

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

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

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

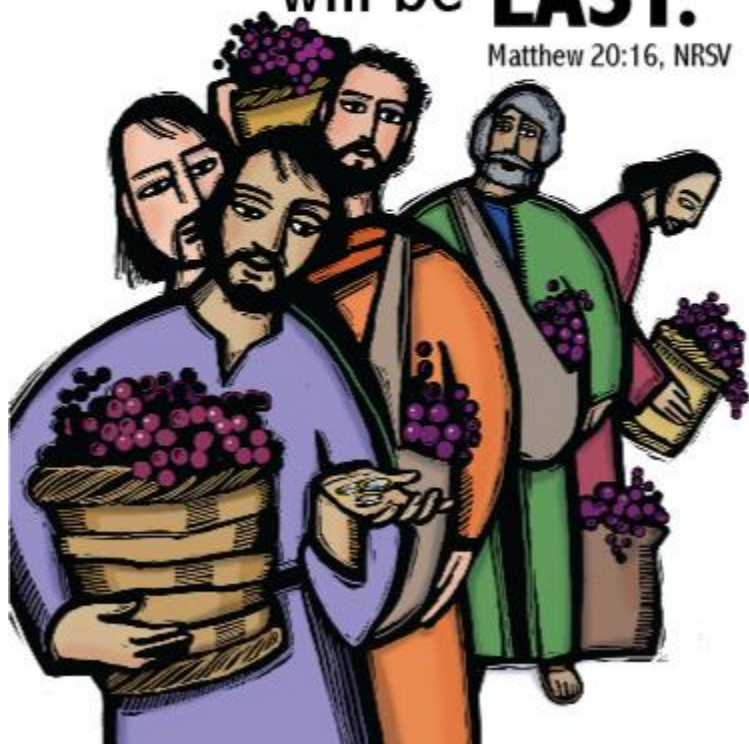
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|----------------------------|--|
| <u>Mon. September 25</u> | 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry in Parlour
6:00 PM Pathfinders-in Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM Stratford Youth Symphony Orchestra in Parlour & Shuffleboard Room |
| <u>Tues. September 26</u> | 7:00 AM Rotary in Fellowship Hall
9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM Guides in Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM Endowment Fund Committee Meeting in Parlour |
| <u>Wed. September 27</u> | 9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour
1:00 PM Avon Menn. Prayer Group in their office
7:00 PM Choir Practice in Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM Congregational Council Meeting in Parlour |
| <u>Thurs. September 28</u> | 2:00 PM Worship at Knollcrest |
| <u>Sun. October 1</u> | 10:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Sunday School |

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1ST AS WE WORSHIP

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Greeters: Jim & Judy Stanley | Reader: Aline Kouhi-Klemencic |
| Usher Captain: Jerry Terhaerd | Counting Captain: Dianne Yundt |
| Altar: Shirley Whittaker | House of Blessing: Wayne Faulhafer |

So the **last**
will be **FIRST**,
and the **first**
will be **LAST**.

Matthew 20:16, NRSV



Sunday, September 24 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 17

September 24, 2023

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 765: “Lord of All Hopefulness”

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

**Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual
lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely
on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and
train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus
Christ, our Saviour and Lord.
Amen.**

WORD

First Reading: Jonah 3:10-4:11

Psalm: 145:1-8

Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Children's Message

Sermon:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/7HN7hqdNkKQ?si=yfOrT2RUCd->

Mangy

Hymn 588: “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

Apostles’ Creed Page 127

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace Page 128

MEAL

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: 499, 685

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer Page 136

SENDING

Blessing Page 136

Hymn 669: “Rise Up, O Saints of God”

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

THE FLOWERS *on the altar are placed in loving memory of a dear mother, Aurelia Geisler, +September 23, 1996 by Stephen & Sonya Fischer.*

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Pastor Jeff has begun preparing for Confirmation Class which will commence in October, 2023. 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

ENDOWMENT FUND MEETING: A reminder that there is a meeting of the Endowment Fund Committee scheduled for this **Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00 P.M. in the Parlour.**

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING: The next Congregational Council meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 27th at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall.**

STRATFORD BLOOD DONATION EVENT:

Tuesday, September 26, 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.

COFFEE HOUR: Congregational Life Committee will be hosting a Coffee Hour immediately following Worship next Sunday, October 1st 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 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

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 help with our observance of Thanksgiving, we are asking 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.

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 **cereal or canned meat** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY HURON-PERTH EVENTS IN AUGUST

We have, once again, been asked by Christie Bannerman, Public Education Coordinator to share the upcoming programs taking place in September, 2023. Please see the insert in today's bulletin for more information.

Please note: the “Education Hour” is a one-hour virtual presentation. If you are unable to participate in this program at home, you are welcome to participate by going to the West Perth Public Library, 105 St. Andrew Street in Mitchell. (519-348-9234) Calling ahead is not necessary.