



March 23, 2025

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

Andrew Elian

Laura Burton

Éric Charbonneau

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 658 “O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts”

Greeting

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Canticle of Praise: “Glory to God”

Page 121

Prayer of the Day:

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm: 63:1-8

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Lenten Acclamation

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Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Children’s Message

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/mkbeJIYNo-I?si=VnqvTB0JzdxLwdnv>

Hymn 445: “Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

Holy Baptism

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Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

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Choir Anthem: “Behold the Shepherd”

Natalie Sleeth

MEAL

Offering Hymn 186: “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

Offering Prayer

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The Great Thanksgiving

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Communion Prayer

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The Lord’s Prayer

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Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns: 484, 461

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing

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Post-Communion Prayer

Blessing

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Hymn 454: “Remember and Rejoice”

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: Marleen, Linda, Bonnie, Elaine, Garry, Glenn, Joy, Todd, Gwen, Jim, Dan, Mike, Jack, Cindy, Diane, Gloria, Kathleen, Tony, Katie, Paul, Wendy, Joan, Devon, Hollice, Joyce, Maria, Tom, Marian, Anne, Leanne, Isabelle, Al, Melinda, Brian, Paul, Nya, and Cathy;

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

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. March 24</u>	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 PM Pathfinders in Parlour 7-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall
<u>Tues. March 25</u>	9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall 6:30 PM Sparks in Fellowship Hall
<u>Wed. March 26</u>	9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour 9:30 AM Nith Valley Clergy in Fellowship Hall 1:30 PM Communion Service in Chapel followed by coffee in Parlour
<u>Thurs. March 27</u>	12:00 NOON Bible Study in Parlour 4:30 PM Confirmation in Parlour 7:00 PM Choir in Chapel
<u>Fri. March 28</u>	2:00 -3:00 PM Marek in Sanctuary
<u>Sun. March 30</u>	* Fourth Sunday in Lent * 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 30th AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Ron & Nancy Hesas
Usher Captain: Darrell Renecker
Altar: Carmen Beck

Reader: Carmen Beck
Counting Captain: N/A
House of Blessing: Gerry Rehberg



ANNOUNCEMENTS



This morning we welcome two (2) new members to our Zion Family through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Damian Michael Brodhagen

Son of Ryan & Kira Brodhagen

Born on June 22, 2024

Lemon Katherine Ellen Brodhagen

Daughter of Nicholas & Avrey Brodhagen

Born on October 10, 2024

Congratulations to the Brodhagen families.



**WELCOME
TO THE
FAMILY**

You are invited to a “Coffee Hour” in the Fellowship Hall immediately following Worship which is being sponsored by the Brodhagen families. We want to extend a “Thank You” to these families for sponsoring this Coffee Hour in celebration of their children’s Baptisms.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The children of the Sunday School will be singing at the 10:00 A.M. service on Sunday, April 6th.

LENTON LUNCHESES 2025:

- Theme:** The I Am Statements of Jesus in John’s Gospel
- Location:** Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church, 50 Well Street
- Time:** 12:00 Noon to 1:00 P.M. Lunch begins promptly at Noon
- Speaker Slot:** 12:35 to 12:55 P.M.
- Menu:** Soups, Sandwiches, Veggies, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Water
- Admission:** \$11.00
- Dates:** Six Wednesdays in Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday, March 5th

March 26th the Speaker will be Tim Elliott from St. James Anglican Church



WEDNESDAY COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE CHAPEL: has resumed on the **FOURTH (4TH) WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH** at 1:30 PM.

**THE NEXT WEDNESDAY WORSHIP IS ON
MARCH 26TH**

You are invited to the parlour following worship for coffee and/or tea and cookies.

We look forward to seeing you!!!

AVONDALE UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY MEAL: The next Community Meal at Avondale United Church is

**Sunday, March 30, 2025.
194 Avondale Ave.
(Entrance off Huntingdon Ave.)
5:15 P.M. Meal Start Time
Dine-In Only**

Meal: Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Mixed Veggies, Coleslaw, Rolls, Cake & Ice Cream

EASTER FLOWERS: As is our custom here at Zion, donations are now being accepted so the **Women of Faith** can purchase flowers and decorate the church for our Easter celebrations.

Please write **“Easter Flowers”** and **your name on a separate envelope** and place it on the offering plate, in the locked mailbox, or bring it in to the church office any weekday morning.

COFFEE HOUR: Your Congregational Life Committee would like to hold more coffee hours for you to have an opportunity to visit and catch up 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!

GRIEF SUPPORT: A Grief Support Group will be held at St. James Church. Meetings will take place in the Club Room at St. James on Monday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:00 P.M. The start date is yet to be established. Resource material will be “Understanding Your Grief” by Alan Wolfelt and is available from the church office at St. James. Any one interested can contact Nancy Adams at 519-495-9492 or email to spiritworker@gmail.com.

SENIORS’ LUNCHEONS AT ZION: It has been decided that they will be held the **SECOND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

Mark your calendars!!! The first meal is planned for FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH.

Volunteers have been arranged to call our Senior members. If you wish to ensure that you are on the list to attend, there is a “Sign-Up Sheet” on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.

More information will be published in future Newsletters and Sunday Bulletins as it becomes available.

STRATFORD CONNECTION CENTRE: Spring is around the corner, but the nights are still cold and the needs are still high. Below is the latest **“much needed”** list. Whatever help you can provide is greatly appreciated!



Please drop off donations in the bins located at the back of the Sanctuary or inside the office entrance door.

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 **Boxed Mac & Cheese or Assorted Crackers** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH is
thrilled to announce that we are
hosting our “2nd Concert” to raise
funds for our much-needed stair
lifts!

“WE THREE KINGS”

**Featuring Three (3) World-
Renowned Tribute Artists from
Three (3) Countries**

**Depicting Three (3) Decades of
the King of Rock & Roll!**

**Hugo Colin (United States) ♥
Roy LeBlanc (Canada) ♥ Oliver
Steinhoff (Germany)**

JULY 27TH @ 2:00 P.M.

**Zion Lutheran Church
202 Erie Street
Stratford, ON**

**Tickets are available through the
Church Office (519-271-8527)
Tuesday through Friday
mornings for \$40.00 each or
through Ticketscene
www.ticketscene.ca/events/50328**

Please Spread The Word!

Join us
during this
season
of Lent.

