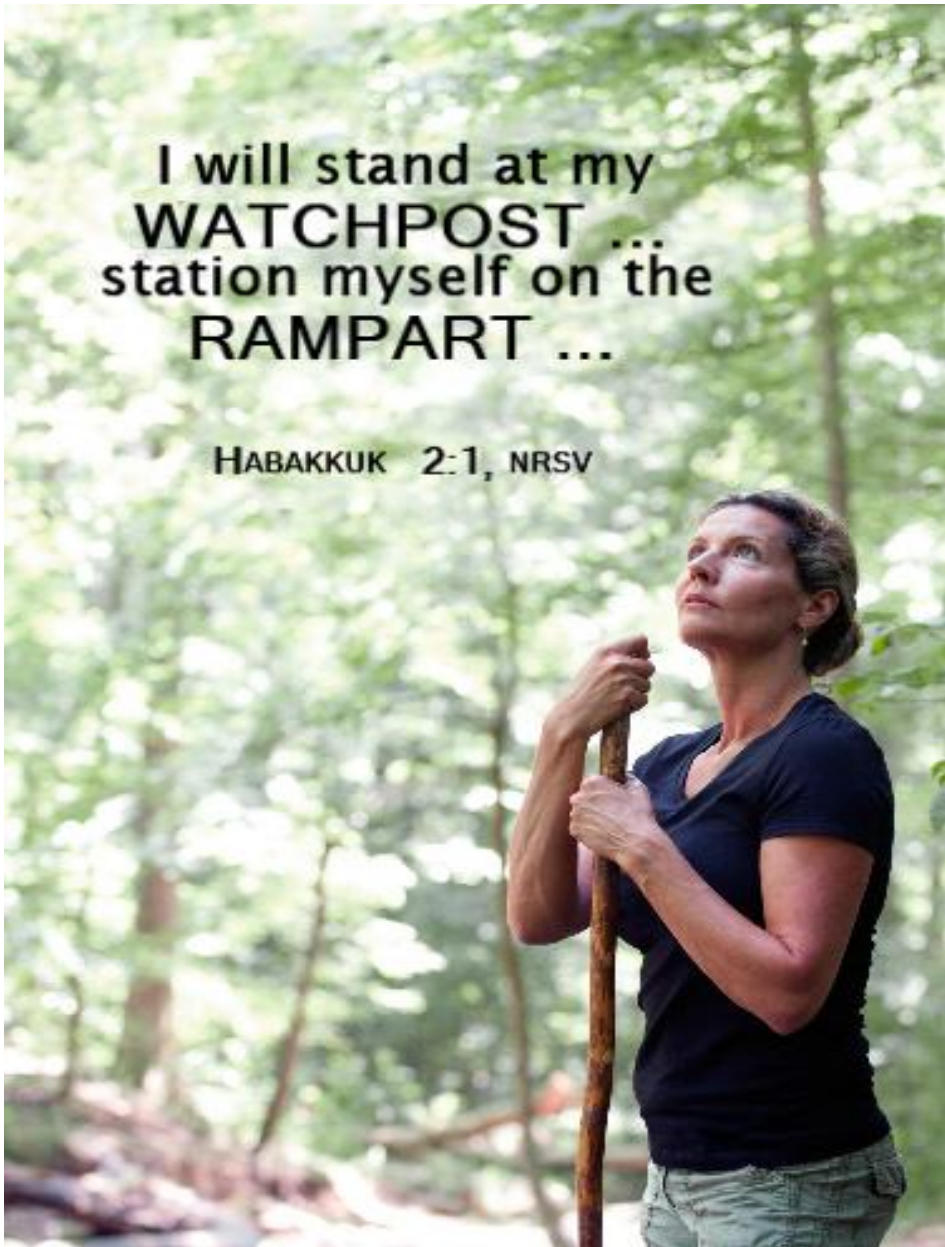


I will stand at my
WATCHPOST ...
station myself on the
RAMPART ...

HABAKKUK 2:1, NRSV



October 5, 2025

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

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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

Pentecost 17

October 5, 2025

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 759: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbours and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalms: 37:1-9

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Gospel Acclamation

Page 124

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Children's Message

Sermon: https://www.youtube.com/live/uneITzmd-Jo?si=6XeHO9b_WwbP1o3k

Hymn 733: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Apostles’ Creed Page 127

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace Page 128

Choir Anthem: “Now Thank We All Our God”

MEAL

Offering Hymn 182: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

Offering Prayer Page 129

The Great Thanksgiving Page 129

Communion Prayer Page 130

The Lord’s Prayer Page 134

Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns: 812, 769

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing Page 136

Post-Communion Prayer

Blessing Page 136

Hymn 545: “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Dismissal Page 137

