

Then Jesus began to say to them  
"Beware that no one  
leads you astray."

Mark 13:5, NRSV



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November 17, 2024

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# ***ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH***

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

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

Cell: 519-274-1300

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## **People of Zion**

**Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen**

**Sister Jean Widmeyer**

**Andrew Elian**

**Laura Burton**

**Éric Charbonneau**

## **Ministers**

**Pastor**

**Visitation Minister**

**Minister of Music**

**Organist**

**Pianist**

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**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**November 17, 2024**

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## **GATHERING**

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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**Hymn 870 “We Praise You, O God”**

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

**Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm: 16

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-25

Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel: Mark 13:1-8

Children’s Message

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/OIR-nOClcko?si=p7TvBRH6trvUrfAM>

**Hymn 754: “Jesus, the Very Thought of You”**

Apostles’ Creed

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Prayers of Intercession

**MEAL****Offering Hymn 182: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”**

Offertory Prayer

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The Great Thanksgiving

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Communion Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

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Distribution of Holy Communion

**Distribution Hymns: 755, 756**

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

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**SENDING**

Blessing

Page 136

**Hymn 759: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”**

Dismissal

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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. **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.***



## **THIS WEEK WE PRAY:**

>for our members and friends with special needs: Allen, Bernice, Dan, Mike, 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. Nov. 18</u>	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 PM Pathfinders in Parlour 7-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall
<u>Tues. Nov. 19</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. Nov. 20</u>	9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour 5:45-7:00 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room 7:00 PM Congregational Council Meeting in Parlour
<u>Thurs. Nov. 21</u>	12:00 Noon Bible Study in Parlour 2:15 PM Worship at Knollcrest 4:30 PM Confirmation in Parlour 5:15-6:45 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room 7:00 PM Choir Practice in Chapel
<u>Fri. Nov. 22</u>	10:30 AM-Noon Pastor Tim in Parlour 2:00 – 3:00 PM Marek & Barb in Sanctuary **Sister Jean Away**
<u>Sun. Nov. 24</u>	* <b>CHRIST THE KING</b> * 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School “Cook” Family Christmas in Fellowship Hall **Sister Jean Away**

## **SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> AS WE WORSHIP**

**Greeters:** Wayne & Linda Faulhafer  
**Usher Captain:** Tom Cosstick  
**Altar:** Shirley Whittaker

**Reader:** Carmen Beck  
**Counting Captain:** Jan Bennewitz  
**House of Blessing:** Gerry Rehberg



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETERS THIS MORNING:** Assisting Brad & Sherri Beatty as they greet you this morning are some more “little greeters”. We want to thank our Sunday School Children as they assist in worship in this “special” way and commend them for a job “well done”!

**TODAY’S BULLETIN** is sponsored by **Jean Weir** in loving memory of her husband, **Bill Weir** +November 17, 1999 and sisters, **Marilyn Pickering** +October 16, 2004 and **Marjorie Robinson** +April 29, 2016 and special friends, **Joyce Dietz** +July 27, 2019 and **Carol Schlemmer** +July 19, 2022.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** A reminder that Sunday School ends 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!

*We are excited to announce that the Sunday School Children will be singing in church on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.*

**NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER:** Included in the Newsletter envelope was a Deficit Letter from our Treasurer, Gerald Cook. It is mentioned in this letter that a “**Current Fund Deficit**” envelope was enclosed. Please accept my apology as I forgot to include the Current Fund Deficit envelopes in the mailout.

**Current Fund Deficit envelopes have been placed at all entrances for you to use.** I do apologize for the inconvenience this has caused.

**COFFEE HOUR:** Your Congregational Life Committee would like to hold more coffee hours for you to have an opportunity to mingle with each other after worship. In order to do so, they are looking for volunteers to assist in hosting a coffee hour.

A “Sign Up” sheet has been placed on the table at the back of the Sanctuary. If you are able to host or participate in a coffee hour, please sign the sheet or call Jan Bennewitz at 519-271-6073. Thank you!

**“MEMORY & AGING PROGRAM”** is being offered in Stratford, once again, by the Alzheimer Society Huron Perth. This 4-week “Healthy Brain Workshop” answers questions like:

- What kinds of memory changes should I expect as I grow older?
- What changes are normal and which ones are not?
- Can I improve my memory?

