



He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

Matthew 17:2, ESV

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

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People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen
Sister Jean Widmeyer
Stéphane Potvin
Laura Burton
Éric Charbonneau

Ministers

Pastor
Visitation Minister
Minister of Music
Organist
Pianist

Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 15, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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Hymn 308: “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

Greeting

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Prayer of the Day:

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Anthem: “This is My Beloved Son”

Knut Nystedt

Kathryn Low, Soloist

WORD

First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm: 2

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Hymn 315: “How Good, Lord, to Be Here!”

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Prayers of Intercession	
Sharing the Peace	Page 128
Choir Anthem: “O Christ, Thou Bright and Morning Star”	Christopher Tye

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: 316, 661

SENDING

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Post-Communion Prayer	
Blessing	Page 136
Hymn 838: “Beautiful Saviour”	
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: Bev, Jim, Wayne, Doris, Matthew, Marjorie, Bill, Marie, Jamie, Marleen, Nancy, Gwen, Jim, Jack, Diane, Gloria, Kathleen, Tony, Paul, Wendy, Devon, Hollice, 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. February 16</u>	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl in Parlour 6:00-8:00 PM Girl Guides in Parlour 7:00-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall 7:15 PM Choir in Chapel
<u>Tues. February 17</u>	9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Parlour
<u>Wed. February 18</u>	* ASH WEDNESDAY * 9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour 3:30 PM Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting in Parlour 4:30-7:00 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room 7:00 Worship
<u>Thurs. February 19</u>	12:00 Noon Bible Study in Parlour 2:15 PM Knollcrest Worship 4:30 PM Confirmation in Parlour 5:00-7:00 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room 6:30-8:00 PM Girl Guides in Fellowship Hall
<u>Sun. February 22</u>	* LENT 1* 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Ron & Nancy Hesas
Usher Captain: Brian Coe
Altar: Sister Jean

Reader: Stephen Fischer
Counting Captain: Audrey Miller
House of Blessing: Gerry Rehberg



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME: Please extend a warm Zion welcome to “Kathryn Low” who is our guest soloist this morning.

2025 OFFICIAL RECEIPTS FOR INCOME TAX: There are still a few who have not picked up their 2025 Official Receipts for Income Tax. Please see Sister Jean. Thank you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There is **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH**

JAZZ VESPERS: **This afternoon, Sunday, February 15th, 2026 at 4:00 PM**
St. James Anglican Church
41 Mornington Street, Stratford

Featuring: **THE HOME COOKIN' DIXIELAND BAND**

**ALL WELCOME
TO THIS INFORMAL
EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE
(FREE WILL OFFERING)**



LENTEN LUNCHES: Presented by Stratford Council of Churches & Kiwanis Club

**Every Wednesday of Lent
Immaculate Conception Church
50 Well Street, Stratford
12:00 – 1:00 PM
\$15 / person at the door**

Speaker Schedule:

**February 18 – Will Kramer (1st and 2nd St. John’s Lutheran Church)
February 25 – Pamela Wideman (New Hope Community Church)
March 4 – Bruno Hacquebard (Jubilee Stratford Church)
March 11 – Sarah McIntyre-Roy (CMHA Connection Centre)
March 18 – Jeff Laustsen (Zion Lutheran Church)
March 25 – Charlie Swartwood (Bethel Pentecostal Church)**

Got questions about Lenten Lunches?

**John Patterson (519-273-3523)
Charlie Swartwood (519-272-7111)**

HEARTBURN DAY RETURNS: **Saturday, February 28, 2026**
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Stratford Rotary Complex

This Chili Cook-Off is a FREE event for the whole family with:

- Live Music
- Prizes
- Silent Auction
- Family Fun

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT “SIMPLE DREAMS”.



blessings with those in need.

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 **canned vegetables and fruit or canned soup, stew and chili** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your



COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR:

Is 2026 the year you want to give back more to your community? Join us for the Coldest Night of the Year walk, it's simple and significant!

