

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 5, 2026
Zoar Church, Tofte, MN

String Trio Prelude

Welcome Visitors - Please fill out the Visitor Card and put it in the giving box in the Narthex

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Congregation: Amen

Pastor: The Lord be with you

Congregation: And also with you

Opening Prayer

Bell

Confession and Forgiveness (From 1 John & Psalm 32)

Pastor: God is light

Congregation: in him there is no darkness at all.

P: If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

C: and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection and confession)

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord

C: And he forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Song "Hosanna" - CCLI # 4662491

V1

Praise is rising

Eyes are turning to You

We turn to You

Hope is stirring

Hearts are yearning for You

We long for You

V2

Hear the sound of

Hearts returning to You

We turn to You

In Your Kingdom

Broken lives are made new

You make us new

Pre-Chorus

'Cause when we see You

We find strength to face the day

In Your presence

All our fears are washed away

(Washed away)

Chorus

Hosanna hosanna

You are the God who saves us

Worthy of all our praises

Hosanna hosanna

Come have Your way among us

We welcome You here Lord Jesus

Ending

Hosanna hosanna

Song “Beautiful One” - CCLI # 3915912

V1

Wonderful so wonderful
Is Your unfailing love
Your cross has spoken mercy over me
No eye has seen no ear has heard
No heart could fully know
How glorious how beautiful You are

V2

Powerful so powerful
Your glory fills the skies
Your mighty works displayed for all to see
The beauty of Your majesty
Awakes my heart to sing
How marvelous how wonderful You are

Chorus

Beautiful One I love You
Beautiful One I adore
Beautiful One my soul must sing

Bridge 1

You opened my eyes to Your wonders anew
You captured my heart with this love
Because nothing on earth is as beautiful as You

Prayers & The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 27:10 (NIV)

Though my father and mother forsake me,
the Lord will receive me.

Epistle Readings: James 1:12; Ephesians 1:3, 7, 13-14A (NIV)

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:21-25 (NIV)

Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

P: The Word of God for the people of God

C: Thanks be to God

Message: "Persecution" - Pastor Al Alexander

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit
the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Communion

Please come forward during the communion hymn and take a cup of wine or grape juice and a wafer back to your seats. If you are joining us at home, please use your own bread or crackers and wine or juice. We believe the Lord's Supper is a "means of grace" offered freely to all who seek Him. Please join us.

Words of Institution & Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Holy and merciful God, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life.

C: Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving and to conform our lives to his, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever,

C: Amen

Song: "Brighter Day" - CCLI # 5048423

Verse

*I wanna lift my hands and say
Thank You for a brighter day
Thank You for reaching down and saving me
I wanna have eyes to see
Ev'rything You've done for me
Thank You for the blood that was shed for me*

Chorus

*And I praise Your name
With the voice You gave
And I thank You for all You've done
And for everything I give praise

And I thank You, yes I thank You
And I thank You, and I thank You*

Announcements

- July Mission: Star Fish Fund - See poster in Narthex
- Community Bible Study
 - Monday's 6:00-7:00 pm at Zoar or Zoom (contact lmsalexand@gmail.com)
 - Galatians 4:1-19
- Church on the Rocks Sundays at 8:00 am near Fr. Baraga's Cross in Schroeder.
- Vacation Bible School (VBS), Tues, Wed, Thurs. 7/7-9/26.
- New address for Sopia as she has recently started Coast Guard School
 - Swab Sophia Blanck, US Coast Guard Academy, 15 Mohegan Avenue, Chase Hall Box 7063, New London, CT 06320-8112
- Teen Challenge Choir will be at the EV Free church in Grand Marais on 7/26/26 at 6:00 pm
- Please pray through the Zoar prayer list every day
- Sign up for after church treats in the Narthex
- Pick up a copy of Our Daily Bread devotional in the Narthex
- To get on the prayer chain - email or call Pastor Al or the church.
- Prayer Requests - Form in seat back; box in Narthex or email Pastor Al
- Puzzle exchange - downstairs in the fellowship hall. Lots of puzzles!
- Billy Peterson book - See Pastor Al
- Giving: Box in Narthex, online through our webpage or send a check to the church.

Benediction Numbers 6:24-26 (NIV)

The Lord bless you and keep you;

the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace

Bell

Sending

Pastor Al: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. We Will! Alleluia. Amen

Dismiss

Website: www.zoarchurch.org • Email: zoarchurchtofte@gmail.com • Church Phone: 218-663-7925
Pastor Al Alexander 612-308-2185 • Music provided this morning by Dave Gustafson
Offerings can be dropped in the labeled box in the narthex
or by clicking the link "Give" on the zoarchurch.org homepage.