

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

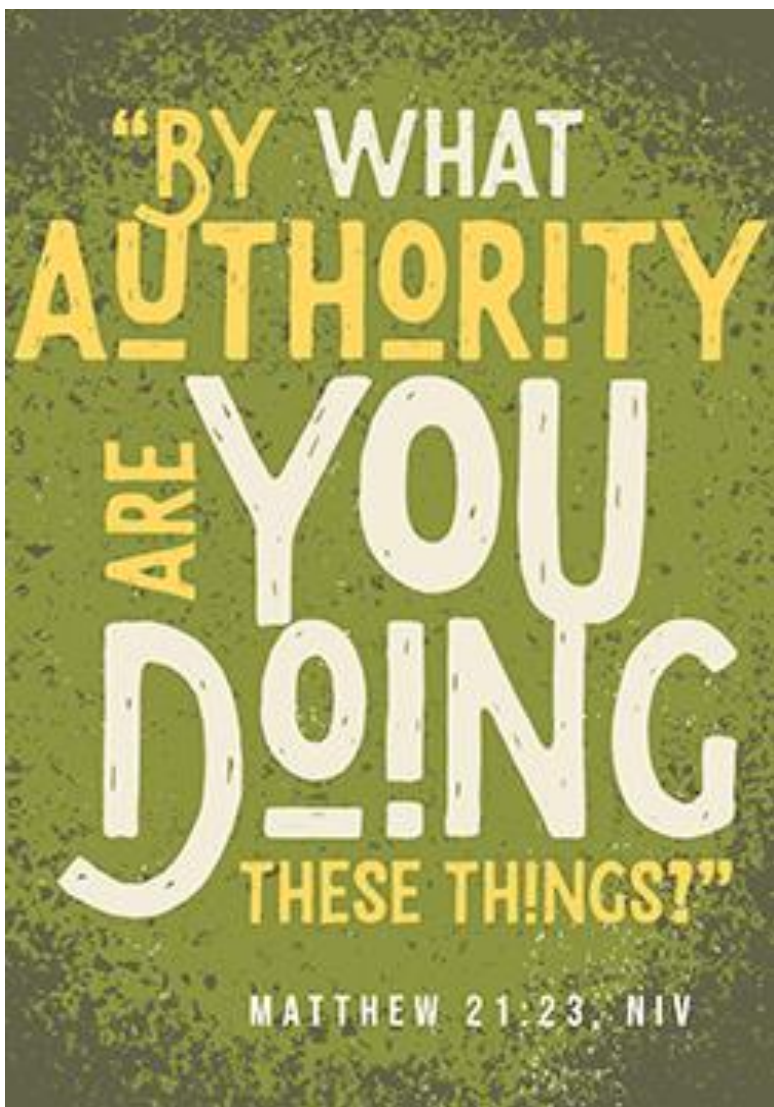
>for our members and friends with special needs: Anne, Leanne, Hans, Margaret, Dianne, Isabelle, Willi, Ingrid, Al, Melinda, John, Mike, Dan, Brian, Paul, Marlene, Glenn, Jim, Nya, Lynnette, Cathy, Brock, Katana and Kolby;
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. October 2</u>	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry in Parlour 6:00 PM Pathfinders in Fellowship Hall 6:30 PM Stratford Youth Symphony Orchestra in Parlour & Shuffleboard Room
<u>Tues. October 3</u>	7:00 AM Rotary in Fellowship Hall 9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall 6:30 PM Guides in Fellowship Hall
<u>Wed. October 4</u>	9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour 1:00 PM Avon Menn. Prayer Group in their office 5:30 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room 7:00 PM Mutual Ministry Meeting in Parlour
<u>Thurs. October 5</u>	11:00 AM Spruce Lodge for Worship 12:00 Noon Bible Stude in Parlour 4:15 PM Confirmation Class in Parlour 7:00 PM Choir Practice in Fellowship Hall
<u>Sun. October 8</u>	“Thanksgiving” 10:00 AM Worship NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8th AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Janet & Gerry Ahrens	Reader: Isabel Cook
Usher Captain: Brian Coe	Counting Captain: NO COUNTERS
Altar: Irene Ehgoetz	House of Blessing: Paula McNaughton



Sunday, October 1, 2023

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

email: zionlc@golden.net

Cell: 519-274-1300

website: www.zionstratford.com

People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Éric Charbonneau

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

Pentecost 18

October 1, 2023

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 526: “God Is Here!”

