

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 34:11-24 (ESV)

¹¹ "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. ¹⁷ "As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸ Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹ And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet? ²⁰ "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²² I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³ And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant

David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

1 Timothy 1:12-17 (ESV)

¹² I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³ though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Luke 15:1-10 (ESV)

¹⁵ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ⁸ "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."



September 14, 2025
14th 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 ~ Jesus Christ Is the Great Shepherd of His Sheep. "The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15). As He had mercy on Paul, in order to "display his perfect patience" (1 Tim. 1:16), so also does He seek out His sheep "from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness" (Ezek. 34:12). To deliver His flock, He "will seek the lost, ... bring back the strayed, ... bind up the injured, and ... strengthen the weak" (Ezek. 34:16), and "they shall no longer be a prey" (Ezek. 34:22). He sets over them one great Good Shepherd, the Son of David, who "shall feed them and be their shepherd" (Ezek. 34:23). For Christ Jesus is the one man who, "having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them," would "leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it" (Luke 15:4). When He finds the lost one and brings it home rejoicing, "the angels of God" and all the company of heaven rejoice with Him, with great joy (Luke 15:7, 10).

ORDER OF SERVICE Divine Service Setting Three	184
OPENING HYMN " <i>The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want</i> "	710
SERMON HYMN " <i>Jesus Sinners Doth Receive</i> "	609
SERMON " <i>What Does God Want?</i> "	Luke 15:1-10
CLOSING HYMN " <i>By Grace I'm Saved</i> "	566

Pastor	Larry Warsinski
Organist	Carolyn Laurenz
Elder/Reader	Dick Bluemer
A/V	Paul Bohn
Ushers	Dick Bluemer and Bruce Tessin
Altar Guild	Troy & Michelle Beyersdorf

Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week – 61 *Needed for The Lord's Work at Zion* \$4,316 ~
Received for the Lord's Work \$2,117; Capital Projects \$421.

Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday: September 14- Connie Traub; September 15- Rachel Greskowiak; September 19- Lacey Walton; September 20- Pat Seeburger.

Today's Memory Verse ~ "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." 1 Corinthians 1:18

Voters' Meeting will be held following the service this morning to place a call to a pastor. All confirmed members age 18 and over are encouraged to attend.

God's Helping Hands ~ If you have excess garden produce and would like to share you may bring it to God's Helping Hands to be distributed on the Saturdays we are open. Donations of other items may be dropped off at the east end of the building on days other than the Thursday, Friday and Saturdays that we are open. Please pass the word to your friends and neighbors who ask about donating. Clothing, household items, and food are welcome. No furniture or large items please. Please note fall hours of 10 am-noon have begun. Please pass the word to those who you know are in need and use our ministry.

125th Anniversary ~ Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wheeler has had the opportunity to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ for the past 125 years. To celebrate you are invited to gather for a special service on Sunday, September 21 at 3 p.m. followed by a special dinner. Speaker for the event will be Rev. Peter Richert, grandson of Rev. Otto Richert who served Immanuel as pastor from 1918-1945 (Pastor Otto Rickert also served at Zion). Please reserve a place for the dinner by September 14th by emailing Immanuel.wheeler@gmail.com with "Anniversary Dinner" in the subject line.

"Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."
Luke 15:7