

September 29, 2024

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

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People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Laura Burton

Éric Charbonneau

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Organist

Pianist

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

September 29, 2024

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 434 “Jesus Shall Reign”

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

Everlasting God, you have wonderfully established the ministries of angels and mortals. Mercifully grant that as Michael and the angels contend against the cosmic forces of evil, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God whom we worship and praise with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

Psalm: 103:1-5, 20-22

Second Reading: Revelation 12:7-12

Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel: Luke 10:17-20

Children’s Message

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/psnLgz98vEE?si=4JXnhsB-bTklcB-w>

Hymn 787: “On Eagle’s Wings”

Apostles’ Creed

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MEAL

Offering Hymn 182: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

Offertory Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

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Communion Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

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Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns: 490, 424

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

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SENDING

Blessing

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Hymn 638: “Blessed Assurance”

Dismissal

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Postlude: “Hope” from Songs Without Words Op.38 No. 4

by Felix Mendelssohn

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. **We are making available a small number of individual glasses filled with non-alcoholic white wine. These are for those not wishing to partake in the red wine containing alcohol.** 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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SUNDAY SCHOOL WING IS A “NUT FREE” AREA!

**THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024**

PHOTO DIRECTORIES: If you had your picture taken, or submitted a picture for the directory, and have not picked up your free copy of the directory, please see Isabel Cook at the back of the Sanctuary after Worship; or, you can pick up your copy from Jane in the office Tuesday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

JAZZ VESPERS: The next JAZZ VESPERS will be held at **St. James Anglican Church, Mornington Street** on **Sunday, October 6th at 4:00 P.M.**

The musicians are **Brenda Earle Stokes**, vocals, piano; **Mike Downes**, bass, **Ethan Ardelli**, drums. Brenda is originally from Sarnia and has spent the last 20 years in New York City where she has been actively involved in St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Manhattan which is known as the “Jazz Church”

All are welcome to this informal evening service. Free will offering.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY HURON PERTH INVITATION

Join the Alzheimer Society's Public Education Coordinators for a one-hour virtual presentation over the next eight (8) weeks on brain health, cognitive changes and dementia. Bring your questions!

The first Presentation in this series:

Wednesday, October 2 at 10:00 A.M.

Topic: Your Journey of Support Starts Here!

STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING RIDE FOR REFUGE: The Ride for Refuge is a family-friendly fundraising bike + walk in support of local charities serving people seeking hope, safety, and freedom. Join the House of Blessing on **Saturday, October 5, 2024** and bike or walk and fundraise for their charity.

Go to rideforrefuge.org to enter a team, donate or volunteer and help the House of Blessing reach their goal. You may also call toll free 1-877-743-3413.

MAYOR'S COMMUNITY BREAKFAST: The 17th Annual Mayor's Community Breakfast will be held on **Thursday, October 10 from 7:00 – 8:45 A.M.** at the **Best Western Plus – Arden Park Hotel**. Along with music and fellowship, a buffet breakfast will be served, with a guest speaker from Shelterlink Youth Services. The cost is a monetary donation to Shelterlink Youth Services, or specific pantry items such as youth-friendly cereals, snacks, peanut butter, laundry soap, and personal hygiene items. Pre-registration is required; to reserve a seat, please call Lindsay Van Gestel at (519) 271-0250, extension 5236 or email mayor@stratford.ca.

DECORATING FOR THANKSGIVING Zion's annual Thanksgiving worship service will be held on **Sunday, October 13th**. We are asking parish members to help in decorating for Thanksgiving by donating produce, garden crops or non-perishable items. These items may be brought to the church the **week of October 7th**. Following Thanksgiving these items will be taken to the House of Blessing for distribution to their clients.

We “thank you” for your help with our Thanksgiving decorating.

STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING: We have received a “most-needed items list” from the House of Blessing. To help them with their significant increase in the number of people using their services, 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.

