

Isaiah 49:1-7 (ESV)

49 Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name.² He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God." ⁵ And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—⁶ he says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." ⁷ Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (ESV)

1 Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: 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 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.

John 1:29-42a (ESV)

²⁹ The next day he (John) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."

³² And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." ³⁵ The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). ⁴² He brought him to Jesus.



He will also
strengthen you

*to the end, so
that you may
be blameless
on the day of
our Lord
Jesus Christ.*

1 CORINTHIANS 1:8, NRSV

January 18, 2026

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Zion Lutheran Church, 17927 Dice Road, Hemlock, MI 48626

www.zionhemlock.org ~ Church Office 642-5909

✠ **In the Name of Jesus** ✠

As We Gather ~ God Reveals His Glory in Christ and His Cross. "The LORD, the Redeemer of Israel" calls forth "His Holy One" (Is. 49:7), Jesus, the Christ, "from the womb" of His mother (Is. 49:1). The incarnate Son of God is revealed as the Savior, not only for Israel but also "as a light for the nations," whose salvation reaches "to the end of the earth" (Is. 49:6). John came "baptizing with water" (John 1:31) to reveal Jesus as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29) and who glorifies His God and Father by His atoning sacrifice upon the cross. When Jesus was baptized in the waters of the Jordan, the Holy Spirit descended "from heaven like a dove" and "remained on him" (John 1:32). By our Baptism, we are anointed by the same Spirit, adopted by God the Father, and "called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 1:9). Therefore, we "are not lacking in any gift," but we can trust Him who promises to sustain us to the end, "guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 1:7-8).

ORDER OF SERVICE Divine Service Setting Four	203
OPENING HYMN "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun"	868
SERMON HYMN "Brightest and Best of the Stars"	400
SERMON "Past, Present, and Future" 1 Corinthians 1:1-9	
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "The People that in Darkness Sat"	412
"O God of God, O Light of Light"	810
CLOSING HYMN "How Wide the Love of Christ"	535

Pastor	Larry Warsinski
Organist	Fletcher Wernholm
Elders	Dale Rohde & Paul Bohn
A/V	Mark Richardson
Ushers	Jerry Neuenfeldt and Mike Hingston
Altar Guild	Suzanne Schultz and Diane Schultz

Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week 57 Needed for The Lord's Work at Zion

\$4,729 ~ Received for the Lord's Work \$1,562; Capital Projects \$20; God's Helping Hands - \$645, Quilters \$250.

Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday: January 18- Kirk McNett; January 20- Matthew Gudaitis; January 21- Raegyn Mayer, Carmen Rowe, Bruce Tessin, Rev. Elmer Schiefer (his 100th); January 23- Gracen McMahon, January 24- Duane Neuenfeldt (his 82nd).

Today's Memory Verse ~ "He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world." 1 John 2:2

Tickets are now on sale for this year's VL Auction and Benefit Dinner! Join us on Saturday, February 28, 2026 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Bay City - Riverfront. This event brings together a great mix of the VL family - past, present, and future - all in support of the awesome ministry of Valley Lutheran. Tickets available at www.vlhsauction.com. Can't attend in person? No ticket needed to get in on the silent auction fun, which begins on February 26.

Friday, January 30 is **Grade School Night at Charger Basketball** and your family is invited! Women's game starts at 5:30, Men's game at 7:00. Grade school students receive a pom-pom (while supplies last) and a coupon for free popcorn! They are also invited to enter a drawing for free swag and participate in a halftime game. Students in grade school attire receive free admission (other tickets can be purchased for \$7 at the door or at www.vlhs.com/tickets - or bring a VL Event Pass if you have one!). Join us for a night of fun and basketball. Let's go, Chargers!

Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us. ~ Martin Luther.