that life may bring:
A time to plant, a time to reap, A time to laugh, a time to weep,
A time to heal, a time to slay, A time to build where rubble lay,
A time to die, a time to mourn, A time for joy and to be born,
- 2 A time to hold, then be alone, A time to gather scattered stone,
A time to break, a time to mend, A time to search and then to end,
A time to keep, then throw away, A time to speak, then nothing say,
A time for war till hatreds cease, A time for love, a time for peace.
- 3 Eternal Lord, Your wisdom sees And fathoms all life’s tragedies;
You know our grief, You hear our sighs— In mercy, dry our tear-stained eyes.
From evil times, You bring great good; Beneath the cross, we’ve safely stood.
Though dimly now life’s path we trace, One day we shall see face to face.
- 4 Before all time had yet begun, You, Father, planned to give Your Son;
Lord Jesus Christ, with timeless grace, You have redeemed our time-bound race;
O Holy Spirit, Paraclete, Your timely work in us complete;
Blest Trinity, Your praise we sing— There is a time for ev’rything!

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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

"The Lord, My God, Be Praised"

LSB 794

- 1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven;
My maker, who to me Has soul and body given;
My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day
And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.
- 2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heaven,
The Father's own dear Son, Whose life for me was given,
Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood
And gives to me by faith The highest heav'nly good.
- 3 The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heaven,
The Spirit, whom the Son In love to me has given.
His grace revives my heart And gives my spirit pow'r,
Help, comfort, and support In sorrow's gloomy hour.
- 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ever-living,
To whom the heav'nly host Their laud and praise are giving.
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son, And God the Holy Ghost.

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Please place your offering in the boxes at the entrances!



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

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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).

Upcoming Events:



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

Family Night – July 23rd from 6 pm – 8 pm

(meal is served at 6 pm)

Join with the community to share a meal & fun!

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.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Here is the report of our General Fund stewardship for the last fiscal year. Your prayers and support are very important to the health of St. Thomas, so thank you for all you do.

	June 2026		Fiscal Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	26,930.81	38,015.00	442,612.03	472,980.00
Expense	<u>36,611.25</u>	<u>38,075.34</u>	<u>410,423.02</u>	<u>472,980.00</u>
Net	(6,152.78)	(60.34)	41,919.41*	0

*actual loss is (\$59,044.63), foundation grant of \$51,426.64 received in July & Sept and Jan.

And the foundation has paid \$39,805.00 (5 months) of mortgage.

The Restricted Fund Balance is \$10,445.87.

Mortgage Balance - \$1,543,491.75, Restricted Loan - \$33,435.27

Attendance for June: 482

Next Sunday

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 7:6-9 / Romans 8:28-39 / Matthew 13:44-52

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH – July 19, 2026

In your prayers this week please remember:

- Remove all fear from us, and keep us mindful that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed in us.
- Bless all pastors and church workers as they sow Your Word in the fields entrusted to them.
- Give us courage to do with integrity what we promise.
- Grant that we would receive Your Holy Supper with hearts free from pride, presumption or any other sin that would profane His precious body and blood.
- 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), Davis Cardamone.

✠**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.