ETERNITY FOR TODAY: Our Winnipeg office has published the following in their weekly Newsletter:

****A note about the October/November/December issue of Eternity for Today – due to a printer issue beyond our control, the fourth quarter issue of Eternity for Today was mailed out later than we anticipated. Congregation and individual subscribers should have begun receiving their fourth quarter copies starting last week (September 16 and into this week).**



CANADIAN LUTHERAN MAGAZINE ARTICLE: For those of you who do not receive the “Canadian Lutheran Magazine” below is an article that has been published in the latest edition (September 30, 2024) from Bishop Michael Pryse.

■ EASTERN SYNOD



Bishop Michael Pryse

My heart is full!

I couldn't have done any of it without you.

Bishop Pryse delivered the following words of appreciation and thanks at the conclusion of the Eastern Synod Assembly Leadership Banquet on June 21, 2024.

Words are inadequate to express the deep gratitude I have for my family. When I was called to serve as an assistant to the bishop in 1990, we were a family of six: Lois and me and four little girls aged 2, 4, 6 and 8. We are now a family of 19!

Three months after starting at the synod office, I was this close to walking into Bishop Bill Huras' office and saying, “sorry, this was a big mistake. Can you please send me back to Holy Cross, Burlington, ON and we will pretend this never happened?” I just felt way beyond my depth and didn't think I could manage this transition into a completely different kind of ministry with demands, expectations and obligations I felt ill equipped to manage. But I didn't do that, and here we are 34 years later!


In those intervening years, I was often absent from home, even when physically present. Lois, of course, bore, by far, the greatest weight of parental responsibilities. Thank you, sweetheart, for carrying the lion's share at home and for all that you have done to support and encourage me in this work. I couldn't have done any of it without you. Thank you, dear.

And to the rest of the Pryse club. Each of you have been nothing but a source of joy, happiness and pride to me. You are wonderful human beings who have and continue to bless, teach and gift me in more ways than you will ever know. Thanks for help-

ing me to know and celebrate the fact that my first calling was to be dad and papa, long before I was ever pastor or bishop. Thank you, my loves.

And now, to you, dear synod. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to live a life in ministry that has been more than I could have ever asked for or imagined. Thank you for welcoming me into the life of your congregations and ministries. Thank you for welcoming me into your homes to sit at the table. Thank you for inviting me into your lives. Thank you for allowing me to represent you in visits across our synod, across our beloved church and right around the world. You have honoured me and blessed me with your confidence and trust.

The late Canadian author Alistair McLeod was a professor of English and acclaimed author who won countless Canadian and international awards honouring his work. He published only 20 short stories and just a single novel entitled *No Great Mischief*. It's worth a read.

The novel concludes with this line. “All of us are better when we're loved.” Thanks for loving me. Your love has made me a better pastor. It's made me a better bishop. But most importantly, your love has made me a better human being. Thank you so much, my friends. My heart is full and bursting with gratitude! Thank you! 

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Jerry, Jack, Ralph, Cindy, Diane, Gloria, Kathleen, Tony, Katie, Paul, Wendy, Joan, Devon, Hollice, Joyce, Maria, Tom, Marian, Anne, Leanne, Isabelle, Al, Melinda, Brian, Paul, Glenn, Nya, and Cathy;

>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. Sept. 30</u>	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 PM Pathfinders in Parlour 7-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall
<u>Tues. Oct. 1</u>	7:00 AM Rotary in Fellowship Hall 9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall 6:30 PM Sparks in Fellowship Hall
<u>Wed. Oct. 2</u>	9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour 1:00 PM Avon Menn. Prayer Group in their office 5:30-7:00 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room
<u>Thurs. Oct. 3</u>	11:00 AM Worship at Spruce Lodge 12:00 NOON Bible Study Fellowship Hall being decorated for Birthday Party tomorrow 5:00-6:30 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room 7:00 Choir
<u>Fri. Oct. 4</u>	2:00-4:00 PM 80 And Over “Birthday Party” in Fellowship Hall
<u>Sun. Oct. 6</u>	“Pentecost 21” 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Jim & Judy Stanley

Usher Captain: Darrell Renecker

Altar: Ellen Wolfe

Reader: Mary-Lou Drown

Counting Captain: Janet Chandler

House of Blessing: Heather Broadfoot

