

**"You
are the**



light of the world."
Matthew 5:14

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

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 8, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 532: “Gather Us In”

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm: 112

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Gospel Acclamation

Page 124

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

Children’s Message

Sermon

Hymn 677: “This Little Light of Mine”

Apostles' Creed	Page 127
Prayers of Intercession	
Sharing the Peace	Page 128
Choir Anthem: "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"	Healey Willan

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: 712, 714

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing	Page 136
Post-Communion Prayer	
Blessing	Page 136
Hymn 866: "We Are Marching in the Light"	
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:

Mon. February 9

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

Tues. February 10

7:00 AM Rotary in Fellowship Hall
9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Parlour
2:00 PM Greenwood Court Worship
6-10 PM Sing For The Joy Of It practising in Sanctuary

Wed. February 11

9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour
4:30-7:00 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room
5:00 Bethel Community Meal

Thurs. February 12

12:00 Noon Bible Study in Parlour
2:30 PM Hillside 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

Fri. February 13

9:00 AM WOF making sandwiches in kitchen
12-2:00 PM Seniors' Luncheon Meal

ZIONNEWS DUE

Sun. February 15

*** TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD***
10:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Sunday School

COFFEE HOUR

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15th AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Tom & Joanne Cosstick

Usher Captain: Tom Cosstick

Altar: Carmen Beck

Reader: Aline Kouhi-Klemencic

Counting Captain: Audrey Miller

House of Blessing: Heather Broadfoot



ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 OFFICIAL RECEIPTS FOR INCOME TAX: For those of you attending worship this morning your 2025 Official Receipts for Income Tax are available for pickup on the table at the back of the Sanctuary and are included with your Newsletter (if you receive a hard copy of the Newsletter). Those of you who receive your Newsletter via email will still receive your Newsletter via email; but your receipt will be at the back of the Sanctuary. If your Newsletters are delivered to you, your receipt will be included with your Newsletter. If you live out of town your receipts will be mailed out to you.

SING GENTLY: Chamber Music with the Kinnaris Women's Ensemble

Sunday, February 8th 3:00 PM

Zion Lutheran Church

\$20 at the Door: Cash or e-Transfer to kinnarischoir@gmail.com

MARK FEWER & FRIENDS LIVE IN CONCERT: Mark Fewer, violin; Julia Mirzoev, violin; Russell Iceberg, viola and Bryan Holt, cello performing J.S. Bach's Act of Sorcery: The Art of Fugue.

Tuesday, February 10th at 1:30 PM at the Stratford Country Club

Tickets: \$30.00 each or included in series subscription for \$60.00

BETHEL COMMUNITY MEAL: Bethel will be hosting their next community meal on Wednesday, February 11th at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall here at Zion. All are welcome!

SENIORS' LUNCHEON: Just a reminder, the next Seniors' Luncheon will be on Friday, February 13th from 12:00 Noon until 2:00 PM. Callers should have called you the week of February 2nd.

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

JAZZ VESPERS:

Sunday, February 15th, 2026 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)



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 **healthy school snacks (peanut free) or rice** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

STRATFORD CONNECTION CENTRE: The “urgent needs” list includes razors, toothbrushes, basic t-shirts (medium), ground coffee, packaged grab & go snacks and deodorant. 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!

EPH

IPH

ANY

"EMMANUEL"

"PEACE"

"INSPIRATION"

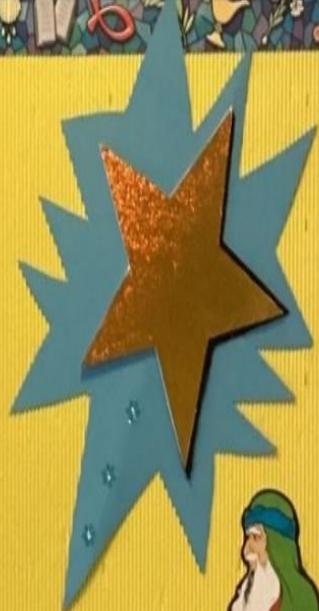
"PRAYER"

"HOPE"

"AFFIRMATION"

"NEW"

"YEAR"



Fear not,
for I am with you;
Be not dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you,
I will uphold you with
My righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10, NKJV

