

Isaiah 5:1-7 (ESV)

5 Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³ And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

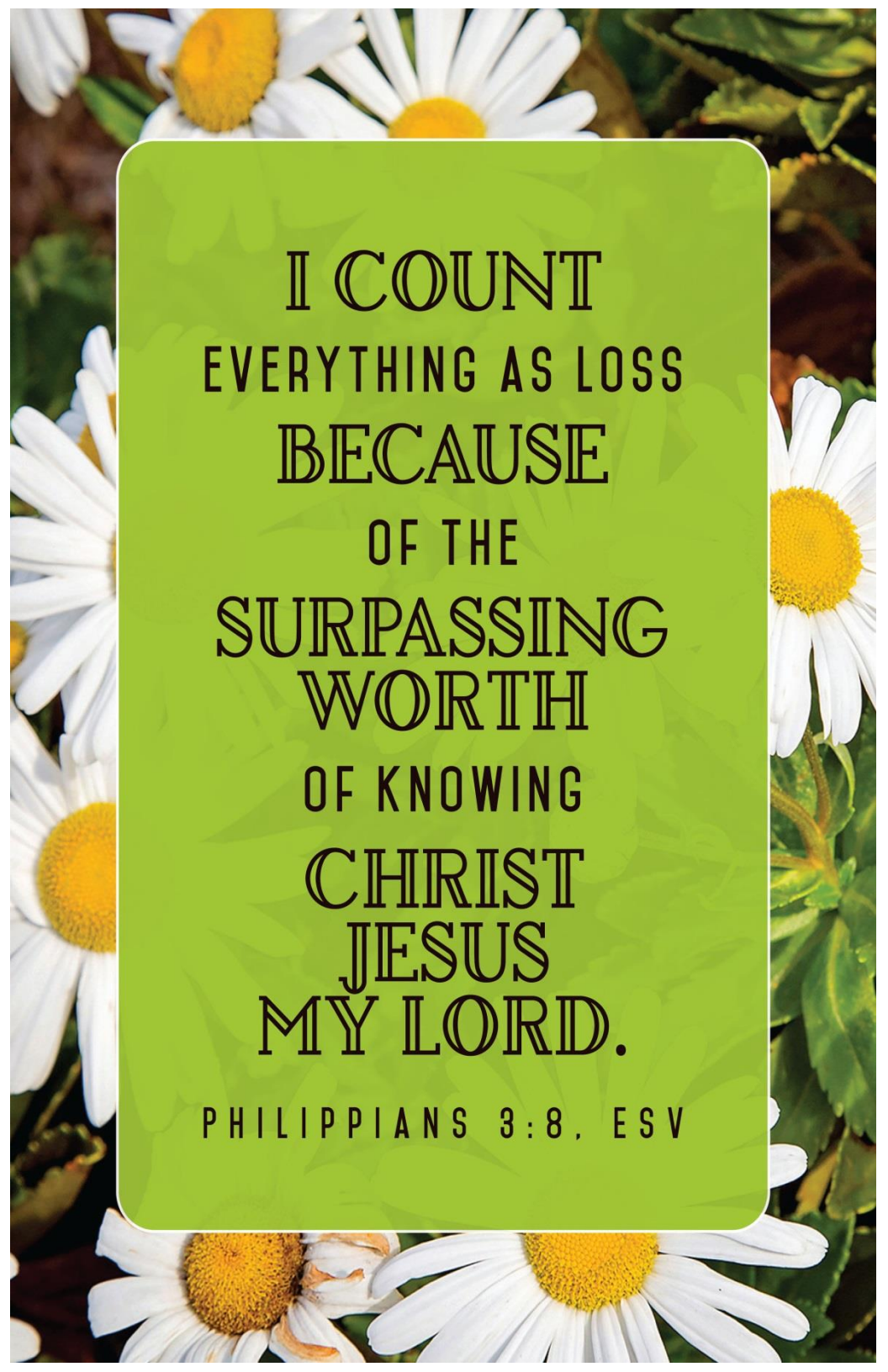
Philippians 3:4b-14 (ESV)

⁴ If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but

I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 21:33-46 (ESV)

³³ "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴ When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵ And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' ³⁹ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰ When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." ⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?" ⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴ And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.



I COUNT
EVERYTHING AS LOSS
BECAUSE
OF THE
SURPASSING
WORTH
OF KNOWING
CHRIST
JESUS
MY LORD.

