

17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY

After

Pentecost

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

website: [www.zionstratford.com](http://www.zionstratford.com)

Cell: 519-274-1300

email: [zionlc@golden.net](mailto:zionlc@golden.net)

### **People of Zion**

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Sandra Mogensen

### **Ministers**

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

**PENTECOST 17**

September 19, 2021

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### **CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,  
and <sup>+</sup> of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit, that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow in the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,  
**Have mercy on us.**  
**In your compassion forgive us our sin,**  
**Known and unknown,**  
**Things done and left undone.**  
**Uphold us by your Spirit**  
**So that we may live and serve you in newness of life,**  
**To the honour and glory of your holy name;**  
**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you,  
Forgive you all your sins through our + Lord Jesus Christ,  
Strengthen you in all goodness,  
And by the power of the Holy Sprit keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

**Amen.**

### FIRST READING: *JEREMIAH 11:18-20*

A reading from Jeremiah.

*Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.*

<sup>18</sup>It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;  
then you showed me their evil deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me  
that they devised schemes, saying,  
“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

<sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,  
who try the heart and the mind,  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: PSALM 54**

<sup>1</sup>Save me, O God, <sup>1</sup> by your name;  
in your might, de- <sup>1</sup> fend my cause.

**<sup>2</sup>Hear my <sup>1</sup> prayer, O God;**  
**give ear to the words <sup>1</sup> of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have <sup>1</sup> sought my life,  
those who have no re- <sup>1</sup> gard for God.

**<sup>4</sup>Behold, God <sup>1</sup> is my helper;**  
**it is the Lord who sus- <sup>1</sup> tains my life.**

<sup>5</sup>Render evil to those who <sup>1</sup> spy on me;  
in your faithful- <sup>1</sup> ness, destroy them.

**<sup>6</sup>I will offer you a <sup>1</sup> freewill sacrifice**  
**and praise your name, O LORD, for <sup>1</sup> it is good.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued me from <sup>1</sup> every trouble,  
and my eye looks down <sup>1</sup> on my enemies.

## **SECOND READING: JAMES 3:13-4:3, 7-8A**

A reading from James.

*The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.*

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.

<sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.<sup>4:</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask

wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: MARK 9:30-37**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.*

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;<sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON:**

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!Alrwdlq5YZa1ixTqhbtWuJBEeusI>

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

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

## CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of creation, we pray for this hurting earth. Awaken in us a new desire to care for this world and empower us to support agencies, organizations, and individual efforts to heal our environment. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of cooperation, we pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict. Inspire leaders to listen to each other and work towards peaceful solutions to disagreements. Protect the vulnerable, especially children, who cannot find safety in their home or country. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of comfort, we pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Help them find appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak. We pray especially for Dianne, Bea, Brian, Murray, Hildegard, Judy, Mary, Elizabeth, Lynnette, Al, Glenn, Beryl, Cathy, Jack, John, Ralph, Katana, Rose Marie, Nya, Muriel, Ron, Brian, and Kolby. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, we pray for the young people of this congregation. Renew in us your call to welcome the children in our midst. As they grow, strengthen their faith and our commitment to them. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of consolation, we give you thanks for our loved ones who have died and pray for all who grieve today. Shine your grace on all your saints. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,

and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish

but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honour and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.  
**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favour and + give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **“LIMITED” WORSHIP CONTINUES**

**ALL ARE WELCOME !!!!**

**COVID-19 PROTOCOL IS IN PLACE. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO CALL IN TO THE OFFICE AT 519-271-8527 MONDAY TO THURSDAY 8:00 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M. AND FRIDAY FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M. TO REGISTER AND BE PLACED ON THE ATTENDANCE.**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL THE OFFICE.

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**A SPECIAL “THANK YOU” TO OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021**

***GREETER: To Be Asked From  
Attendance Sheet***

***READER: Mary Lou Drown***

***USHERS: Steve Lamont Team***

***COUNTING TEAM: Dan Neumeister Team***

## Emergency Appeal for Haiti



*Photo courtesy of CARE Canada through CLWR*

Haiti was hit with a destructive earthquake on August 14. With numbers expected to rise, it is so far reported that more than 1,900 people were killed and over 10,000 injured by the 7.2 magnitude earthquake that devastated parts of the country. Hundreds are still missing, thousands of families have lost their homes and schools, bridges and other vital infrastructure were destroyed. Rescue efforts are being further hampered by tropical storm Grace, all at a time when the country is already grappling with acute poverty and food insecurity, political unrest, and COVID-19.

[Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#) (ELCIC) together with [Canadian Lutheran World Relief](#) (CLWR) is inviting you to pray for the people of Haiti, and to consider making a gift. Donations received will provide emergency shelter, sanitation, hygiene, and trauma care for those affected.

Individuals wishing to support relief efforts can donate as follows:

- Make an offering donation in an envelope marked for "Haiti Crisis" with your name and envelope number on the front. This can be dropped off with your Sunday Offering at Worship,
- Send a cheque made payable to CLWR and mailed to CLWR, 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0W5. Please indicate that you wish to contribute to "Haiti Crisis."
- Call CLWR at 1-800-661-2597 (locally at 204-694-6502), Monday to Thursday, 9:00-16:00 CDT to donate by credit card or go online at: [clwr.org/Haiti](http://clwr.org/Haiti)

## **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED**



We are currently in the planning stage of organizing Schedules for Readers, Greeters and Ushers for when we are able to re-open our doors for Worship; and, when we are able to do so at full capacity.

**If you are able to help by volunteering to be a Reader, Greeter and/or Usher, please call and speak with Jane in the office at 519-271-8527 Monday to Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.**

We deeply appreciate ALL of our current volunteers and are excited to add you to this list of “special” people

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## **HOUSE OF BLESSING UPDATE**

We have received an email from Sandy Andress, the Volunteer Coordinator at the Stratford House of Blessing outlining some of their needs.

### **Their most needed items are:**

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Feminine Pads

Any other hygiene items would be appreciated as well.

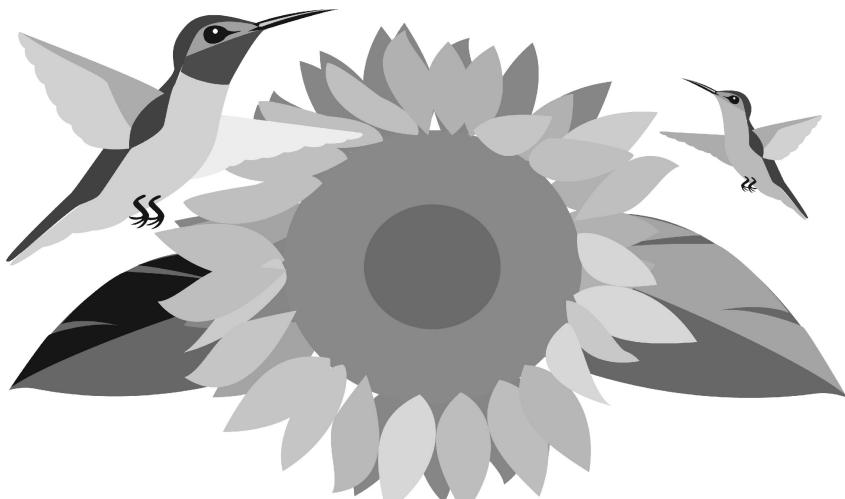
## **Food Items:**

- Peanut Butter
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Large Cans of Soup
- Canned Meats (tuna, salmon, ham, chicken)
- Side Dishes
- Cereal
- Cookies & Crackers
- Juice
- Fresh Produce & Meats

We have set out the House of Blessing tote, once again, at the main entrance for your donations. Our plan is to hang on to the donated items for 72 hours; then, while we are still recovering from COVID-19, Sue Bellamy has volunteered to drop off the donations to the House of Blessing. When the pandemic restrictions have been lifted and things have returned back to “normal”, I will then set up a schedule for volunteers to deliver the donations to the House of Blessing.

Thank you for your continued support!!

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**ALL EVENTS REMAIN CANCELLED**



## **TODAY'S PRAYER**

### **Prayer Before An Election**

Lord God, as the election approaches,  
we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our country,  
and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community.

We ask for eyes that are free from blindness  
so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters,  
one and equal in dignity,  
especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty.

We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned,  
Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender.  
We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will  
bring us closer to your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment  
so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word,  
live your love,  
and keep in the ways of your truth  
as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles  
and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace.

We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Author Unknown



***IT HAS BEEN NICE TO SEE YOU !***

***WE HOPE TO SEE YOU  
AGAIN NEXT WEEK !***