

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

website: www.zionstratford.com

Cell: 519-274-1300

email: zionlc@golden.net

People of Zion

Ministers

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Pastor

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Visitation Minister

Paul Shilton

Minister of Music

Laura Burton

Organist

Sandra Mogensen

Pianist

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 10, 2021

As we, once again, are not able to have “in person” worship, we are back to doing a different form of the bulletin to keep you in touch. Here is your bulletin for today.

Prayer of the Day:

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God call the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like

a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, “Glory!” The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore. The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Psalm 29

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” Then he said, “Into what then where you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

Acts 19:1-7

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Mark 1:4-11

Sermon:

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!AlrwdIq5YZa1hk4Rn4Dfxme5dhTi>

Click on the link above to view Pastor Jeff’s sermon (or you can find it on the website under the separate heading “Sermons”)

Anthem: “Thou Wilt Keep Him In Perfect Peace”

Bath Abbey Choir of Boys & Men

(Click on the link below for the musical version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iF27TOyz5uU&list=PLGYsYKpSs9T0pLWAW-ZtAWOpY3rY9IAN5>

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins.

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God’s goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made.

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely.

For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer (*especially Muriel, Klaus, Jack, Peter, John, Anne, Mervyn, Ken, Mary, Beryl, Katana, Neil, Maria, Ralph, Rose Marie, Nya, Karen, Ron, Brian, and Kolby*), that God shower compassion.

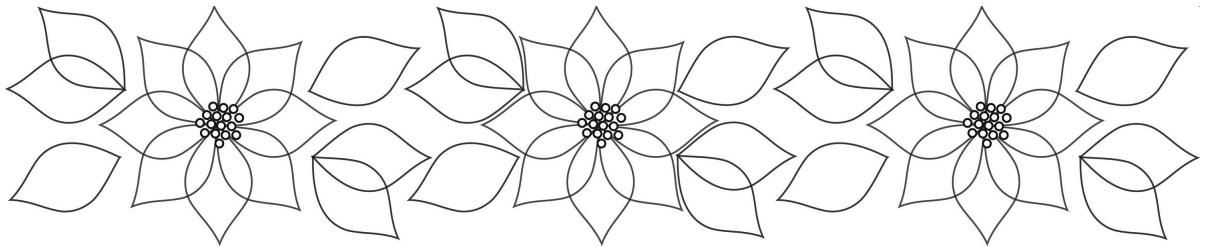
For the congregation gathered here on-line, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour.

ALL EVENTS
REMAIN
CANCELLED
UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE





ANNOUNCEMENTS

**** IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ****

As you probably have heard, Ontario has been placed in lock down as of 12:01 A.M. December 26, 2020.

As a result, the Bishop recommends the suspension of ALL “In-Person” Worship until further notice.

Please stay tuned to our website

www.zionstratford.com

as

Pastor Jeff will continue to record his Sermons and Jane will continue to advise you of any updates and/or further announcements.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes have been prepared. We are attempting to deliver to local addresses. If you live outside the city limits, and wish to pick them up, please call Jane and arrange a time.

**PLEASE BEGIN TO USE YOUR NEW ENVELOPES NOW AS WE
HAVE ENTERED INTO JANUARY, 2021**

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Submissions for the February Newsletter are due on **Monday, January 11, 2021**. If you have anything that you would like to share I would be happy to put it in the Newsletter.

Thank you!

ETERNITY FOR TODAY

We have a few copies of “Eternity For Today” available. Anyone interested in checking out this publication, which emphasizes “Living our Faith” through daily prayer and scripture readings, is asked to call Jane in the office at 519-271-8527 to make arrangements to have one delivered to you.

THANK YOU !

The “Christmas Mask Fundraiser” was a huge success. We want to thank everyone who contributed to the success by purchasing a Christmas Mask.

A huge “THANK YOU” to our member who donated the beautiful masks which took a lot of hard work, time and dedication.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

As we, once again, find ourselves in a “lock down” situation, we hope the following words bring you some comfort.

PANDEMIC AFFIRMATION

John Mark Green

*May the love in our hearts
never have to be rationed.*

*Let enforced isolation
lead to deeper connection.*

*May we all work as one,
whatever might face us.*

*In this fight to survive,
we'll stay strong and courageous.*