PHILIPPIANS 3:8, ESV

October 8, 2017

18th 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 ~ The True Vine Redeems the Vineyard of the LORD of Hosts. “The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel” (Is. 5:7), which He planted “on a very fertile hill” (Is. 5:1). He did everything for His vineyard, not only clearing it of stones and planting it with “choice vines,” but also building the “watchtower” of His prophets and hewing out the “wine vat” of His priesthood in its midst (Is. 5:2). But when “he looked for it to yield grapes,” there were only “wild grapes” of bloodshed and unrighteousness (Is. 5:2, 7). The Lord Jesus likewise described the unfaithfulness of those who were called to care for His vineyard (Matt. 21:33–35). But in this He also describes His cross and Passion (Matt. 21:38–39), by which He has redeemed the vineyard for Himself. He is the true Vine, planted by death into the ground, and in His resurrection He brings forth “the fruits in their seasons” (Matt. 21:41). Among those good grapes of the true Vine is the apostle Paul. Once a zealous persecutor of the Church, he “suffered the loss of all things” in order to “gain Christ and be found in him,” to “know him and the power of his resurrection” (Phil. 3:8–10).

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| ORDER OF SERVICE Service of Prayer and Preaching | P. 260 |
| OPENING HYMN “ <i>When Aimless Violence Takes Those We Love</i> ” | 764 |
| SERMON HYMN “ <i>Fight the Good Fight</i> ” | 664 |
| SERMON “ <i>Garbage Out, Confidence in Christ</i> ” | Philippians 3:4b-14 |
| CLOSING HYMN “ <i>Christ is Our Cornerstone</i> ” | 912 |

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| Pastor | Paul Hauser |
| Organist | Tami Mosher |
| Elder/Reader | Jack Traub |
| A/V | Travis Yell |
| Greeters | Don & Gertie Schomaker |
| Altar Guild | Jeanne Kade |
| Acolytes | Gabe Gilbert & Jacob White |
| Ushers | Jerry Neuenfeldt & Bob Burdick |

Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week – 91 *Needed for The Lord's Work at Zion* \$3,856 ~ *Received for the Lord's Work* \$2,805 = Loose Plate \$128, Envelopes \$2,337 Mission \$67, Maintenance \$273; Cap. Prj. \$25.

Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday: Oct 14- Kelsey Clapp, Matthew Huey, Dave Hutfilz; Oct 15- Rory Coulter, Paul Walter Hauser; Oct 15- Ervin Hollingsworth (his 81st); Oct 17- Devin Wood; Oct 19- Dwight Clapp, Chris Peacock, Jim Schultz, Delaney Seeburger.

Today's Memory Verse ~ "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1

Hurricane/Wildfire Relief ~ Donations are being accepted for natural disasters in Texas, Florida and the wild fires out west. Donation jars are in the narthex.

Chicken Dinner ~ St. Peter Lutheran Church, Hemlock, will have their annual Chicken Dinner today serving from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm in the school gymnasium, 2440 N. Rauchholz Road, Hemlock. Come and enjoy a delicious chicken dinner with all the trimmings; pie for dessert. Donations are: \$9.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children ages 5-12; ages 4 and under are free. Take-outs are available. Take-out parking and plenty of handicapped parking will be available.

Martin Luther Movie ~ Our women's group is going to watch the new PBS movie "*Martin Luther ~ An idea that changed the world*" You are invited to view this on Tuesday, October 17th at noon at the home of Connie Richardson. It is 2 hours long. Anyone is welcome to join us. Please let Connie know if you are interested in attending.

Voter's Assembly Meeting will be held following the service on October 22. All confirmed members age 18 and over are encouraged to attend.

Pancake Breakfast fundraiser for the Rauchholz Memorial Library will be held on Sunday, October 22, from 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at St. John XXIII Parish, 151 St. Mary's Dr., Hemlock. Tickets are \$7.00; kids 4 and under eat for free. Tickets available at the door or in advance at the Rauchholz Memorial Library.

Pastor Appreciation Month **October is Clergy Appreciation month.** Show Pastor Hauser and his family how much they are appreciated. Why not send a card or gift, take them to a meal, or some other nice thing you may think of. We do appreciate you Pastor Hauser.

Valley Lutheran High School is looking for a bowling coach for our boys and girls team this winter. We are looking for someone interested in helping student athletes of all skill levels learn the game. If you are interested or know of someone who might be interested, please contact Eric Smith or Heath Vincent through the school office at [989-790-1676](tel:989-790-1676).