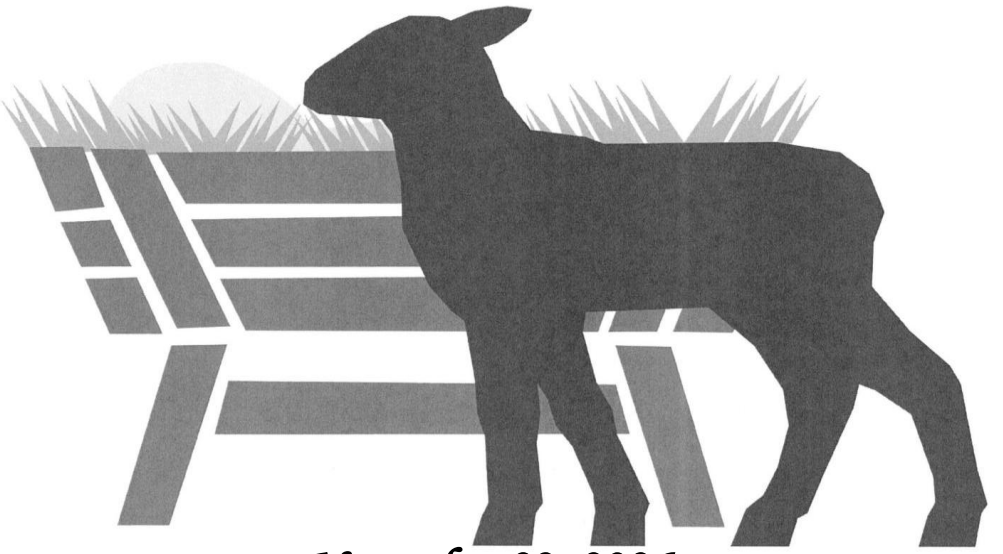
BORN TO YOU ... A SAVIOR



November 29, 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.

First Sunday in Advent
"The Shout of the King"

Prelude

Announcements and Attendance/Communion Registration
(either use the form on the last page, and put in white boxes at entrances, or the QR code)

Opening Hymn *"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"* LSB 334 vv. 1, 4, 6
(tune 442)

O Lord, how shall I meet You, How welcome You aright? Your people long to greet You,
My hope, my heart's delight! O kindle, Lord most holy, Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly All that may please You best.

Love caused Your incarnation; Love brought You down to me. Your thirst for my salvation
Procured my liberty. Oh, love beyond all telling, That led You to embrace
In love, all love excelling, Our lost and fallen race.

He comes to judge the nations, A terror to His foes, A light of consolations
And blessèd hope to those Who love the Lord's appearing. O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering, And guide us safely home.

Text: Public domain

We Gather before the Throne of Grace

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
L: If the Lord our God kept a record of sins, who could stand before him?

C: But with Him there is forgiveness, therefore He is feared.

L: We are gathered in His presence to hear His Word, call upon Him in prayer, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us, therefore, first consider our unworthiness, and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot save ourselves. Together as God's people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and pray:

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

L: God has heard our cry. Immanuel is come. He has defeated our enemies, atoned for our sins, and authorized me to proclaim this good news to you: Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Let us pray: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength,

C: And save us from the threatening dangers of our sins.

L: Grant us the gift of Your divine peace and pardon,

C: And bless Your Church, here and scattered throughout the world, as we proclaim the Gospel to all nations. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn of Praise *"Hark the Glad Sound"* LSB 349, vv. 1-2

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release, In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.

Text: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sharing of Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

(share the peace with one another then be seated)

The Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 64:1–9**

[1]Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your
presence—[2] as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your
name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! [3]When
you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at
your presence. [4]From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God
besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. [5]You meet him who joyfully works
righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? [6]We have all become like one who
is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and
our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. [7]There is no one who calls upon your name, who
rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us
melt in the hand of our iniquities. [8]But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and
you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. [9]Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and
remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

(after reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading **1 Corinthians 1:3–9**

[3]Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. [4]I give thanks to my God
always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, [5]that in every way
you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—[6]even as the testimony about Christ
was confirmed among you—[7]so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the
revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, [8]who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our

Lord Jesus Christ. [9]God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

(after reading)

R: This is the word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel *(all rise)* **Mark 13:24–37**

C: (sung) **Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our King,**
Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark chapter 13.
C: Glory to you, O Lord

[24][Jesus said:] "In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, [25]and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. [26]And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. [27]And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. [28]"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. [29]So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. [30]Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. [31]Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. [32]"But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [33]Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. [34]It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. [35]Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— [36]lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. [37]And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."