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm: 25:1-9

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

Children's Message

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/uTNuDI-52ZE?si=g5sYDTLMnJnAGKI7>

Hymn 806: “O God, My Faithful God”

Apostles’ Creed Page 127
Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace Page 128

MEAL

Choir Anthem: “The Beatitudes” composed by Richard Shephard

Offertory Hymn 182: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

Offertory Prayer Page 129

The Great Thanksgiving Page 129

Communion Prayer Page 130

The Lord’s Prayer Page 134

Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns: 517, 772

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer Page 136

SENDING

Blessing Page 136

Hymn 542: “O Living Bread from Heaven”

Dismissal Page 137

Postlude

Zion Lutheran Church welcomes our **visitors and guests**. We are pleased that you have come to join us in the worship of our God of grace and love. May you be strengthened and uplifted in our time together. *Please sign our guest register and make yourself known to Pastor Jeff.* We hope that you will plan to be with us, again, at your earliest opportunity.

All people of faith and those who seek faith are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This morning, we will be distributing the Lord’s Supper in a continuous fashion. Trays holding individual cups of wine are on stands at either side of Pastor Jeff for those wishing to receive wine. The ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the center aisle.

Please note that masks are now “optional or personal preference”. Disposable masks remain at all entrances for those wishing to continue to wear one.

Sunday School will end at 11:15 A.M. We ask that parents/guardians wait until that time before coming for your children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR THIS MORNING: Our Congregational Life Committee would like to invite everyone to the Fellowship Hall immediately following this morning's worship for coffee and an opportunity to visit with your fellow members.



THANK YOU: We would like to extend our gratitude to an anonymous donor for their generosity in providing the flowers on the altar for this morning's worship. You will see these flower arrangements on the altar, when there are no other flower donations or if it is a special holiday.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Confirmation classes will begin this Thursday, October 5th in the Parlour. If you have a child you would like to be included in the upcoming Confirmation Class, please contact Pastor Jeff at 519-271-8527 or by email laustsen311@gmail.com

BIBLE STUDY: Our Adult Bible Study class will have its **first meeting on Thursday, October 5th at 12:00 Noon in the Parlour.** Bring your lunch and join us as we explore God's Word and what it means for us in our daily lives as Christians. For further information, please speak with Pastor Jeff.

REMINDER: THE 16th ANNUAL MAYOR'S COMMUNITY BREAKFAST: will be held on **Thursday, October 5th from 7:00 A.M. to 8:45 A.M. at the Arden Park Hotel.** All are welcome to join the Mayor for a Buffet Breakfast, Music and Fellowship. Cost: A monetary donation to the Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth. Receipts will be provided for amounts \$20.00 and over. **Pre-registration is required.** To reserve a seat, please call Lindsay Van Gestel 519-271-0250 extension 5236 or email lvangestel@stratford.ca



THANKSGIVING: In order to assist with our observance of Thanksgiving, we are asking for your help with the decorating of the sanctuary. **We are requiring donations of non-perishable food items: gourds, potatoes, carrots, etc. that can be used as decorations.** These gifts will then be donated to the House of Blessing following Thanksgiving. Items will need to be at Zion by **Thursday, October 5th** and can be placed in the tote under the table at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you for sharing in your bounty!



SUNDAY SCHOOL: Please note that there will be **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** on **THANKSGIVING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH.**

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15th our Sunday School children will delight the members of the Congregation as they sing two (2) pieces of music during worship. Susan and Paula are asking that the Congregation join the children in singing a simple round, "God Creator". A copy of this piece is inserted in today's bulletin for you to familiarize yourselves with the piece.

STRATFORD BLOOD DONATION EVENT:

Saturday, October 7, 2023 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 31, 2023 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Stratford Rotary Complex

Community Hall D, 353 McCarthy Road, Stratford

By appointment. Book now by calling 1-888-236-6283 or online at www.blood.ca or through the GiveBlood App.



PHOTO DIRECTORY REMINDER: A reminder that photos for the new Photo Directory will be taken between **Tuesday, November 14, 2023 and Saturday, November 18, 2023** as published in our September Newsletter.

Please call the office at 519-271-8527 during office hours (Tuesday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) to book your date and time.

BETHEL COMMUNITY MEAL: The next Community Meal being hosted by Bethel Church will take place on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. here at Zion Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

COFFEE HOUR HOSTING CHALLENGE: Congregational Life Committee will be hosting coffee hours the first Sunday of October, November and December. We hope other committees, groups or families will also be interested in hosting a Sunday coffee hour.

If so, please contact Jane in our office at 519-271-8527 to confirm a date or Judy Stanley at 519-272-0144 or email jjstanley12@bell.net

HOUSE OF BLESSING: We have received an updated list of items for September which are currently needed at the House of Blessing. To help the House of Blessing with their significant increase in the number of people using their services since this time last year, as you are able, if you could bring **boxes of crackers or peanut butter** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.