



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
210 North Wayne  
Street  
Saint Marys, OH  
45885

Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
6:30 p.m.

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**PRELUDE**

Pianist: Miriam Johns

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SONG**      *"What A Friend We Have In Jesus" (vs. 1-2)*      #742

**CONFESSION / ASSURANCE**

L: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son (+),  
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Hear us O God.

C: We confess to you Almighty God, before the whole company  
of heaven, that we have sinned by our own fault, in thought,  
word and deed; we pray you have mercy on us, forgive us all  
our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

L: May Almighty God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you  
from all of your sins and give you time to amend your life.

**GOD'S WORD TO US**

LUKE 11:1-13

Insert

**SERMON**

Lay Leader Heidi Yahl

*Sermon written by Pastor Paul Gruetter*

Memory Verse: Luke 11:9  
"Knock!"

# Listening for the Promise

## WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - July 27, 2025

*"<sup>1</sup> Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' <sup>2</sup> And he said to them, 'When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread, <sup>4</sup> and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.'"*

- Luke 11:1-4 -

If we translate Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer into kingdom language, we see that all our prayer should be kingdom focused in every area of our lives. This kingdom focus helps us to make sense of Jesus' further instructions on prayer in verses 5-13.

Father	The Father is the King.
Hallowed be your name.	Hallowed be the name of the King.
Your kingdom come.	Let the King's rule come.
Give us each day our daily bread	Feed us that we may advance your Kingdom.
And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.	Forgive our transgressions against your Kingdom law as we forgive transgressions against us.
And lead us not into temptation.	Keep us from transgressing your Kingdom law and from denying the gospel of your Kingdom.

Since we were created to serve God, our well-being consists in serving His kingdom. Hence, God gives us those good things that help us serve His kingdom, especially the Holy Spirit. Such things are good for God's kingdom and are therefore good for us as we align with His kingdom.

Note that the Lord's Prayer includes both law and gospel. We ask God to uphold His kingdom law for His own name's sake. We ask God for the strength to uphold His kingdom law and avoid temptations to break it. But we also ask God to forgive our violations of His kingdom law as we forgive others. And we do so on the basis of Christ's death and resurrection. This is pure gospel.

Jesus gave His disciples the Lord's Prayer because they asked Him how to pray. In grace and mercy, He condescended to give them (and us) a pattern for prayer so that we might commune with God, advance His kingdom, and receive forgiveness for our sins.

Finally, notice the Trinitarian pattern here. The Lord's Prayer is directed to the Father. It is given and modeled (and thus mediated) by the Son. And it is prayed in the power of the Holy Spirit.



ATTENDANCE ..... Wednesday: 17  
 ..... Sunday: 8 a.m.: 34 & 10:30 a.m.: 17  
 ..... Total for the Day: 51  
 ..... Total for Week: 68  
 Organist ..... Merilee Miller  
 Pianist ..... Miriam Johns  
 OFFICE MANAGER ..... Kathy Bishir, [kbishir@hotmail.com](mailto:kbishir@hotmail.com)  
 OFFICE ASSISTANT ..... Samantha Franklin, [sbishir@hotmail.com](mailto:sbishir@hotmail.com)  
 LAY LEADER ..... Heidi Yahl, [heidiyahl@yahoo.com](mailto:heidiyahl@yahoo.com)  
 LAY LEADER ASSISTANT ..... Ruth Hoenie  
 PASTOR ..... Vice-Pastor Paul Gruetter  
 MINISTERS ..... All Members of Zion  
 CHURCH WEBSITE ..... [www.zionstmarys.org](http://www.zionstmarys.org)  
 CHURCH OFFICE ..... 419-394-3115

### Calendar for July 30<sup>th</sup> – August 13<sup>th</sup>

W/30	6:30 p.m.	Worship Service*
S/2	8:00 a.m.	Men in Mission
S/3	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service*
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service*
M/4	7:00 p.m.	Elder's Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Trustee Meeting
T/5	8:00 a.m.	Men's Workshop
	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Information Deadline
	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
W/6	1:00 p.m.	Book Club
	6:30 p.m.	Worship Service*
S/10	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service*
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service*
T/12	8:00 a.m.	Men's Workshop

9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Information Deadline
W/13 6:30 p.m.	Worship Service*

*\*Holy Communion*

*\*Livestreamed on [www.zionstmarys.org](http://www.zionstmarys.org) & on WCSM 96.7 Radio*



**We invite you** to include the following people in your daily prayers: Janet Dicke, Brent Paulus, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Vicki Bishir, Warren Hoenie, Carolyn Slemmons, Vicki Homan, Eileen Zimmerman, Paul Leasor, Amy Berner, Kurt Deitsch, Loretta Scott, Peggy Fowler, Ryan Yahl, Victoria Hoenie, Joel, Ray Timmerman, Karen Rodgers, Tayra DeHoven, Diane Uhlenhake, Joni Immenschuh, Dan Lukac, the family of Zurell & Katie Flais, Tony Hardemen, Donna Maynard, Arie, Bethany, and Kenzie.

