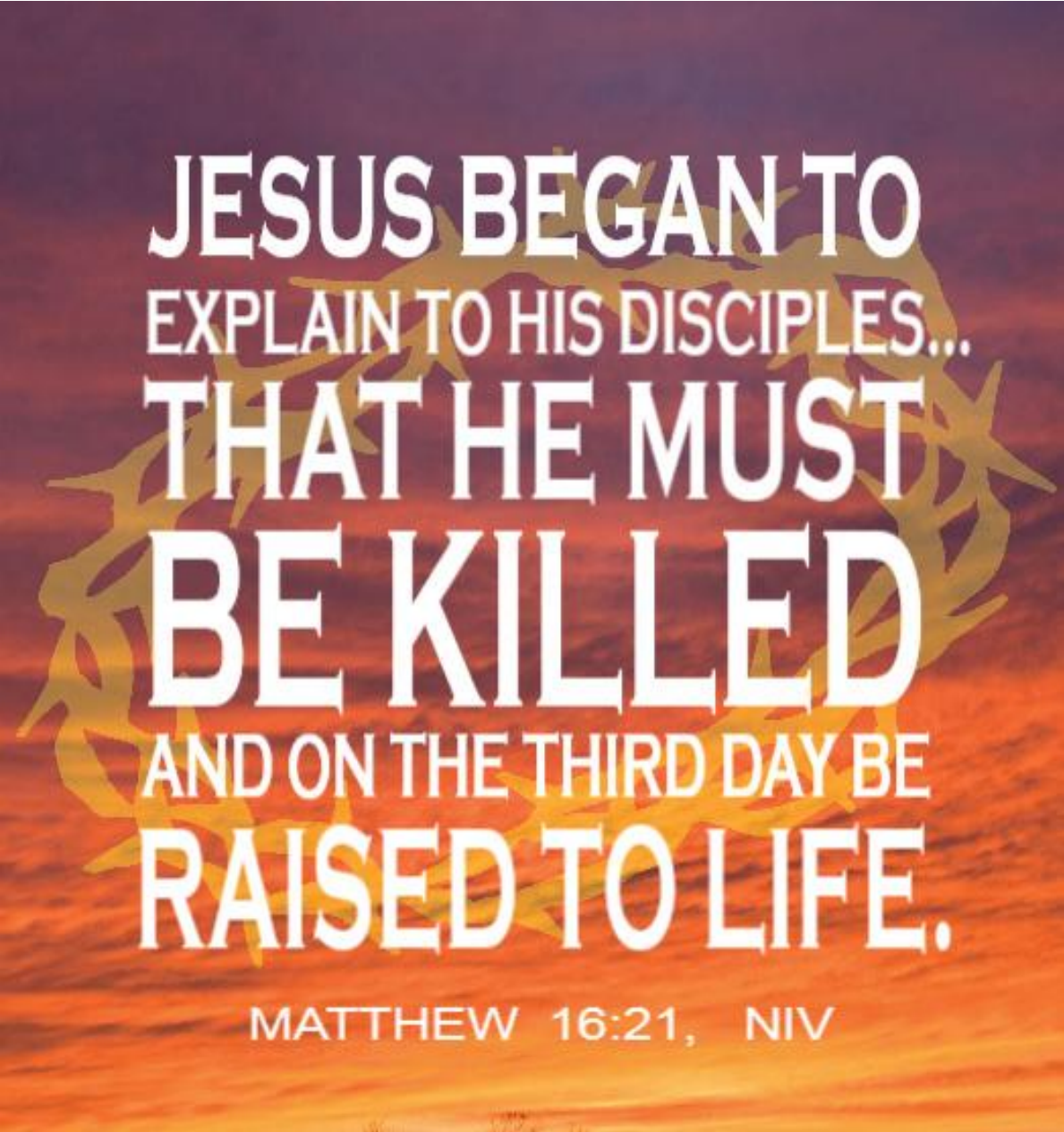




**JESUS BEGAN TO
EXPLAIN TO HIS DISCIPLES...
THAT HE MUST
BE KILLED
AND ON THE THIRD DAY BE
RAISED TO LIFE.**

MATTHEW 16:21, NIV

August 30, 2026

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

Stéphane Potvin

Laura Burton

Éric Charbonneau

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confessions and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 656: “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Greeting

Prayer of the Day:

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Psalm: 26:1-8

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Gospel Acclamation

Page 124

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

Sermon

Hymn 806: “O God, My Faithful God”