The course takes place on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and runs from November 21<sup>st</sup> to December 12<sup>th</sup>. The only cost is \$25.00 for your workbook. Registration is required as group size is limited.

To register: call 1-800-561-5012 or email: [christyb@alzhp.ca](mailto:christyb@alzhp.ca) or [jeanettes@alzhp.ca](mailto:jeanettes@alzhp.ca).

**INNERchamber** is delighted to present the 2<sup>nd</sup> concert of their 15<sup>th</sup> season – ***In Conversation*** – on Sunday, November 24, 2024.

Location: Factory 163 at 163 King Street, Stratford, ON. Light dinner begins at 5:30 P.M. Concert begins at 7:00 P.M.

The Sonata is chamber music in its purest form: two colleagues sharing their musical thoughts. Filled with the scope and richness of symphonies, presented with intimacy of an evening of the richest conversation imaginable, an evening of sonatas satisfies like nothing else.

**Andrew Chung** on violin and **Anna Ronai** on piano will perform.

Tickets are on sale at [www.innerchamber.ca](http://www.innerchamber.ca).

**JAZZ VESPERS:** **Paul Shilton's Quartet** will be the featured musicians for the next Jazz Vespers at St. James Anglican Church on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M. The musicians are:

<b>Paul Shilton</b>	<b>Piano</b>
<b>Larry Larson</b>	<b>Trumpet</b>
<b>Mike McClellan</b>	<b>Bass</b>
<b>Dave Campioin</b>	<b>Drums</b>

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS INFORMAL EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**THE WOMEN OF FAITH** will be having their “**Annual Christmas Luncheon**” on **Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the Arden Park Dining Room. ***\*\*Please be there by 11:30 A.M.\*\**** All ladies are welcome!

If you can attend, please contact Darlene Illman (519-271-0996) or Wendy Hansen (519-271-4664) by **November 28<sup>th</sup>**.

**Also, any WOF members able to help at Coffee Hour on December 1<sup>st</sup> or December 8<sup>th</sup>, please contact Irene Ehgoetz.**

### **FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS**



Donations are now being accepted until the middle of December so the Women of Faith can purchase flowers to decorate the church for our Christmas celebrations. If you wish to donate, please put **“Christmas Flowers” and your name on a separate envelope** and place it on an offering plate located at the back of the Sanctuary or at the ramp entrance; or drop it off in the locked mailbox, or bring it to the church office. Thank you for your gift!

## **LUNCH AT THE LOCAL**

The LOCAL is a community/organization that serves the needs of the residents of Stratford. It is known for providing meals on Monday evenings and lunch on Fridays at noon for the hungry/lonely in our community. We at Zion are invited to come and eat, learn about the programs at the LOCAL and tour the facility on **Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.** The LOCAL is located at 612 Erie Street (the old Co-op).

At this meal the Deaconess Community is presenting an award of \$12,500 USD (about \$17,000 Canadian) to the LOCAL to continue its work among the residents of Stratford. Sister Jean is a member of the Deaconess Community and nominated the LOCAL for this gift. The Deaconess Community received a bequest and proceeds from the sale of property. The Community policy is to tithe all bequests. Therefore, \$140,000 was available for ministry projects and the LOCAL was chosen to receive this gift in the amount of \$12,500 USD.

If you are interested in learning about the ministry of the LOCAL, please come to lunch, meet Executive Director, Margaret Smart, learn and tour its facilities. If you plan to come, please let Sister Jean know, so that we can let our hosts know how many are coming for the lunch.

**GIFTS FROM THE HEART:** CLWR's Gifts from the Heart 2024 Christmas Catalogues have arrived. You will find copies at each of the entrances. "Share God's love with the world and make a meaningful difference in the lives of others with Gifts from the Heart!"

New for this year is a colouring contest! All ages are invited to participate and win \$500 to spend donating items from this year's catalogue. Simply print off the illustration of the scene from Lake Chad, where farmers are fighting to restore an unraveling ecosystem and you could win one of 6 prizes thanks to Martin Luther University College, plus a CLWR swag prize pack. Submission details and the colouring page can be found at [www.clwr.org/colourcontest](http://www.clwr.org/colourcontest). Good luck!!