(after reading)

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

Hymn of the Day *"O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide"* LSB 355 (tune 934)

O Savior, rend the heavens wide; Come down, come down with mighty stride;
Unlock the gates, the doors break down; Unbar the way to heaven's crown.

O Father, light from heaven send; As morning dew, O Son, descend.
Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring: To Jacob's line rain down the King.

O earth, in flow'ring bud be seen; Clothe hill and dale in garb of green.
Bring forth, O earth, a blossom rare, Our Savior, sprung from meadow fair.

O Fount of hope, how long, how long? When will You come with comfort strong?
O come, O come, Your throne forego; Console us in our vale of woe.

O Morning Star, O radiant Sun, When will our hearts behold Your dawn?
O Sun, arise; without Your light We grope in gloom and dark of night.

Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies; Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
O come, lead us with mighty hand From exile to our promised land.

There shall we all our praises bring And sing to You, our Savior King;
There shall we laud You and adore Forever and forevermore.

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Sermon **Mark 13:24–37**

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 thank, bless and praise You forever that You have sent Your Son to reign over us poor sinners, who for our trespasses deserve rightly to remain in bondage to sin and Satan. You have given us a righteous and humble King who, through His death, has saved us from sin and eternal death. We implore You, enlighten, govern and direct us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may remain faithful to this righteous King and Savior and not be offended by His humble appearance or despised Word, but believe in Him and obtain eternal salvation; 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

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.]

Preparation for the Sacrament

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

L: Assembled with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

C: (sung) [LSB 358, vv. 14, 15]

My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradlesong:

Glory to God in highest heav'n, Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

The Lord's Prayer LSB inside back cover

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
C: Our Father who art in heaven, … Amen

Words of Institution

Entrance Hymn *"Welcome to Earth"* LSB 358, vv. 8, 13

Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery That You might share Your joy with me.

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart For You to dwell within my heart.

Distribution of the Sacrament *(Please be seated)*

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 Distribution

"Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring" LSB 353

Jesus came, the heav'ns adoring, Came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came to win redemption, Lowly came on earth to die; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Came in deep humility.

Jesus comes again in mercy When our hearts are worn with care;
Jesus comes again in answer To an earnest, heartfelt prayer;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Comes to save us from despair.

Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, Bringing news of sins forgiv'n;
Jesus comes with words of gladness, Leading souls redeemed to heav'n.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.

Jesus comes in joy and sorrow, Shares alike our hopes and fears;
Jesus comes, whate'er befalls us, Cheers our hearts and dries our tears;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Comforts us in failing years.

Text: Public domain

"Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come" LSB 350

Come, Thou precious Ransom, come, Only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to Thee all portals.
Come, Thy beauty let us see; Anxiously we wait for Thee.

Enter now my waiting heart, Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart, Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine When Thou art my guest divine!

My hosannas and my palms Graciously receive, I pray Thee;
Evermore, as best I can, Savior, I will homage pay Thee,
And in faith I will embrace, Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

Hail! Hosanna, David's Son! Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown, Bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing: Hail! Hosanna to our King.

Text: Public domain

(Please rise)

Post-Communion Canticle

"Christ Jesus, Lord and Savior Come" LSB 341 v.5

Christ Jesus, Lord and Savior, come, I open wide my heart, your home.
Oh, enter with your radiant grace, On my life's pattern shine your face,
And let your Holy Spirit guide To gracious vistas rich and wide.
Our God , we praise your name, Forevermore the same.

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

Sending Hymn *"The Advent of Our King"* LSB 331

The advent of our King Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing In strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on To set His servants free.

O Zion's daughter, rise To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise The peace He comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And His true members all unite With Him in heav'n to reign.

Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on.

△ All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.

Text: Public domain

Please place your offering in the boxes at the entrances!

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

This year St. Thomas will provide Christmas Food Baskets to 80 families in need in our community.

