

### **Ezekiel 33:7-9 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

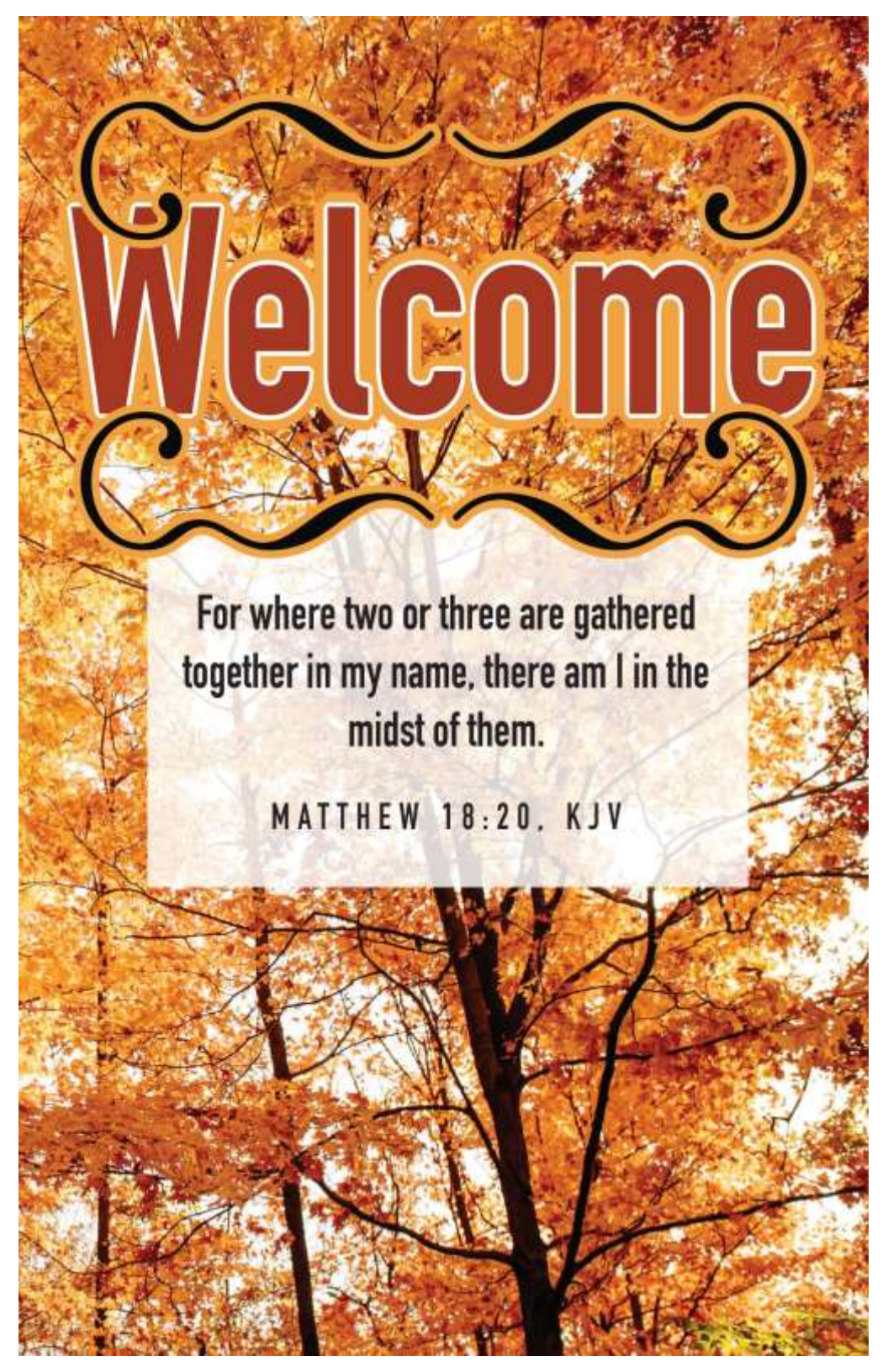
### **Romans 13:1-10 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. <sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

### **Matthew 18:1-20 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put

him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>5</sup>“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. <sup>7</sup>“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. <sup>10</sup>“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. <sup>15</sup>“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”



# Welcome

For where two or three are gathered  
together in my name, there am I in the  
midst of them.