Apostles' Creed Page 127

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 130
The Lord's Prayer Page 134

Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns: 658, 659

SENDING

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

Hymn 655: "Son of God, Eternal 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, which may be found in the inner circle in each communion tray. 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: Edith, Heather, Beth, Liz, Peter, Isabelle, David, Carol, Bev, Jim, Wayne, Marjorie, Jamie, Marleen, Nancy, Gwen, Diane, Gloria, Kathleen, Tony, Paul, Wendy, Hollice, Leanne, Al, Brian, Paul, Nya, and Cathy;
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. Aug. 31</u>	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry in the Parlour
<u>Tues. Sept. 1</u>	9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall
<u>Wed. Sept. 2</u>	2:00 PM Council of Churches Executive Meeting in Parlour
<u>Thurs. Sept. 3</u>	11:00 AM Worship at Spruce Lodge
<u>Sun. Sept. 6</u>	* PENTECOST 15 * 10:00 AM Worship

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Gerald & Isabel Cook
Usher Captain: Jerry Terhaardt
Altar: Shirley Whittaker

Reader: Aline Kouhi-Klemencic
Counting Captain: Irene West
House of Blessing: Janet & Gerry Ahrens



ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME: This morning please give a warm Zion welcome to Pastor Patricia Jackson who will be officiating this morning's worship service.

Thank you Pastor Patricia for stepping in for Pastor Jeff and leading us in worship!

CHAIR LIFT TRAINING: If you missed the first training session on Wednesday, August 26th, do not stress as there is still space available for the second training session on Saturday, September 12th at 10:30 AM. If you are interested in learning how to operate the chair lifts, this is for you. Everyone is welcome!



E-TRANSFER OFFERINGS: WE ARE EXCITED!

We are officially setup, once again, for “e-Transfer auto deposits”.

However, we have had to create a new email address for our e-Transfers that is linked directly to our CIBC account.

For future e-Transfers please use zion202offerings@execulink.com.

A security question will not be required using this email address and funds will be automatically deposited to our account.

We want to “thank you” for your patience and understanding during the process to remedy the auto deposit procedure.



SENIORS' LUNCHEON: Welcome back to all!

Come join us for the first Seniors' Luncheon after the summer break on **Friday, September 11th** from 12 Noon to 2:00 PM.

Entertainment for this luncheon will be Sue & Mike Weber. We held a concert here on May 31st with Sue & Mike Weber and Friends and the old-fashioned country music was awesome!

As in the past, your callers will be calling you with your personal invitation.

Don't miss this special event!
See you there!!



RALLY SUNDAY: Mark your calendars!

Rally Sunday will be held on **Sunday, September 13th**. Following worship in the Fellowship Hall, our Congregational Life Committee is, once again, planning a BBQ. In order to assist with food preparation, you are asked to sign the sheets on the table at the back of the Sanctuary if you plan to attend. More information will follow once arrangements have been finalized. Thank you!



SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

It's that time again!

Parents/Grandparents: Have you registered your Child(ren) or Grandchild(ren) for Sunday School? Registering them is not a commitment for having them here every Sunday. By registering them, it helps us arrange our classes and arrange for the number of teachers we need.

Children/Grandchildren eligible for Sunday School include any child turning four (4) years of age in 2026 right through to Grade 6.

If a child(ren) has left the Sunday School program for any reason and would like to return, they are more than welcome!

It is quite easy to register them. All we require is the child(ren)'s name(s), current grade(s) as of September 2026. You may email the information to our new Sunday School Co-ordinator, Kyla Cook-Montgomery, at zionluth.sscoord@outlook.com.

All children/grandchildren of members need to be registered to attend Sunday School. Any visiting families with children 4 years of age in 2025 right through to Grade 6 are welcome without registering.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your assistance and co-operation.

STRATFORD CONNECTION CENTRE: Below is an updated "Needs List":

- Single serve snacks
- Basic socks
- Laundry soap/pods
- Coffee & sugar (always)
- Bus tickets
- Toothpaste, toothbrushes
- Razors

Donations are accepted Monday-Friday between 12:00 PM-4:30 PM.

Please contact them if an alternative drop off time is necessary at 519-271-6819 ext 405 or by email connectioncentre@cmhahuronperth.com.

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

Thank you for continuing to support the Connection Centre so they can support our vulnerable neighbours! ❤️



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 **Bar soap & Body wash or Healthy school snacks (peanut free)** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