In Stratford the money you raise supports **United Way Perth-Huron / Stratford Connection Centre & Shelterlink Youth Services** programs that serve vulnerable people; helping those experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness in the community you care about.

Join us on **February 28th** for a winterrific walk that's family-friendly, fun, and meaningful. You'll be snow glad you did! For more information and a link to register

www.cnoy.org/stratford

Pastor Jeff is, once again, participating in this very important walk. If you would like to sponsor him, please see him at the back of the Sanctuary after worship.

STRATFORD CONNECTION CENTRE: Below is the latest from the Connection Centre which I found on Facebook:



STRATFORD CONNECTIONS

Due to overwhelming generosity, we are currently accepting ONLY the following items;

- New underwear, size medium
- Water resistant winter boots
- Handwarmers
- Razors & deodorant
- Laundry soap
- Grab & go snacks or baked goods

Donations are accepted Monday-Friday between 12-4:30. Please contact if an alternative drop off time is necessary.

CONTACT US

519-271-6819 ext 405
connectioncentre@cmhahuronperth.com

WOW! We are running out of space! What a great problem to have. 😊 If you are interested in donating to the Connection Centre or Warming Centre, please note the following;
- donations are ONLY accepted Monday to Friday, between 12:00-4:30, unless pre-arranged or you may **drop off donations in the bins at the back of the Sanctuary or inside the office entrance door.**

- at this time we cannot accept anything that is not listed, we will update as our needs change!
- supporting Goodwill and Value Village DOES support our participants, they collaborate with us regularly to meet people's needs!
- any donations must be functional and clean, if you wouldn't wear it then our folks shouldn't either
- we CANNOT accept expired food, or food items past their 'best before date'

Thank you for continuing to support us so we can support our vulnerable neighbours! ❤️

NOT ONE MORE NIGHT WEB SITE (STRATFORD WARMING CENTRE):

We have been asked by the Council of Churches to share the following information:

Good news! The Not One More Night Web Site for the Stratford Warming Centre at St. Paul's Church is up and running.

To access type in: notonemorenight.com

This website has been prepared to provide churches and individuals etc. with information about how to make donations to the Warming Centre which operates in conjunction with the Connection Centre at St. Paul's Church here in Stratford. The Warming Centre operates overnight from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM daily as an out of the cold shelter.

The City of Stratford has made the Warming Centre happen and is asking the local churches and their people to help find \$154,000 of shortfall funding for this year's operations.

Already three churches have made donations as well as the Council of Churches. But we are told there is a long way to go.

As more information is made available we will pass it on.

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!



TWO PROGRAMS, ONE GOAL: SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY



CONNECTION CENTRE

ELIGIBLE: INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNHOUSED OR OTHERWISE VULNERABLE AND IN NEED OF SUPPORT

VOLUNTARY, CLIENT LED CASE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY DROP-IN
12:00-5:00PM
(MORNING APPTS. AVAILABLE)**

**PRIMARY FUNDING
PARTNER:
UNITED WAY PERTH-HURON**

**NO CAPACITY LIMIT
(MORE STAFF AND VOLUNTEER SUPPORT)**

**OPERATED BY CMHA
HURON PERTH**

WARMING CENTRE

ELIGIBLE: UNHOUSED AND UNSHELTERED RESIDENTS OF STRATFORD, ST MARYS AND PERTH COUNTY

OVERNIGHT WARMING AND RESTING SPACE WITH BASIC NEEDS SUPPLIES

**MON-FRI - MORNINGS 10-12
SAT-SUN - DAYS 10-5
7 DAYS/WK - OVERNIGHTS 7-7**

**PRIMARY FUNDING
PARTNER:
CITY OF STRATFORD**

**SOFT LIMIT OF 25
ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS WILL NOT BE TURNED AWAY**

**OPERATED BY CMHA
HURON PERTH**