MATTHEW 18:20. KJV

**September 6, 2026**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Zion Lutheran Church, 17927 Dice Road, Hemlock, MI 48626  
[www.zionhemlock.org](http://www.zionhemlock.org) ~ Church Office 642-5909

✠ **In the Name of Jesus** ✠

**As We Gather** ~ Living as Humble Little Children of the Father. True greatness is not self-sufficient strength, but humility like that of a little child. The greatness of childlike faith receives all good things as gracious gifts from our Father in heaven. Apart from such faith, “you will never enter the kingdom of heaven,” but whoever is humbled like a little child will be “the greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 18:3–4). Though in our sin we deserve to be “drowned in the depth of the sea” (Matt. 18:6), we have instead been drowned (“buried”) with Christ in Baptism and then raised to the new, humble life of a child of God. The Lord sends His watchman to warn us with a word from His mouth, in order that we may not die in our iniquity, but be turned from our pride and selfishness to live (Ezek. 33:7–9). Thus, we live in humility and faith before God as well as in love for our neighbor, which “is the fulfilling of the law” (Rom. 13:10). In the reverent fear of God, we do no harm to our neighbor, but we “pay to all what is owed to them” (Rom. 13:7) and we “owe no one anything, except to love each other” (Rom. 13:8).

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|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| ORDER OF SERVICE Divine Service Setting Four                  | 203 |
| OPENING HYMN <i>“Today Your Mercy Calls Me”</i>               | 915 |
| SERMON HYMN <i>“Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”</i>     | 819 |
| SERMON <i>“Jesus and the Lost Sheep”</i>                      |     |
| DISTRIBUTION HYMNS <i>“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”</i> | 623 |
| <i>“Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared”</i>                 | 622 |
| CLOSING HYMN <i>“The Lord’s My Shepherd”</i>                  | 710 |

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|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Pastor</b>      | Charles Buckhahn                   |
| <b>Vicar</b>       | Ron Zuccaro                        |
| <b>Organist</b>    | Pam Welzien                        |
| <b>Elder</b>       | Paul Bohn and Dick Bluemer         |
| <b>A/V</b>         | Danny Neuenfeldt                   |
| <b>Ushers</b>      | Jerry Neuenfeldt and Mike Hingston |
| <b>Altar Guild</b> | Troy and Michelle Beyersdorf       |

## Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week – 66 Needed for The Lord's Work at Zion \$4,729 ~ Received for the Lord's Work \$2,074; Capital Projects ~ \$40.

**Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday:** September 6- Joan Scott; September 7- Kit Walton; September 8- Carolyn Laurenz (her 86<sup>th</sup>); September 10 -Caitlyn Siler; September 11 - Thatcher Hodges; September 12 - Laura Hollingsworth.



**William "Bill" Beyersdorf**, lifelong faithful member of Zion died September 2, 2026. Bill is survived by his children, William "Billy" Beyersdorf; his daughter Ellie Beyersdorf; his sisters Dera Flattery and Beth Beyersdorf; many cousins and friends. He was predeceased by his parents Addison Beyersdorf and Ruth Beyersdorf. ***And I heard a voice from heaven saying, 'Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Blessed indeed,' says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!'" (Revelation 14:13 ESV).***

**Homecoming** ~ Join us on Sunday, September 27 following worship as we celebrate Zion's church family and renew our commitment to serving God. We'll enjoy a cookout with meat provided. Please sign up in the narthex to RSVP, bring a side dish or dessert or to help in planning and serving. Feel free to invite a member or a friend to join us.



**Bible Study** ~ Vicar Ron will be starting a Bible Study after church at 10:45am in the fellowship Hall. The first study will be on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Bring your bibles and join us.

**Address/Phone/Email Updates** ~ We are looking to update our membership records. If you have changed address, phone number, etc. or have adult children who have moved on please help us to keep in touch with them by letting us know of new address and contact information. You can email this to [admin@zionhemlock.org](mailto:admin@zionhemlock.org) or put on the sheet in the narthex.

**Prayer Chain** ~ If you would like to be included on a prayer chain a sign up sheet is in the narthex. Prayer requests will be called to the first person who will pass the prayer request on to the tree. More information as people are signed up.

**Mum Sale** ~ Valley Lutheran can help with your fall planting needs! The annual Mum Sale will take place Friday, September 11 in the school parking lot beginning at 1 pm. Mums are \$12/each (cash or check accepted), sale continues until sold out!

**Job Opportunities** ~ Valley Lutheran has openings for the following positions: Assistant to the Athletic Director, Freshman Boys Basketball Coach, Set Builder. More information about each of these positions and directions to apply can be found at [www.vlhs.com/jobs](http://www.vlhs.com/jobs).