

Isaiah 35:4-7 (ESV)

⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

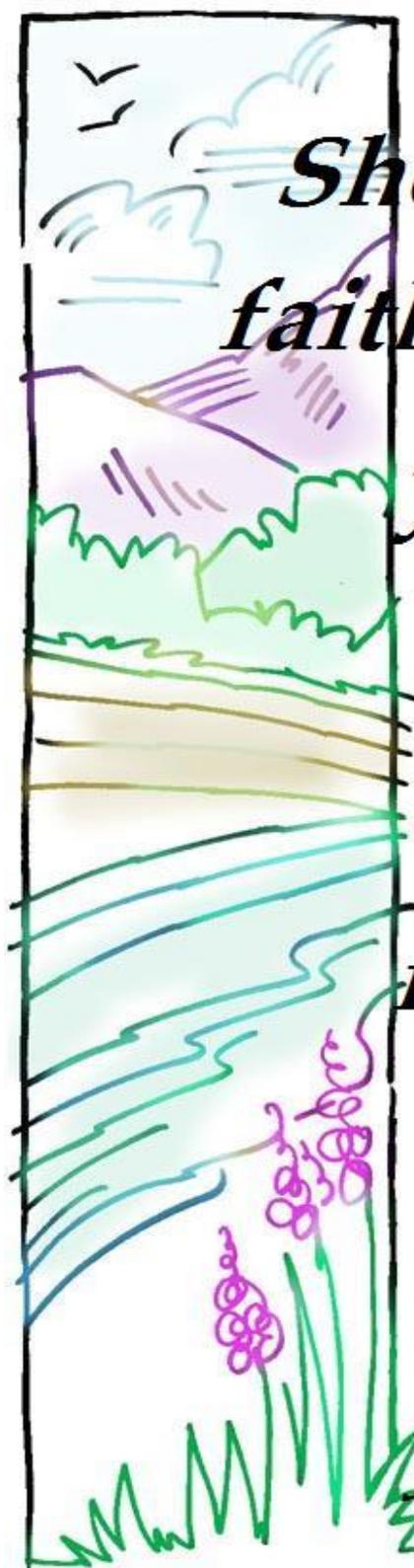
James 2:1-10, 14-18 (ESV)

² My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ² For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³ and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," ⁴ have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? ⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in

peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Mark 7:24-37 (ESV)

²⁴ And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. ²⁵ But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸ But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹ And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰ And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone. ³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."



*Show me your
faith apart from
your works
and I will
show you
my faith by
my works.*

James 2:18b

September 9, 2018

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Zion Lutheran Church, 17927 Dice Road, Hemlock, MI 48626
www.zionhemlock.org ~ Church Office 642-5909 ~ Pastor Cell 989-964-8722

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

Theme of the Day ~ *Our Merciful Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Does All Things Well.* The Lord proclaims the Gospel “to those who have an anxious heart” to comfort and encourage them with His presence. He comes not only with threats of “vengeance” and “recompense,” but with His gracious salvation (Is. 35:4). He opens “the eyes of the blind” and “the ears of the deaf,” and He loosens “the tongue of the mute” to “sing for joy” (Is. 35:5–6). Like water on thirsty ground, He speaks His life-giving Word to people of all nations. With His Word and the touch of His hand, He does “all things well,” so that you may now speak “plainly” (Mark 7:31–37). You confess the truth of God in Christ to the glory of His holy name, and you call upon His name in every trouble, confident that He will hear and answer. As you pray and confess with your tongue, so also “love your neighbor as yourself” (James 2:8). Show your faith “in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory,” by loving without partiality. For God has “chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom” (James 2:1–5).

ORDER OF SERVICE Service of Prayer and Preaching	pp. 260
OPENING HYMN “Trust and Obey”	See Insert
SERMON HYMN “Have No Fear Little Flock”	LSB 735
SERMON “God’s Faithful Actions”	James 2:1-5, 8-18
CLOSING HYMN “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”	LSB 849

Pastor	Paul Hauser
Organist	Tami Mosher
Elder	Dick Bluemer
A/V	Brad Pinet
Ushers	Marc Pinet & Mike Hingston
Greeters	Les & Sharon Hyatt
Altar Guild	Michelle & Troy Beyersdorf

Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week – 69 Needed for *The Lord’s Work at Zion* \$4,128 ~ Received for the *Lord’s Work* \$2,334 = Loose Plate \$76, Envelopes \$1,783, Mission \$45, Maintenance \$110, \$15 in memory of Roger Kreger; Resources for Rachel \$305.

Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday Sep 14- Shirley Gath (her 90th), Connie Traub; Sep 15- Rachel Greskowiak; Sep 16- Hannah Bedtelyon; Sep 19- Hannah Bedtelyon; Sep – 20- Pat Seeburger.

Today’s Memory Verse ~ “My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.” Psalm 73:26

Vacation ~ Pastor Hauser will be on vacation September 10-September 15. Please contact St. Peter Lutheran at 642-8188 for any pastoral emergencies.

God’s Helping Hands ~ 10 am – 1 pm, September 22nd. The closet will be open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays September through December. If you know anyone who is in need of such items please let them know. Flyers are available in the narthex. Pick one up and help spread the word. Questions?? See Paul Bohn.

Blood Drive ~ St. Mark Lutheran Church, 2565 N River in Saginaw is hosting a BLOOD DRIVE on Thursday, September 13 from 1-6pm. Register online at https://donate.miblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/109947

Bazaar Reservations ~ St Mark Lutheran Church, 2565 N River, Saginaw, is accepting table reservations (\$25/table) for the Annual Bazaar, Sat, November 3. Call the office (781-3205) for more info.

VLHS GOLF OUTING – The annual VLHS Golf Outing is less than one week away! Registration begins at 8:00am on Saturday, September 15 at Apple Mountain Golf Course. We hope you will join us – and other members of the Valley Family for a great day of fellowship, fun, and of course golf! This year’s reduced rate of \$85 has all the same great benefits: 18 holes of golf w/ cart, continental breakfast, and a buffet lunch – plus you support a great school! We hope you’ll join this fun event and raises valuable scholarship making Valley Lutheran High School accessible for students who otherwise might not be able to attend. Call the school office at [989-790-1676](tel:989-790-1676) to register or for more information. Last minute sponsorship opportunities welcome!

No thief, however skillful, can rob one of knowledge, and that is why knowledge is the best and safest treasure to acquire.” —L. Frank Baum