



March 9, 2025

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

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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

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Hymn 319 “O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”

Greeting

Page 120

Canticle of Praise: “Glory to God”

Prayer of the Day:

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, 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: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm: 91:1-2, 9-16

Second Reading: Romans 10:8b-13

Lenten Acclamation

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Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/EE7-bzWbRCs?si=r9mRKO6Ow7KniBSv>

Hymn 324: “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

Apostles' Creed

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Prayers of Intercession
Sharing the Peace
Choir Anthem: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

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- Lani Smith

MEAL

Offering Hymn 186: "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Offering Prayer	Page 129
The Great Thanksgiving	Page 129
Communion Prayer	Page 133
The Lord's Prayer	Page 134

Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns: 480, 325

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing	Page 136
Post-Communion Prayer	
Blessing	

Hymn 338: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

Dismissal	Page 137
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Postlude: "On the seashore" op. 53 no.1

- one of Felix Mendelssohn's *Songs Without Words*

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:

Mon. March 10

2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry
2-4:00 PM CFUW in Boardroom
6:00 PM Pathfinders in Parlour
7-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall

Tues. March 11

9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM Seniors' Luncheon Meeting in Parlour
2:00 PM Greenwood Court Worship
6:00-10:00 PM "Sing For The Joy Of" It practising in Sanctuary
6:30 PM Sparks in Fellowship Hall

Wed. March 12

9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour
10:00 AM Worship & Music Committee meeting in Board Room
5:00 PM Bethel Community Meal in Fellowship Hall

Thurs. March 13

12:00 NOON Bible Study in Parlour
2:30 PM Hillside Worship
7:00 PM Choir in Chapel

Fri. March 14

2:00 -3:00 PM Marek in Sanctuary
** **ZIONEWS INFO DUE** **

Sun. March 16

* **Second Sunday in Lent** *
10:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Paul & Janet Jeffery
Usher Captain: Jerry Terhaerd
Altar: Sister Jean

Reader: Glenn Rittinger
Counting Captain: N/A
House of Blessing: Paula McNaughton



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL: THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY !

ANNUAL MEETING: The annual congregation meeting of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church will meet this morning immediately following Worship.

- The meeting will, once again, be available on Zoom for those who do not wish to attend in person. Details for joining on Zoom are printed at the bottom of the Agenda in the Annual and Financial Reports package.
- For anyone attending Worship this morning, copies of the Annual and Financial Reports are available on the table at the back of the church. Thank you to those of you who have brought your copies that you previously picked up with you!

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 Charge: \$11.00

Dates: Six Wednesdays in Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday, March 5th

March 12th the Speaker will be Rick Bruinsma from Elgin Missionary Church

BETHEL COMMUNITY MEAL: The next Bethel Community Meal will be held on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12TH in the Fellowship Hall here at Zion with dinner commencing at 5:00 P.M.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY HURON PERTH presents "EDUCATION HOUR"

One hour – one topic, No cost, hosted virtually over ZOOM. Presentations on brain health, cognitive changes and dementia. Bring your questions!

Wednesday, March 12th

1:30 P.M.

Meaningful Visits

ST. PADDY'S PARTY:

SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH, 7:00-10:30 P.M.

Doors open at 6:30 P.M.

Music by Strings & Traps

Location: Avondale United Church

194 Avondale Ave., Stratford

**Tickets: \$25.00 available by contacting the church office at
519-271-7946; avondaleuc@wightman.ca**

WOMEN OF FAITH MEETING: Please note that the **general** meeting of the Women of Faith will take place **MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025 at 9:30 A.M. in the Parlour here at the Church.**

INNERchamber is delighted to present the 4th concert of their 15th season – *Tokyo Digs A Garden*. **Sunday, March 23rd, 2025 at Factory 163, 163 King Street, Stratford. Light dinner begins at 5:45 PM Concert begins at 7:00 PM.**

INNERchamber presents *Tokyo Digs A Garden* by Stratford residents, Jon-Erik Lappano and Kellen Hatanaka, in a new musical setting by Ben Bolt-Martin. This All Ages concert also features music by Donald Davis Graham Hargrove, Maurice Ravel and Turloch O'Carolan.

Artists: **Deborah Hay** (narrator) and the **INNERchamber Ensemble** – Laura Chambers (flute), Andrew Chung (violin and viola), Julia Seager-Scott (harp), Graham Hargrove (percussion).

Tickets are on sale at www.innerchamber.ca

WORSHIP
with us

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!!!

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 in early March. 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: Below is the latest “**much needed**” list. We have been advised that donations have dropped off significantly. Whatever help you can provide is greatly appreciated!

- Handwarmers
- New, warm socks
- Non-perishable snacks
- Bottled drinks
- Vaseline or lip balm
- Wet-wipes
- Kleenex
- Freezer bags or drawstring bags
- \$5-\$10 Tim Hortons gift cards

They are also accepting:

- Water-resistant gloves
- Winter coats and snowpants in good condition
- Winter boots in good condition
- Thermal wear (long-johns, base layer)
- Laundry soap
- Large bottles of shampoo and body wash
- Hot chocolate, coffee, tea
- New underwear (men’s and women’s)

They currently are well stocked with toothpaste, toothbrushes and feminine hygiene products.

**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 **Pasta 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.

Join us
during this
season
of Lent.

