

Hosea 5:15-6:6 ESV

¹⁵ I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me. **6** “Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³ Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.” ⁴ What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. ⁵ Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶ For I desire steadfast love^a and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Romans 4:13-25 ESV

¹³ For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶ That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and

calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰ No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³ But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵ who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Matthew 9:9-13 ESV

⁹ As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. ¹⁰ And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹ And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹² But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³ Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”



...For I came not to call

THE
Righteous,
BUT SINNERS.

Matthew 9:13b

June 7, 2026

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

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

www.zionhemlock.org ~ Church Office 642-5909

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

The religious leaders of Jesus' time were aghast at the company Jesus kept. He responded to their criticism by proclaiming, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick." These spiritually sick people included Matthew, a man considered a traitor to his people because he was a tax collector. Unlike the practice of the time, Jesus' disciples did not select Him as their rabbi, but rather Christ himself chose them-even a man such as Matthew. Jesus calls us to follow Him today, to be part of a 'spiritual hospital,' His Church, just as He called Matthew and the other disciples two thousand years ago. In this 'hospital', healing comes through death and resurrection: the shedding of Jesus' blood on the cross and His triumph over death and the grave. As Christians we are sustained by the life, death, and resurrection of Christ through water, Word, bread, and wine. As God's Word penetrates our hearts and minds, as we are nourished through the Sacraments, the Holy Spirit ignites within us the gift of faith-a faith that bids us to follow Christ.

ORDER OF SERVICE Divine Service Setting Three	184
OPENING HYMN " <i>Today Your Mercy Calls Us</i> "	915
SERMON " <i>Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake</i> "	688
SERMON " <i>Jesus Eats with Sinners</i> "	
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS	" <i>Chief of Sinners Though I Be</i> "
611	
	" <i>Jesus Comes Today with Healing</i> "
	620
CLOSING HYMN " <i>Amazing Grace</i> "	744

Pastor	Daniel Wonderly
Organist	Carolyn Laurenz
Elders	Dick Bluemer and Paul Bohn
A/V	Pam Gilbert
Ushers	Dave Hutfilz and Dave Little
Altar Guild	Connie Richardson and Chris Farrar

Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week – 56 Needed for *The Lord's Work at Zion* \$4,729 ~ Received for the *Lord's Work* \$2,259; Capital Projects \$40; God's Helping Hands \$300; \$20 God's Helping Hands in memory of James Bohn, \$100 in memory of James Bohn.

Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday: June 10- Julayne Goward, Emmet Hildebrant; June 12- Amanda Staley, Kiera Goward.

A Safe Haven in the Storm

Prolific hymn writer Charles Wesley penned the beloved hymn "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" in 1739. According to tradition, Wesley wrote the words after surviving a violent storm at sea. During the chaos, a frightened bird is said to have flown through a window and sought shelter in the folds of Wesley's coat, a small but powerful image of refuge in the midst of danger.

The opening stanza of the hymn echoes that sense of protection and trust:

*Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last.*

These words call to mind the frightened disciples in Matthew 8:23–27. Tossed by wind and waves, they feared for their lives and cried out to Jesus for rescue. With a word, he calmed the storm and reminded them of his power and presence.

We, too, face seasons when life feels overwhelming. In those moments, we can take refuge in our Savior, trusting that he is our safe haven and that, no matter the storm, our destination is secure.