

After this he said to him,
"Follow me."

John 21:19, NRSV



May 4, 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 of Easter

May 4, 2025

GATHERING

Prelude: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

Healey Willan

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 876 “Let the Whole Creation Cry”

Greeting

Page 120

Canticle of Praise “Glory to God”

Page 121

Prayer of the Day:

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow 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: Acts 9:1-20

Psalm: 30

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

Gospel Acclamation

Page 124

Gospel: John 21:1-19

Children’s Message

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/-2cUhKT7JR0?si=FzwAO2Ygerd76N8G8zD>

Hymn 806: “O God, My Faithful God”

Nicene Creed	Page 126
Prayers of Intercession	
Sharing the Peace	Page 128

MEAL

Offering Hymn 182: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

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: 379, 800

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing	Page 136
Post-Communion Prayer	
Blessing	Page 136

Hymn 810: “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Dismissal	Page 137
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Postlude: “Wir glauben all en einen Gott”

Samuel Schiedt

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: Marg, Doris, Marleen, Nancy, 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, Leanne, Isabelle, Al, Melinda, Brian, Paul, Nya, and Cathy;

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

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

Mon. May 5

2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry

6:00 PM Pathfinders in Parlour

Tues. May 6

9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall

2:00 PM Greenwood Court Worship

2:00 PM CFUW in Boardroom

6:30 PM Sparks in Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM Rotary Board in Boardroom

Wed. May 7

9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour

2:00 PM Council of Churches Executive in Parlour

Thurs. May 8

9:30-11:30 AM Alzheimers in Parlour & Chapel

12:00 NOON Bible Study in Parlour

2:30 PM Hillside Worship

4:30 PM Confirmation in Parlour

7:00 PM Choir in Chapel

Fri. May 9

12:00 Noon-2:00 PM Seniors' Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

Sun. May 11

*** Easter 4 ***

10:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Sunday School (LAST DAY)

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 11TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Jim & Judy Stanley

Usher Captain: Brian Coe

Altar: Shirley Whittaker

Reader: Glenn Rittinger

Counting Captain: Mary-Lou Drown

House of Blessing: Paula McNaughton



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL: The last day for Sunday school is Sunday, May 11th!

UPCOMING STRATFORD BLOOD DONATION EVENT:

Tuesday, May 6th **1 PM to 8 PM**

Best Western: the Arden Park Hotel

By appointment. Book now by calling 1-888-236-6283 or at www.blood.ca/GiveBlood App

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH & STRATFORD CONNECTION CENTRE FUND RAISER:

Please help St. Paul's Anglican Church and the Connection Centre (Waterloo and Douro Street) raise funds for a new commercial dishwasher by attending the "Harmony and Hope Concert" on Saturday, May 10th at 4:00 p.m. featuring "Velvet & Ivory" (Beverley Maranger, vocals and Tim Elliott, piano).

Tickets are \$20.00 each at the door or online at [Tithe.ly Event Registration](#)

GRAND RIVER OPERA PRESENTS:

NORMA and the VALKYRIE

(Excerpts from Bellini's Norma and Wagner's Die Walkure)

Friday May 23rd	Knox Presbyterian Church, Waterloo	7:30 pm
Saturday, May 24	Central Presbyterian Church, Cambridge	7:30 pm
Sunday, May 25	Avondale United Church, Stratford	7:30 pm

Sliding Scale Tickets \$25 / \$35 / \$45

GrandRiverOpera.com

STRATFORD CONCERT CHOIR Presents “Vivaldi GLORIA” with the Stratford Symphony Orchestra; Conducted by Stephane Potvin

May 24, 2025 Avondale United Church, Stratford 7:00 pm

For Tickets and information, please visit stratfordconcertchoir.org or Blowes Stationery,
34 Wellington Street

WALK FOR ALZHEIMER'S: How many steps will you take for Dementia?

Walk to support more than 3,200 people living with Dementia in Huron and Perth Counties

May 24, 2025

10:00 am

Register Today: It's easy to register and start fundraising! Bring your water bottle!

walkforalzheimers.ca

Rain or Shine

St. Marys Milt Dunnell Park
"The Flats"

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.



**STRATFORD
CONNECTION CENTRE:**

Spring is around the corner,
but the nights are still cold
and the needs are still high.
See the list for the latest
“**much needed**” items.
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.**

The sandwich makers for the Connection Centre would greatly appreciate donations of food gift cards from Walmart or Food Basics. Any support you are able to provide is most welcome.

DANCING IN THE RAIN: “Life isn’t about waiting for the storm to pass, it’s about learning how to Dance in the Rain! The Bible says, rejoice ALWAYS! Even in the storms of life, as worshipers of God, we can rejoice and dance in the rain, in the midst of the storm. We rejoice not because our circumstances are perfect. We rejoice because we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28).

Come to beautiful Niagara Falls and join a vibrant group of women to explore our theme and Keynote Speaker (Kimberly Wardell), Worship, art, music, movement and more.”

Chaplain: Rev. Jennifer Hoover
June 20 – June 22, 2025
Mount Carmel Spiritual Retreat Centre
7020 Stanley Ave., Niagara Falls

Deadline to sign up is May 10, 2025.

For more information contact the Church office at 519-271-8527. The office is open Tuesday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

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 Sauce or Baked Beans** 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!