**Please pray** for Sean Lawler, Andrew Johnson, Michael Carroll, Nathan Adams, Jacob Yahl, Daniel C. Lukac IV, Michael Franklin and Wyatt Duncan, who are in the service. Please pray for them, their family and their safe return home.

**Pastor Paul Gruetter**, serving as Zion's vice-pastor, can be reached at 567-201-3455 or [paulgruetter@gmail.com](mailto:paulgruetter@gmail.com). On the Wednesdays when Pastor Paul is leading our Wednesday evening worship service, he plans to arrive in St. Marys early and be available for visits and pastoral consultation, so feel free to contact him. August 13th, is the next Wednesday that Pastor Paul will be here, by 3:30 p.m.

**We are collecting** new or good used Bibles, to be given to the NALC warehouse. The NALC warehouse distributes the Bibles to those who have experienced a natural disaster and no longer have a Bible. Bibles can be placed in the container on the cart by the elevator.

**Our loose offerings** for the month of July is the Cancer Association of Auglaize County. The CAAC has been giving assistance to those cancer warriors that reside in Auglaize County. Provide mileage reimbursement to cancer patients to and from doctor appointments. Assist with medical expenses of cancer patients. Provide services to cancer patients.

**The Women of Zion are collecting bars of soap** for Personal Care Kits. The soap may be placed in the blue tub by the elevator.

**Church Picnic** The rain did not dampen the friendship and fellowship at the annual church picnic. A heartfelt thanks to Hunter Coldiron for helping with the setup of tables and chairs, to those who brought delicious dishes to share, and to everyone who assisted with tear-down. Your contributions made for a truly blessed day!

**The Trustees wish** to thank everyone who helped with the landscaping around the church last Saturday. Thank you for all of your hard work pulling the weeds, trimming and mowing, etc. We are truly grateful for the time you took to make the exterior of our church look great!

**Thank you** to everyone for the loving thoughts, prayers, and cards when my mother, Joan Stetler, passed away – The Family of E. Joan Stetler (SF2)

**Congratulations** to Debbie Green, who was the highest bidder on the quilt which was on display in July. Proceeds will go to local charities, designated by the Dorcas Quilters.

**The 2025 Flower Chart** is on the bulletin board by the alley entrance. We invite you to select the date you wish to provide flowers. On the **Tuesday** before the date you selected, order your arrangement from your favorite florist, and *contact the church office, 419-394-3115*, by 12:30 p.m., to let us know what information you would like included in the bulletin. The first six months of 2025 flower chart has been posted by the elevator. **Sign**

up early. Next available date is August 3<sup>rd</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>; September 7<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>; October 12<sup>th</sup>, 19, & 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Zion's 2025 pulpit supply schedule** is as follows:

- Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl\*
- Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Paul Gruetter\*
- Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl
- Wednesday, September 17, Lay Leader Heidi Yahl

*\*Holy Communion Service*

**Summerfest weekend** is August 8-10. A community worship service, sponsored by the St. Marys Ministerial Association, will be held on August 10, at 10 a.m., in the pavilion. Zion will be having our regular worship services that day at 8 & 10:30 a.m. We recognize that this service may impact some and the council decision is to continue to provide worship for those who wish to worship here that day.

**Kingdom Harvest News** It's almost time for the annual Jericho Prayer Walk at Memorial High School. This year's dates will be Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> through Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup>. We will gather each evening at 6:30 p.m., behind the school at the entrance to the Commons. After a short devotional you can either sit and pray or walk around the school and pray. Please join us as many nights as



you are able. Each night will last 30-40 minutes. Children and teens are especially encouraged to join us! This is sponsored by Kingdom Harvest Ministries. Please join us!

**The Creative Crafters meet today:** The August Craft includes a lanyard and Keyring, perfect for back to school. The lanyard is something simple to make, and you can say "I made it myself". The date we will assemble the lanyard and keyring will be **Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, at 1:15 p.m.**, in the craft room (second floor of the education building). The fee will be \$5 for fabric and materials. Sign up in the binder on display table in Narthex. This craft is for all ages.

**The Board of Parish Education** will be holding a short Sunday School Teachers meeting on **August 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 a.m.**, in the lounge. All teachers please try to attend. Materials and information will be passed out at that time.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN** It's time for Confirmation! Confirmation is a special ministry with and for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. It's a two year program to teach the basic beliefs of the Lutheran church and to help strengthen relationships with Jesus and each other.

There will be an information meeting about Confirmation on **Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m.**, in Zion's auditorium. You'll learn the schedule for the year, as well as expectations of the students for service and worship.

A letter is being sent to the prospective students that we know about. The congregation can help to make sure we don't miss anybody! If you know of someone in this age group who could be in Confirmation, invite them. Or pass their name and info along to the church office.