**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 **pasta and/or pasta sauce** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.







## **CHRISTMAS EVENTS** **IN OUR COMMUNITY**



**HOUSE OF BLESSING** are seeking volunteers for their Christmas Toy Program. Their festive shopping starts on November 27<sup>th</sup>. This is a wonderful opportunity for volunteers to help in distributing toys to members of our community who could use some extra support during the holiday shopping season.

Volunteer hours are from 9:00 A.M. to 11:45 A.M. or 1:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Monday through Friday with two (2) volunteers needed for each shift.

Your participation will greatly contribute to the success of this event.

If you are interested in helping, please reach out to Joanne at 519-273-3433 x 204, email [volunteer@shob.org](mailto:volunteer@shob.org), or stop by her office at 423 Erie Street, Stratford.

### **CAROLFEST: (Fundraiser for House of Blessing)**

**November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.**

- ***Author/Storyteller Jennifer Paquette***
- ***Downie Street Collective PLUS***
- ***Stratford Concert Band & Community Choir***

**Avondale United Church, 194 Avondale Ave., 519-271-7946**

**A free will offering will be taken – all proceeds to House of Blessing**

**THE LONDON PRO MUSICA CHOIR** presents “*A Village Christmas*” featuring Christmas music rather than Messiah. Think familiar carols like Ding Dong Merrily on High, but in different arrangements. There is music by John Rutter, Morten Lauridsen and Mendelssohn among many others. This is not a hymn/carol sing, but lovely Christmas music.

**When:** Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 3:00 P.M. Doors open at 2:30 P.M.

**Where:** St. Marys United Church, 85 Church Street South, St. Marys.

**General Admission:** \$25.00.

**“SWING INTO CHRISTMAS”** with the *Sing For The Joy Of It Choir*; Dan Van Winden, Artistic Director; Karen Rempel, Accompanist  
featuring Special Guest Musicians: Chris Adair \* Diane Doig \* Tom Garrick \* Laurence Gauci \* Steve Gruchy \* David Manning

**TWO SHOWS – DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:30 P.M.**

Avondale United Church, 194 Avondale Ave., Stratford

Tickets: \$20 (Advance Sales Only)

Youth 17 & Under \$5

Livestream Links for either show \$20



Available at the Avondale Church Office 519-271-7946 or by emailing [singforthejoyofit@gmail.com](mailto:singforthejoyofit@gmail.com)  
E-transfer payment available ([singforthejoyofit@gmail.com](mailto:singforthejoyofit@gmail.com))

## **STRATFORD CONCERT CHOIR *Sing-along MESSIAH***

**December 7, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

**Avondale United Church, Stratford**

**For tickets and information, please visit [stratfordconcertchoir.org](http://stratfordconcertchoir.org)**

## **ROTARY HOSPICE UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### **6<sup>TH</sup> Annual Lighting Ceremony on Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.**

Dedicate a light in honour or in memory of a loved one. Their name and your message will be included in the slideshow at the lighting ceremony and updated on their website until December 31<sup>st</sup>. Learn more and dedicate your light at [rotaryhospice.ca](http://rotaryhospice.ca) or call 519-508-4900.

### **Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol**

Come out on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> for a delightful evening of festive cheer hosted by Peter Mansbridge. Get ready to be swept away by the magic of the holiday season as our area's talented performers bring this timeless tale to the state.

Rotary Hospice is honoured, once again, to have former CBC Radio News anchor, Judy Maddren, as not only producer of the evening's performance but also as a reader!

Tickets are available at [rotaryhospice.ca](http://rotaryhospice.ca) or call 519-508-4900.

### **Grief During the Holidays**

There will be a winter webinar on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 P.M. on Zoom.

The holidays can be a difficult time for those grieving the loss of a loved one. Rotary Hospice invites you to join their Registered Social Worker Melissa McManus on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 P.M. to discuss strategies and supports for coping with loss during the holidays.

Whether you lost someone at Rotary Hospice or in the community, all are welcome to attend this online presentation. Please register for this event by emailing [sw@rotaryhospice.ca](mailto:sw@rotaryhospice.ca). You will receive a Zoom link via email closer to the event.

I will publish more Christmas events as we are made aware of them.

