

7th Sunday After Pentecost
Isaiah 55:10-13 (ESV)

¹⁰ "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

Romans 8:12-17(ESV)

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (ESV)

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² And great

crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach.

³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶ but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear." ¹⁸ "Hear then the parable of the sower ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³ As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

"Hear then
the Parable
of
the Sower."

Matthew 13:18

Zion Lutheran Church
17927 Dice Road, Hemlock, MI 48626
989-642-5909

July 19, 2026

✠ IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

AS WE GATHER ~ The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love. As “the rain and the snow come down from heaven” and “water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout” (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as “an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off” (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and “indeed bears fruit” (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who “have received the Spirit of adoption as sons” (Rom. 8:15). Thus being “led by the Spirit of God,” we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we “also be glorified with him” (Rom. 8:17).

ORDER OF WORSHIP Divine Service Setting Three	184
ENTRANCE HYMN “Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear”	908
HYMN OF THE DAY “Almighty God, Your Word is Cast”	577
SERMON “The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love”	Matthew 13:24
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”	618
“Almighty Father, Bless the Word”	923
CLOSING HYMN “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”	918

Pastor	Charles Buckhahn
Vicar	Ron Zuccaro
Organist	Carolyn Laurenz
A/V	Dave Hutfilz
Elder	Dale Rohde
Ushers	Paul Bohn and Roger Kade
Altar Guild	Connie Richardson and Chris Farrar

Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week – 59 *Needed for The Lord’s Work at Zion* \$4,729
~ *Received for the Lord’s Work* \$2,710; Capital Projects \$30; God’s Helping Hands \$120.

Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday: July 19- Michelle Mullen; July 21-Daniel Berger; July 22-Ella Kocsis, Linda Laurenz; July 23- Ashley Coulter, Chris Farrar; July 23- Jim Willman; July 25- Alayna Beyersdorf, Sydney Grossman, Summer Little. **Great**

Lakes Loons Outing! We are looking to get a group together to attend a Loons game at Dow Diamond on Friday, July 31. Game time 7:05 pm. Loons face the Fort Wayne Tincaps and it’s Foodie Friday! \$2 hot dogs, \$1 chips, sodas, and \$1 ice cream sandwiches. Tickets are \$12.50 and paid to Paul Bohn by July 17. See Paul or Vicar Ron if interested.

Music Position ~ St Michael’s Church in Richville is looking for a Director of Parish/School Music. Position can be full-time music/band teacher during the school year and/or part-time parish music. Happy to provide additional information to anyone that is interested. Please contact Lisa Schultz via email or text/phone. Lisa.schultz@live.com or (989)529-1710.

St. John Amelith is hosting a free event on July 23rd for families and it is open to all. We will have someone from Field Neuroscience fitting kids for helmets and the first 50 kids will receive a free helmet. We will also have a technician offering free car seat install checks for families. Each child 12 and under will receive a free kids meal (hot dog, chips and drink) too!

You may say, “I can’t go on.” God says, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness”
(2 Corinthians 12:9).