We are asking for donations for the following items:
Box: Au Gratin/Scalloped Potatoes, Elbow Macroni
Can: Peaches, Pears, Peas, Spaghetti Sauce

Monetary donations for hams are also appreciated.
Donations are needed by Sunday, December 13.
Food Baskets will be distributed on Saturday, December 19.

MCREST

November and December Mission Envelopes

100% of your Mission Envelope donations (either using the envelope provided in your box or through your designation electronically or with a different envelope) to STL during the months of November and December will be given to MCREST.

Patrons are needed to help defray the cost of the professional musicians we hire for our Christmas Eve and Easter services. These musicians enhance the special services and help support the Kapelle and congregational singing. If you would like to be a patron, please place your donation in an envelope marked Patron for Kapelle and place it in the offering box in the back of the church, bring it to the church office or donate online, specifying Patron for Kapelle. Thank you so much for your genuine support of the Kapelle and its mission of edifying the church through music in song.

$125 Per Household Bonus Grant for Your Congregation

In Celebration of our 125th anniversary, CEF is launching the Ministry Partner Bonus Grant. Here's how it works: when an individual investor (that's you or others that attend your church or school!) opens a new CEF note of $1,000 or more with a term of at least 24 months, your church earns a $125 Bonus Grant. One grant per household.

This is a meaningful way for your congregation members to put their savings to work for the Kingdom-and to see that faithfulness come back as a direct blessing to your ministry. Every new note opened is a step toward a stronger church.

How to participate:

1. Share this opportunity with your fellow congregation members and take advantage of it yourselves by opening another note.

2. Invite them to open a new CEF note of $1,000 or more at a 24-month minimum term.

3. Your church receives a $125 Bonus Grant-automatically. (Limit one per household.)

Visit churchextensionfund.com to learn more about our investment note offerings and to get started today.

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

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

November 29, 2026

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

- Give us grace to make a good confession and strength to stand firm in the faith, ever watchful for His coming in power and glory.
- Enrich young and old with the testimony about Christ.
- Provide companionship for those who are alone and strengthen the bonds of marriage.
- Grant that our homes may be places of joy, reasonableness, peace and prayer.

And we remember those on our cradle role, and those who are in hospice care – especially Dolly Houth and Brenda Finger.

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 †

✞**For Loved Ones Called Home:** Cathy Meer was called home November 22nd.

✞**God's Healing Hand on:** Delia Greve, Mark Bucholtz, Clyde Armstrong, Cathy Meer, Janice Engel, Nancy Wargo, Emily Henze (Caroline's daughter-in-law), Carol Hawkins (cousin of Jan Patty), Jennifer Patterson (friend of Jan Patty), Regina (aunt of Jan Patty) Marlene Debrosse and Donna Karas and Kathy Bommarito and Matt Kaye (Debbie Kujawski's relatives and friends), Tom Habrowski (Sue Wensink's brother) Nicole Lechner (Daughter of Hope Nawrocki), Uli Korell, Wilhelm Wolf (Cousins of Vera Lafrate), Michael Parkin (son-in-law of Caroline Henze), John Ustick, Alycia & Scott Baker (relatives of Diane Ustick), Penelope Perich (Daughter of Brad & Patricia Perich), Frankie (Great grandson of MaryLee McKay), Richard Stern.

✞**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Pastor Rick VanBriggle, Marge Bittner, Steve Kruse, 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), Beatrice Paden (Pastor Gladden's aunt).

Upcoming Events:







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

Advent Aglow – Dec. 5 6:00 PM

Ladies dinner to start our advent season.
Our speaker is Joy Rima Hudson from POBLO.

Lessons and Carols – Dec. 6 9:30 AM

Clothing Closet – Dec. 12 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Your help is needed! Contact Kathy Smith for more information

Christmas Food Basket Distribution – Dec. 19 10:00 AM

Christmas Eve Service – Dec. 24 4:00 PM

Christmas Day Service – Dec. 25 9:30 AM

New Years Eve Service – Dec. 31 5:00 PM

ADVENT

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Dec. 2 12:00 PM, 6:00 PM
Dec. 9 12:00 PM, 6:00 PM
Dec. 16 12:00 PM, 6:00 PM