

# Divine Service

## Announcements

## Preparation of the Heart

### Opening Hymn

“Christ the Eternal Lord”

LSB 829

### Preparation of our Hearts to Hear

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **The Maker of heaven and earth.**

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*(time for personal reflection)*

L: Make haste to deliver me, O God:

C: **Make haste, O Lord, to help me, for I am hurting on the inside, and have failed in helping others around me. In you, Lord Jesus, do I take my refuge. In your mercy take away my sin and rescue me from all evil. You are my help and my deliverer. O Lord, do not delay.**

L: God has come in the person of Jesus to rescue you. He died for your sins and was raised for your justification. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus, and by His authority, I announce the full forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

### Prayer of the Day

L: Living God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace to lay hold of Your promises and live forever in Your presence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you

C: **And also with you**

*(Share the peace with one another)*

## Anthem

“Be Still My Soul, Before the Lord”

H. Stuempfle, Jr.

## The Service of the Word

### Reading of Holy Scripture

#### The First Reading

2 Thessalonians 2:1–8, 13–17

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, <sup>2</sup>not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. <sup>3</sup>Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, <sup>4</sup>who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. <sup>5</sup>Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? <sup>6</sup>And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. <sup>7</sup>For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. <sup>8</sup>And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. . . .

<sup>13</sup>But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. <sup>14</sup>To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>15</sup>So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

<sup>16</sup>**Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, <sup>17</sup>comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.**

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Verse** (all rise)      *“Speak, O Lord”*

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word;  
take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
that the Light of Christ may be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;  
test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow’r that can never fail, let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truth unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we’ll stand on Your promises, and by faith we’ll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, ‘til Your Church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glory!

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend,  
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R: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, chapter 20.

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

**(Luke 20:27–40)** <sup>27</sup>There came to [Jesus] some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, <sup>28</sup>and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. <sup>29</sup>Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. <sup>30</sup>And the second <sup>31</sup>and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. <sup>32</sup>Afterward the woman also died. <sup>33</sup>In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.”

<sup>34</sup>And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, <sup>35</sup>but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, <sup>36</sup>for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. <sup>37</sup>But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. <sup>38</sup>Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.” <sup>39</sup>Then some of the scribes answered, “Teacher, you have spoken well.” <sup>40</sup>For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

**Children’s Sermon** (please record your attendance)

Please list each attendee separate and check if participating in communion.  
Visitors please fill out top portion with your address etc.  
After the attendance is recorded for your pew, please tear off sheet and place in folder slightly higher for ease of collection. Thank you!

**Hymn of the Day**

*“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”*      LSB 461, vs. 1, 2, 5, 7 & 8

**Sermon**

*“Our Comfortable (and Hopeful) Life”*      2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

## **Our Response to God's Word**

**Nicene Creed**

LSB inside back cover

**Prayer of the Church**

Back Page

**Stories of God @ Work**

**Offering**

### **Blessed by God to be a Blessing**

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.” (Ephesians 1:3)*

**Offertory**

[LSB 192]

Create in me a clean heart. O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. 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.]*

## Preface

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

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

L: To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## Words of Institution

### Proclamation of Christ

L: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

C: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **Our Father who art in heaven ...** LSB inside back cover

### Hymn of Praise *"This is the Feast"* [LSB 171]

Cantor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

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

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen**

**This is the feast of victory for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## Distribution – at the altar

### **A request of those who wish to commune:**

*All who are baptized and believe that in Communion we receive the true body and blood of Jesus, under the form of bread and wine, are invited to the Lord’s Table.*

*All others are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*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 have any questions, please speak with a member of our staff.*

## Hymns during the Distribution

*“I’m But a Stranger Here”* LSB 748

*“When Peace, like a River”* LSB 763

# The Sending

**Post-Communion Canticle** *"Thank the Lord"* [LSB 181]

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.

He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Post-Communion Prayer

### Benediction

**Sending Hymn** *“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”* LSB 660

### Postlude

*You are now entering*

*the (your)*

*Mission Field*

*"The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few.*

*Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send YOU out into his harvest."*

*(Matthew 9:37-38)*



Today's flowers were given to honor and glorify our Lord,  
from Larry Cichocki in celebration  
of Karen's birthday!

### **NEXT SUNDAY**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2019

Scripture Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:1-13 / Luke 21:5-19, 25-28

Sermon Topic: *"Our Opportunity-Filled Life"* - Text: Luke 21:13-15



## **"Blessed by God to be a Blessing"**

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" (Eph. 1:3).

Our stewardship emphasis this fall is entitled, "Blessed by God to be a Blessing." During this time, we will consider how God has blessed us, the reasons for God's blessings, and how we might respond to God's goodness.

On a daily basis, God provides for us ... giving us food and shelter ... health, strength and life ... wealth and the ability to acquire material possessions. He also gives grace and eternal life through the Lord Jesus Christ to all who look to Him in believing faith.

Did you ever stop to consider why God blesses us so abundantly? He does so for one simple yet profound reason: Because He loves us. In fact, the prophet Jeremiah tells us that God has loved us with an "everlasting love," that is, His love knows no beginning and no end. It is God's love for us that causes Him to provide for us all that we have ... including Jesus.

Some might conclude that they deserve this kind of beneficial treatment. Others might say that their good works entitle them to be the recipients of God's blessings. Still others might think that God made a mistake in determining their place on the economic spectrum, so they spend their time and energy trying to help God correct that error.

As Christians, however, we realize that God is the Source of everything, that God owns everything, and that all that we have is in one way or another a blessing from God. Our lives are filled with gratitude and contentment. And we then seek ways to use God's gifts to bless God and to be a blessing to others.

