

Proverbs 25:2-10 (ESV)

² It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. ³ As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. ⁴ Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; ⁵ take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness. ⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, ⁷ for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen ⁸ do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? ⁹ Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, ¹⁰ lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.

Hebrews 13:1-17 (ESV)

¹³ Let brotherly love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵ Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." ⁶ So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" ⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹ Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰ We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹ For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹² So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³ Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴ For here we have no

lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.

¹⁵ Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. ¹⁷ Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Luke 14:1-14 (ESV)

¹⁴ One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ² And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³ And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ⁴ But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵ And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" ⁶ And they could not reply to these things. ⁷ Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹ and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹ For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." ¹² He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."



When [Jesus] noticed
how the guests chose
the places of honor,
he told them a parable.

Luke 14:7, NRSV

August 31, 2025
12th Sunday after Pentecost

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

www.zionhemlock.org ~ Church Office 642-5909

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

As We Gather ~ We Are Humbled and Exalted by the Cross of Christ. *"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,"* Jesus proclaims, but *"he who humbles himself will be exalted"* (Luke 14:11). For your hope is in the name of the Lord, who humbled Himself unto death on the cross and was exalted in His resurrection. So, are you humbled by His cross, and *"at the resurrection of the just,"* He will say to you, *"Friend, move up higher"* (Luke 14:10; 13–14)? By His grace, the King will honor you *"in the presence of a noble,"* where your eyes will gaze upon the Prince, His dearly beloved Son (Prov. 25:7). As He has dealt so graciously with you, *"do not neglect to do good and to share what you have"* (Heb. 13:16) and *"do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers"* (Heb. 13:2). Humble yourself and exalt your neighbor.

ORDER OF SERVICE	Service of Prayer and Preaching	260
OPENING HYMN	<i>"Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death"</i>	697
HYMN	<i>"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"</i>	940
SERMON HYMN	<i>"How Wide the Love of Christ"</i>	535
SERMON	<i>"Competition"</i>	Luke 14:1-14
HYMN	<i>"Son of God, Eternal Savior"</i>	842
CLOSING HYMN	<i>"Almighty God, Your Word is Cast"</i>	577

Pastor	Larry Warsinski
Organist	Pam Welzein
Elder/Reader	Dick Bluemer
A/V	Mark Richardson
Ushers	Paul Bohn and Roger Kade
Altar Guild	Mryna Pruitt and Mary Lou Garner

Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week – 60 *Needed for The Lord's Work at Zion* \$4,316 ~ *Received for the Lord's Work* \$2,485; Capital Improvements \$2,121 (includes \$25 in memory of Kay Mosher); God's Helping Hands \$640.

Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday: August 31- Nicole Mayer, Carolyn McKellar; September 1 – Maximus Cline, Christine McMahon; September 2- Amy Siler; September 4- Kahl Mallek; September 5- Krista Kade, Adam Siler; September 6-Joan Scott.



Cross Repairs ~ Thank you to those who have donated over \$8,000 toward the cost of the repairs of the cross. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Pumford Construction will soon be taking the cross down, repairing and placing it back up.

Immanuel Lutheran Church 10200 East Monroe Rd., Wheeler is celebrating their 125th anniversary Sunday, September 21, 2025 at 3 pm. All are invited to attend. You are asked to RSVP if you plan on attending to help them plan for food. Call 989-842-3459 or email Immanuel.wheeler@gmail.com.

2025 Panther Prowl 5K Fun Walk & Run: Registration is open for the fifth-annual Peace Panther Prowl 5K Fun Walk & Run at 10am on Saturday, Oct. 25, at Imerman Park, 3495 Midland Road in Saginaw. Join us for this fun, all-ages trail walk or run, a fundraiser for the Peace Lutheran School (Saginaw) Athletics Department. Your \$30 race registration includes a Panther Prowl 5K long- or short-sleeved dri-fit tech shirt. Register by Oct. 5 to receive your shirt on race day; those registering after Oct. 5 will receive their shirts after race day. Visit www.PeaceSaginaw.org/Athletics to register. We look forward to doing the Panther Prowl with you!