We're excited about this new year of teaching and learning. If you'd like more information, you can contact lay leader Heidi Yahl

([heidiyahl@yahoo.com](mailto:heidiyahl@yahoo.com)) or Pastor Paul Gruetter  
([paulgruetter@gmail.com](mailto:paulgruetter@gmail.com)).

**Women's Fellowship** will resume on **Monday, September 8, 2025**. Everyone is welcomed to join our group on **Monday evenings at 7 p.m.**, in the church lounge! Our 8-week study for the fall will be, The Augsburg Confession. For those who wish to participate in this study, please contact the church office by **8/25/25** to sign up so that a study guide can be ordered for you. You may also sign up on the "I Worship Today" bulletin insert. The cost of the study guide will be determined after the order is placed (typically around \$12-15). In addition to the study guide, you will need to purchase for yourself (if you don't already have, or can't find a copy to borrow), the book, Concordia, The Lutheran Confessions. This sells for \$18.99 on Amazon. The Concordia will be used along with the study guide and the Bible. If you have any questions, please contact **Pam Fledderjohann, 419-953-2334**.

**The women of Zion** will be starting back up in September on **Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** (7 p.m.), and **Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**, (2 p.m.) with a Bible study "The Wise & The Foolish." Study books are \$10 each. Please register on the "I Worshipped Today" by **Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**.

**Agape Ministries** will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on **October 18**. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary t-shirts are on sale at Agape. Plans are to have an open house and tour for their anniversary activities. Agape is also accepting financial gifts to purchase school supplies.

**Craft Crop** We are taking registrations for our crop to be held at Zion Lutheran Church on **Friday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m.-9 p.m.** and **Saturday, Nov. 15 at 9-4 p.m.**

**If you have a change** in the Acolyte, Communion Assistant, Crucifer, Deacon/Usher, Fellowship Table, Greeter or Reader schedule, please contact the church office, 419-394-3115. We invite you to leave a message, let the phone ring **5 times**, then leave your message.

**Just a Reminder** if you have a meeting to be held here at the church, please contact the church office to get it on the calendar. This makes sure the building and rooms are open and available for you to meet.

**Our weekly bulletin** deadline is Tuesdays, at 12:30 p.m. Our newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month by 3:30 p.m. In order to submit articles to the church office you can:

- Fax: 419-394-1239
- Bring it to the church office by the deadline
- Write us a note on the "I Worship Today"
- Send your article by email: [kbishir@hotmail.com](mailto:kbishir@hotmail.com)
- Leave a message on our answering machine: 419-394-3115, after 4:30 p.m. (Let it ring **5 times**, then you will get the answering machine)

**Please contact the church office** when you or your family member experiences a death in the family, hospitalization, baptism, marriage or if you wish to speak to a pastor. The church office will assist you in getting you the proper care you and your family need. Call 419-394-3115.

**We have installed equipment** for livestreaming of our worship services. The worship services can be found on our Facebook page. Volunteers are needed to help with recording each of the services. Please contact the church office, 419/394-3115, about this ministry.

Weekly Budget	30 Week Budget	30 Week Income	Received 7/27/2025
\$7,038--Current	211,140	144,980	1,943
\$290--NALC Offering	8,700	3,835	20

## Council Organization 2025

### ORGANIZATION:

*President* ..... *Neal Brady*  
*Vice-President*..... *William D. Kellermeyer, Jr.*  
*Secretary* ..... *Sandy Wierwille*  
*Assistant* ..... *Melanie Rose*  
*Treasurer* ..... *Stanley Brown*  
*Assistant* ..... *Amy Hesse*

- **COUNCIL AT LARGE:** Thelma Kellermeyer, Melanie Rose, Dwight Schramm, Linda Yahl, Amy Hesse & Stanley Brown
- **BOARD OF DEACONS:** Dianne Uhlenhake, John Hesse, Ryan Yahl, Deb Henning, Cheryl Macklem, Jeanne Wurster, Rhonda Weaver, Judy Schultz & Dwayne Hoenie\*
- **BOARD ELDERS:** Kathy Miller, Darl Bishir\* & Mark Torsell
- **BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Eric Langsdon, Jeremie Houser, Bill Kellermeyer\* & Scott Cisco
- **BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION:** Sandy Wierwille\*, Kerri Masonbrink, Alexa Coldiron & Stephanie Ross
- **YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE:** Jake Ackroyd
- **MEMBERS TO THE TRUST FUND:** Doris Cook, Darl Bishir, Marion Slater, Rick Green\*, & Bill Kellermeyer
- **CALL COMMITTEE:** Ryan Yahl\*, Merilee Miller, Bill Kellermeyer, Allison Ackroyd, Pete Ackroyd, & Bob Hinschlager.

*\*Chairperson of the Board*