



October 25, 2026

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

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

Hymn 654: “The Church’s One Foundation”

Greeting

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children’s Message

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm Anthem: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Martin Luther

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Gospel Hymn 509: “God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage

Gospel: John 8:31-36

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/SVWPn6M9iOQ?si=xWd63Qjjgks6ledf>

Hymn 517: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

Reception of New Members

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

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Choir Anthem: "Erhalt uns in der Wahrheit"

J.S. Bach

MEAL

Offering Hymn 182: "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Offering Prayer

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The Great Thanksgiving

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Communion Prayer

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The Lord's Prayer

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Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns: 652, 655

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing

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Post-Communion Prayer

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Blessing

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Hymn 729: "The Church of Christ, in Every Age"

Dismissal

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Postlude: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

arranged by Martha Sobaje

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: Elfrieda, Jean, Edith, Heather, Beth, Liz, Peter, Isabelle, David, Carol, Bev, Jim, Wayne, Marjorie, Jamie, Marleen, Nancy, Gwen, Diane, Gloria, Kathleen, Tony, Wendy, Hollice, Leanne, Al, Brian, Nya, and Cathy;
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. Oct. 26</u>	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl in Parlour 6:30-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Choir in Chapel
<u>Tues. Oct. 27</u>	7:00 AM Rotary in Fellowship Hall 9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall 4:00-6:30 PM Huron Perth Centre in Parlour
<u>Wed. Oct. 28</u>	9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour
<u>Thurs. Oct. 29</u>	12:00 Noon Bible Study in Parlour 4:15 Confirmation in Parlour 5-7:30 Playmakers in Shuffleboard & SS Rooms
<u>Sun. Nov. 1</u>	* ALL SAINTS' DAY * 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Janet & Gerry Ahrens
Usher Captain: Jerry Terhaerd
Altar: Shirley Whittaker

Reader: Tom Waschkowski
Counting Captain: Janet Chandler
House of Blessing: Gerry Rehberg



ANNOUNCEMENTS



THANKSGIVING OFFERING:

As in the past, the “Thanksgiving” offering envelopes for this year will be apportioned one-half to the House of Blessing & one-half to our Current Fund.

“Thanksgiving” offering envelopes are available on the tables at each of the entrances & on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.

Offerings for Thanksgiving may be made up to & including

Sunday, November 1st.

Thank you for your continued support.

E-TRANSFER OFFERINGS:

A reminder that 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.

STRATFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Viva España! Experience the passion, colour, and artistry of Spain in an intimate chamber concert featuring an exceptional ensemble of Canadian and Spanish artists. Mezzo-soprano *Lorena Valero* joins Stratford Symphony Orchestra clarinetist *Kaye Royer*, pianists *Alexander Panizza* and *David Murray*, and guest conductor *Cristóbal Soler* for an evening of vibrant Spanish music. From the fiery melodies of Bizet’s *Carmen* and expressive songs of Manuel de Falla and Joaquín Turina to works by *Albéniz*, *Granados* and Canadian composer, *Ronald Royer*, this program celebrates the rich musical traditions and dramatic spirit of Spain. *Cristóbal Soler* will also share brief reflections on the program, offering audiences a special glimpse into the music and its cultural heritage.

Thursday, November 5th at 7:30 PM

Zion Lutheran Church

Link to Tickets:

<https://stratfordsymphonyorchestra.app.eoncrm.com/nx/portal/neonevents/events?path+%2Fportal%2Fevents%2F58869>

STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING “EMPTY BOWLS”:

Friday, November 6, 2026 5:00 – 8:00 PM
Stratford Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Rd.

Stratford House of Blessing invites you to their *“Empty Bowls”* annual fund raiser. You will enjoy an unforgettable evening of community, food and fun in support of their food bank and essential programs.

Brittlestar (Stewart Reynolds) will be the MC for the evening, plus:

- Delicious food by local favourites like Foster’s Inn, The Wild Hog, Holy Smokes BBQ, Sunset Diner, Black Angus – and many more!
- Take home a one-of-a-kind hand-painted bowl created by local artists!
- Live music from local artists.
- Bid in the silent and live auctions, featuring unique and exciting items and experiences donated by local businesses and artisans.

Empty Bowls brings people together over good food and good company, all while supporting a cause that matters right here in our community!

For tickets and more information visit www.shob.org/empty-bowls.

Volunteers are needed to help in various roles with setting up, running and tearing down the event. If you are wanting to volunteer please visit www.shob.org/empty-bowls.

STRATFORD CONCERT CHOIR presents “Fauré Requiem”

Saturday, November 7th at 2:00 PM
Holy Trinity Anglican Church
41 Mornington Street, Stratford

Alexander Cann conducts Gabriel Fauré’s sublime masterwork with glorious works for choir and brass, from Renaissance Italy.

Featuring Stephen Boda, organ and the musicians of Brassroots.

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

CELEBRATE SHELTERLINK’S 35TH ANNIVERSARY: Come out and enjoy an evening of Music, Celebration and Hope:

November 7th, 2026
Avondale United Church
194 Avondale Ave, Stratford

Featuring music from Perth County Conspiracy (does not exist)
And Barry James Payne & String Bone

Purchase tickets online at www.shelterlink.org or in person at Hartman’s Coffee, 2 Ontario Street, Stratford

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT SHELTERLINK YOUTH SERVICES

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

For convenience, you may drop off donations here at Zion 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, 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 **Peanut Butter or Toilet Paper** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.



MY CONFIRMATION VERSE

CLASS OF 2026



IF YOUR NAME IS NOT ON THIS BULLETIN BOARD,
DO NOT FEEL LEFT OUT!

YOU MAY GIVE US YOUR CONFIRMATION VERSE BY
EMAIL, GIVING IT TO SISTER JEAN OR DROPPING IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE.

WE WOULD BE THRILLED TO HAVE YOUR VERSE
INCLUDED IN THE NEXT DISPLAY!



HE HAS MADE
everything
BEAUTIFUL
IN ITS TIME.

ecclesiastes 3:11

