

Divine Service

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Stories of God at Work

Call to Worship

"We Fall Down"

We fall down, we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus;
The greatness of mercy and love at the feet of Jesus.
We cry, Holy, holy, holy. We cry, Holy, holy, holy.
We cry, Holy, holy, holy is the Lamb.

Text & Music Chris Tomlin © Copyright 1998 by worshiptogether.com.

Opening Liturgy

(Isaiah 55)

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

C: **Amen.**

L: Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

C: **Let us return to the Lord, so he may have compassion on us, to our God, for he will freely forgive.**

L: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways," declares the Lord.

C: **As heaven is higher than earth, so his ways are higher than our ways, and his thoughts than our thoughts.**

L: His Word that comes from his mouth will not return to him empty, but it will accomplish what he purposes, and will prosper in what he sends it to do.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

L: Most Merciful God,

C: **We confess that we are an unwilling audience to your Word, and that we cannot change ourselves. Because of this we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive, restore, renew and strengthen us, that through the power of your Word in us, we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name and in loving service to all. Amen.**

L: You will indeed go out with joy and be peacefully guided; the mountains will break into singing before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands, for Jesus, the Word made flesh, was given to die for you, and by his blood you are made new. As a called and

ordained servant of Jesus, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **New life is ours for the Word is alive in us. Halleluiah. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

"O Christ, Our True and Only Light"

LSB 839

Prayer of the Day

L: Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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

Anthem

"As the Deer"

M. Nystrom/L. Larson

Scripture Reading

(Isaiah 9:1-4) ¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

R: This is the word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

(all rise)

Matthew 4:12-23

C: *(sung)*

Shine, Jesus shine fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

[BOB 204]

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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, 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 (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. Rick VanBriggle **Liturgist:** Mike Dolan
Organist: Lori Stolzenfeld **Music:** Deb Closurdo and Loredana Gianino
Sanctuary Team: Mark Matheson **Reader:** Terri & Fred Bauss
Servers: Paul Jatkowski, Mike Dolan, Ben Gibson, Anthony Berkseth
Greeters: Kelly Andary, Debbie Barowicz
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†raining 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)

Voters Assembly – January 28th
Fireside Lounge - 7:00 p.m.

Blood Drive – February 2nd
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Make your appointment by going to www.redcrossblood.org
and look for St. Thomas' blood drive.
Or call the church office.

S.A.S.S.

Soup and Sandwich Saturday
February 15th

Ballroom Social Lesson
February 22nd
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.



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.

“People to People” – the St. Thomas Newsletter
January's are now available around the building.
Includes February's calendar.

Please Remember in Your Prayers this Week

January 26, 2020

L: In the light of Christ and with an increase in joy, let us pray to the Lord on behalf of His Church and all people according to their needs.

(after each petition)

L: Let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: Everlasting Father, You are the source of all life, and every good gift comes from You. Help us to honor Your gift of life, from conception to its natural end. Help us to guard those most in danger and to resist the forces that would cheapen life or rob it of the dignity You have placed upon it by giving Your only Son to redeem us, lost and condemned sinners. Hear us, we pray, on behalf of Him who gave His life for us, 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, as we reach out to our community with the love of Christ.
- Growing faith in the hearts of the STL family through God's Word active in their lives.
- Those serving in and served through our Clothing Closet.
- Connecting those 40 and under to Christ's mission.

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

And we remember the unborn and newly born, the elderly and those nearing life's end, remembering all grieving families, those who are in hospice care.

† In Our Thoughts and Prayers †

†**God's Healing Hand on:** Janet Semenjok, Elise Dawada (daughter of Tom & Shannon) , Alan Borowiak, Diane Ustick, Scott Spencer (friend of Cardamones), Karl Hallberg (son-in-law of Cardamones), John Belvedere (son-in-law of Caroline Henze), Paul Odendahl (brother-in-law of Eleanor Cardamone), Al Knopp (former teacher at STL), Ken Taggart (former member), Payton Gifford (great-granddaughter of Jane Gurnack), Sue Henk (cousin of Diane Carr).

†**Continued prayers for Healing & Strength for:** Sieg Gannon, Chris Huber, Cristal Morris (former preschool aide), John Lemke (friend of Monica Hetzner), Beth White, Robert 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), Kathy Johnson (friend of Vicki Leberg), Claire Armstrong (granddaughter of Clyde & Carolyn Armstrong), Shirley Grassa (aunt of Deborah Kujawski), Luella Riske (granddaughter of Jim, Thrivent Rep.).



**REPENT,
the Kingdom
of Heaven,
is at
Hand."**

Matthew 4:17

January 26, 2020

Saint Thomas Lutheran

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

www.stl-eastpointe.org

Rev. Mark W. Hetzner, Senior Pastor

Specific Ministry Pastor - Rev. Richard A. VanBriggle, Deacon Don Cooley