"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

July 5, 2026

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

Good Hope, Immanuel & St. John's Lutheran Churches

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 5, 2026

9:00 a.m.

WITH ONE VOICE: SERVICE OF THE WORD

Season After Pentecost

The Prelude & Meditation
The Ringing of the Bell
The Welcome & Announcements
*The Hymn *"Lord of All Hopefulness"* LBW #469
*The Greeting WOV page 46
*The Scripture Song WOV page 47
*The Prayer of the Day *(in unison)*
You are great, **O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The First Reading -Zechariah 9:9-12

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See,
your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding
on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 He will cut off the chariot
from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be
cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be
from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. 11 As for you
also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners
free from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of
hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L: "The Word of the Lord" **C: "Thanks be to God"**

The Psalm -Psalm 145:8-14

8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

9 **LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

10 All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

11 **They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

12 that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

13 **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through-out all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

14 The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

The Hymn *"Softly and Tenderly"* WOV #734

(Noisy offering will be collected during this hymn)

The Second Reading -Romans 7:15-25a

15 I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. 17 But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. 18 For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. 19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. 20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. 21 So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, 23 but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24 Wretched person that

I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? [25a] Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

L: "The Word of the Lord" **C: "Thanks be to God"**

*The Gospel Acclamation WOV page 48

*The Response before the Gospel

All: "Glory to you, O Lord"

*The Gospel -Matthew 11:16-19, 25-39

Jesus spoke to the crowd saying: [16] "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, [17] 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' [18] "For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; [19] the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

[25] At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; [26] yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. [27] All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.[28] "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. [29] Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30] For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

All: "Praise to you, O Christ"

The Children's Message

The Sermon *"Honest to God"*

The Hymn of the Day *"Day by Day"* WOV #746

*The Response to the Word WOV page 49

*The Exchange of Peace

The Offering

The Offertory WOV page 50

*The Prayers of the People		WOV page 52
*The Lord's Prayer		WOV page 52
*The Blessing & Dismissal		WOV page 53
*The Sending Hymn	*"Battle Hymn of the Republic"*	LBW #332
*The Postlude		

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WELCOME *to all who have joined us for worship this morning. If you are a visitor, please sign the guest registry and come visit us again. May the Lord bless each of us.*

THE OFFERING today and next Sunday is for Current Expenses.

PASTOR JOHN'S OFFICE HOURS

Mon. 9:30-12:30 at Immanuel, Tues. 9:30-12:30 at St. John's,
and Wed. 9:30 to 12:30 at Good Hope.

THIS WEEK AT GOOD HOPE

Today	No Coffee Fellowship	
Mon., July 6	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study at The Barn (Come early if you wish to eat first)
Thurs., July 9-Sat., July 11	**VBS SET UP**	
Sun., July 12	9:00 a.m.	Worship at St. John's/Communion
Sun., July 12-Thurs., July 16	**5:50-8:30 p.m.**	**VBS at Good Hope**

Youth Night: Kids help with Bible School!

THIS WEEK AT PARISH THREE

Mon., July 6 7:00 p.m. Bible study at The Barn
(Come at 6:30 if eating first)

Tues., July 7 St. John's will hold Bible Camp for 3-year-olds to 5th graders from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

This year's theme is ***"The Big Fish"***. Those bringing food should bring it on Monday, July 6th. Contact Phyllis Schutjer at 641-860-0415 or Aleysha Brandt at 651-983-0576 with any questions.

THE SUMMER COFFEE sign up sheet is on the table in the back of the church. Please stop by and sign up to host a Sunday or two! Thank you!

2026 SUMMER SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. unless a different time is listed!

JULY

July 5th: Good Hope/Noisy Offering
July 12th: St. John's/Communion
July 19th: Immanuel
July 26th: Good Hope/Communion

AUGUST

August 2nd: St. John's/Noisy Offering
August 9th: Immanuel/Communion
August 16th: Good Hope
August 23rd: 10:30 a.m. at St. John's/Communion
Picnic/Bring Lawn Chairs!
August 30th: Immanuel/Healing Service

SEPTEMBER

September 6th: Good Hope
September 13th: St. John's/Communion
September 20th: Back to fall schedule!

COMMUNITY WIDE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

(ALL area kids are welcome to attend!)

RAINFOREST FALLS: Exploring the Nature of God

July 12– July 16 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

EVERYONE WELCOME! NO COST

(Offering taken at the program to help with expenses)

3 year old Preschool -6th grade

(Grade just completed)

SPONSORED BY GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Come join us to explore the True Nature of God through Games, Crafts, Science Experiments, and Stories

Questions? Call or text Brenda Ricke: 515-928-7752