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: Judy, Isabel, Bill, Marie, Tim, Lucy, Jamie, Marg, Doris, Marleen, Nancy, Gwen, Jim, Jack, Diane, Gloria, Kathleen, Tony, Paul, Wendy, Joan, Devon, Hollice, Joyce, Maria, Tom, Marian, Leanne, Isabelle, Al, Brian, Paul, Nya, and Cathy;
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. October 6</u>	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00-8:00 PM Girl Guides in Parlour 7:00-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall
<u>Tues. October 7</u>	9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall
<u>Wed. October 8</u>	9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour WOF making sandwiches in kitchen
<u>Thurs. October 9</u>	12:00 Noon Bible Study in the Parlour 4:30 PM Confirmation in Parlour 6:30-8 PM Girl Guides in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Choir in Chapel
<u>Fri. October 10</u>	Decorating for Thanksgiving 9:00 AM WOF making sandwiches in kitchen 12 Noon-2:00 PM Seniors' Luncheon in Fellowship Hall
<u>Sun. October 12</u>	* THANKSGIVING * 10:00 AM Worship

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Darrell & Judy Renecker
Usher Captain: Darrell Renecker
Altar: Carmen Beck

Reader: Murray Scholl
Counting Captain: NO COUNTERS
House of Blessing: Irvin Riehl



ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR: Come on down to the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship this morning for the first Coffee Hour of Fall, hosted by Tom & Joanne Cosstick.

All are welcome to come together in the Fellowship Hall for a coffee, tea or water and sweet treat. See you there!

“Thank you” Tom & Joanne for hosting this morning’s coffee hour.

If you would like to host a coffee hour, please sign the sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary or contact Irene Ehgoetz at 519-271-8878 or Jan Bennewitz 519-271-6073. No experience necessary! One member of Congregational Life will assist you.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

PLEASE NOTE CORRECTION TO EMAIL ADDRESS: Sunday School has a NEW email address: zionluth.sscoord@outlook.com. Please use this email address in place of pauley_mcnoughton@hotmail.com. Thank you!

A reminder that Sunday School ends at 11:15 A.M. We ask that parents/grandparents 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 12th.

The Sunday School children will be singing in church on Sunday, October 19th during the 10:00 A.M. service.

DECORATING FOR THANKSGIVING:

“Come, ye thankful people, come:

Raise the song of harvest home.” (ELW 693)

On Sunday, October 12 we will celebrate the Festival of Thanksgiving, giving thanks to God for showering God’s abundant blessings on us. To assist in our celebration, the Worship and Music Committee is asking for your help in decorating our Sanctuary.

We could use produce from your gardens, produce from the grocery stores, and non-perishable items from the grocery stores. After Thanksgiving these supplies will be donated to the House of Blessing for its work among the residents of Stratford.

Please bring your gifts to the church the week of October 6 (and by October 10).

Thank you in advance for helping with this project.

AVONDALE UNITED CHURCH – CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW(194 Avondale Ave, Stratford): is taking place

Saturday, October 18th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
50+ Vendors and Huge Bake Sale
Admission by non-perishable food items for Avondale's Foodshelf
Penny Sale Fundraiser for the work of Avondale United Church
Lots of parking off of Huntingdon Avenue.
Look for Ken's French Fries food truck in the parking lot!

JAZZ VESPERS:

Sunday, October 19th at 4:00 PM
St. James Anglican Church, Mornington Street

Musicians:

The Steve Holowitz Trio: Steve Holowitz, piano; Paul Stevenson, trumpet; Greg Mainprize, drums

Steve Holowitz is the Director of Music at St. James Westminster in London
Reflection by the Rev. Tianna Gocan, the new assistant at St. James

All welcome to this informal evening worship

WOF MEETING: The next general meeting of the Women of Faith (WOF) will be held on Monday, October 20th at 9:30 in the Parlour.

ST. JAMES CONCERT: a concert in support of the St. James Anglican food ministry is taking place on Friday, October 24th at 7:00 PM in the magnificent acoustics of the St. James Upper Parish Hall featuring "Velvet & Ivory" (Beverley Maranger, vocals and Tim Elliott, piano). Free will offering.



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 **Peanut Butter or canned vegetables and fruit** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

Empty Bowls Is Back!

Tickets are now on sale for **Empty Bowls**, finally returning in person this fall at the Stratford Rotary Complex on **Friday, October 24th!** This much-loved community event brings together local

restaurants, artists, businesses and supporters in support of Stratford House of Blessing's food programs.

Volunteers are needed throughout the day, both morning and afternoon, to help move supplies to the Rotary Complex and set up, as well as in the evening to run the event and then to assist with clean up. (This would be another great event for youth groups to get involved with as volunteers.)

For tickets or to volunteer contact Joanne at volunteer@shob.org.

STRATFORD CONNECTIONS

URGENT NEEDS

**Volunteers for
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday**

**Razors
Toothbrushes
Basic t-shirts (medium)
Ground coffee
Packaged grab & go snacks!
Deodorant**



**THANK
YOU**

STRATFORD CONNECTION CENTRE: Please see the list for the latest “**much needed**” items. Whatever help you can provide is greatly appreciated!

Please Note: Due to limited space, Stratford Connection Centre is not able to accept donations of clothing. If you have clothing to donate, please take it to Goodwill as this is where Stratford Connection takes their homeless for clothing.

HOWEVER, donations of socks, underwear, hats, scarves and mittens (preferably water proof mittens) are needed and accepted at Stratford Connection. Thank you!

Please drop off donations in the bins 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.

Thank You!





GOD'S LOVE

*is like
a pie!*

*Best when
you share
a piece with
someone
else.*