As you consider how God has blessed your life, please seek His direction concerning how you will respond. Remember, we have been "blessed by God to be a blessing." Or as one anonymous author put it so succinctly, "The greatest blessing comes to the one who freely gives and expects nothing in return."

*WE ARE VERY*  
**blessed**

## *Connecting Individuals to Jesus and to One Another Educating Minds – Growing Faith – Serving People*

**We are glad you are here.** When you come to worship at STL, you are among friends and family. If you are curious to learn more out ministry in the community, go to [www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://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 to give you a call (or just check the box in the Record of Fellowship folder).

### *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).

### *Serving in God's House*

**Preacher:** Rev. Mark W. Hetzner

**Liturgist:** Deacon Don Cooley

**Organist:** Lori Stolzenfeld

**Music:** Celebration Singers

**Sanctuary Team:** Mark Matheson

**Readers:** Cheryl & Tim Phaneuf

**Servers:** Roy Michelsen, Mark Bucholtz, Richard Cain

**Greeters:** Christine Coderre, Genevieve Craig

**Altar Guild:** Karen Cichocki & Delia Greve

*Weekly Worship with Communion - Sunday at 9:30 a.m.  
Third Sunday of the month at Noon  
Monday at 7:30 p.m.*

*Faith Hope Love Ministries throughout the week  
Cross training for children Sunday at 10:45 a.m.*

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**Watch services on Facebook – videotaping in progress during service**

## **Upcoming Events:**



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

**Life Line Screening**, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at St. Thomas Lutheran Church on **11/21/2019**. Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441, text the word "circle" to 797979, or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle). We have 4 complimentary screening from Life Line to award to our members or community. Entry forms are located in the west hallway, next to the coffee condiment table. Complete the form, stick it in the box before November 12<sup>th</sup>, when the winners will be pulled. Winners will be called and then they will need to make an appointment and give them the comp # they will be provided. Any Questions call the church office.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

November 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. until complete

Decorate the Church, Fellowship, Coffee and Donuts!

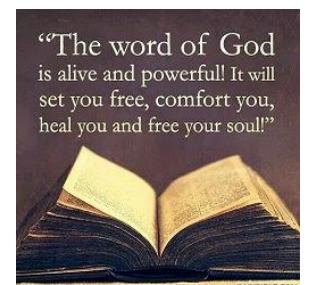
It's a great way to start off the holiday season!

Come Lend a Hand!



**On-line Giving** - Did you forget your mission support envelope/offering? You can scan this Quick Response (QR) code, with a QR decoder on your smart phone, it will take 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. You can also set up recurring giving! Visit our web page for more on-line giving options.

**New T – 1 K** We have free New Testaments, free reading guides, and more. Our intent is to do more than just give away free Bibles, we wish to actually help people to read and understand the books we distribute. We currently have given out over 550 bibles, with most of them registered NT readers. We encourage you to a) keep inviting people to read with us, and b) encouraging people to invite others. If you are interested, or would like more information, you can either, get information in the back of the church or contact the office.



## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - November 10, 2019

L: Let us pray to the Lord on behalf of His Church, our congregation's mission and ministry, the causes of peace and justice, the needs of the sick, and all people as they have need.

*(after each petition)*

L: Lord, in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

L: All these things we pray, O Lord, at the invitation of Your Son, and trusting in His mercy we have confidence that You will hear and answer us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**Our Primary Prayer focus for this month is on the mission of Christ's Church:**

- Christ's work here, in and through the people of STL.
- The mission of our Michigan District, LCMS.
- Our on-going heritage of educating minds, growing faith and serving people.
- His work throughout our Synod, and across the entire world.

**And we remember those who protect and nurture life on this earth**, this week remembering all military families, emergency responders, and hospital and hospice care workers.

To connect to the STL PRAYER CHAIN, contact Karen Dolan ([mdolan421@gmail.com](mailto:mdolan421@gmail.com))

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

✠**God's Healing Hand on:** Elsie Adams, Sherry Kourlos, Renee Thelen, Carol Ferdinand, Alan Borowiak, Diane Ustick, Brenda Finger, Judi Todt (mother of Vicki Berkseth), Don Berkseth (father of Scott), Richard (brother-in-law of Roblyn Smith), Alice Schmidt (mother of Lori Stolzenfeld), Scott Spencer (friend of Cardamones), Karl Hallberg (son-in-law of Cardamones), Kimberly Ross (mother of Dayna), Sandra Bayse (sister of Brenda Finger), Jerry Finger (father of Josh), John Belvedere (son-in-law of Caroline Henze).

✠**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Sieg Gannon, Chris Huber, Cristal Morris (former preschool aide), John Lemke (friend of Monica Hetzner), Beth White, Bob LaRoche and Jan Adams (family of Elsie Adams), Alyssa Delano (granddaughter of Theresa Delano), Tiffany Crow (granddaughter of Marilyn Redmond), Denise Godfrey (sister of Deborah Kujawski), Sydney Parkin (great-granddaughter of Caroline Henze), Kathy Johnson (friend of Vicki Leberg), Claire Armstrong (granddaughter of Clyde & Carolyn Armstrong), Shirley Grassa (aunt of Deborah Kujawski), Mark Loechle (son of Pat), Elaine Dixon (friend of Linda Taggart), Luella Riske (granddaughter of Jim, Thrivent Rep.). And those in hospice care, especially Myron Engel and Kathy Lopicollo (extended member).



*Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost  
November 10, 2019*

*Saint Thomas Lutheran*

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

*[www.stl-eastpointe.org](http://www.stl-eastpointe.org), email: [churchoffice@stl-eastpointe.org](mailto:churchoffice@stl-eastpointe.org)*

*Rev. Mark W. Hetzner, Senior Pastor*

*Rev. Richard A. VanBriggle, Specific Ministry Pastor*

*Deacon Don Cooley*