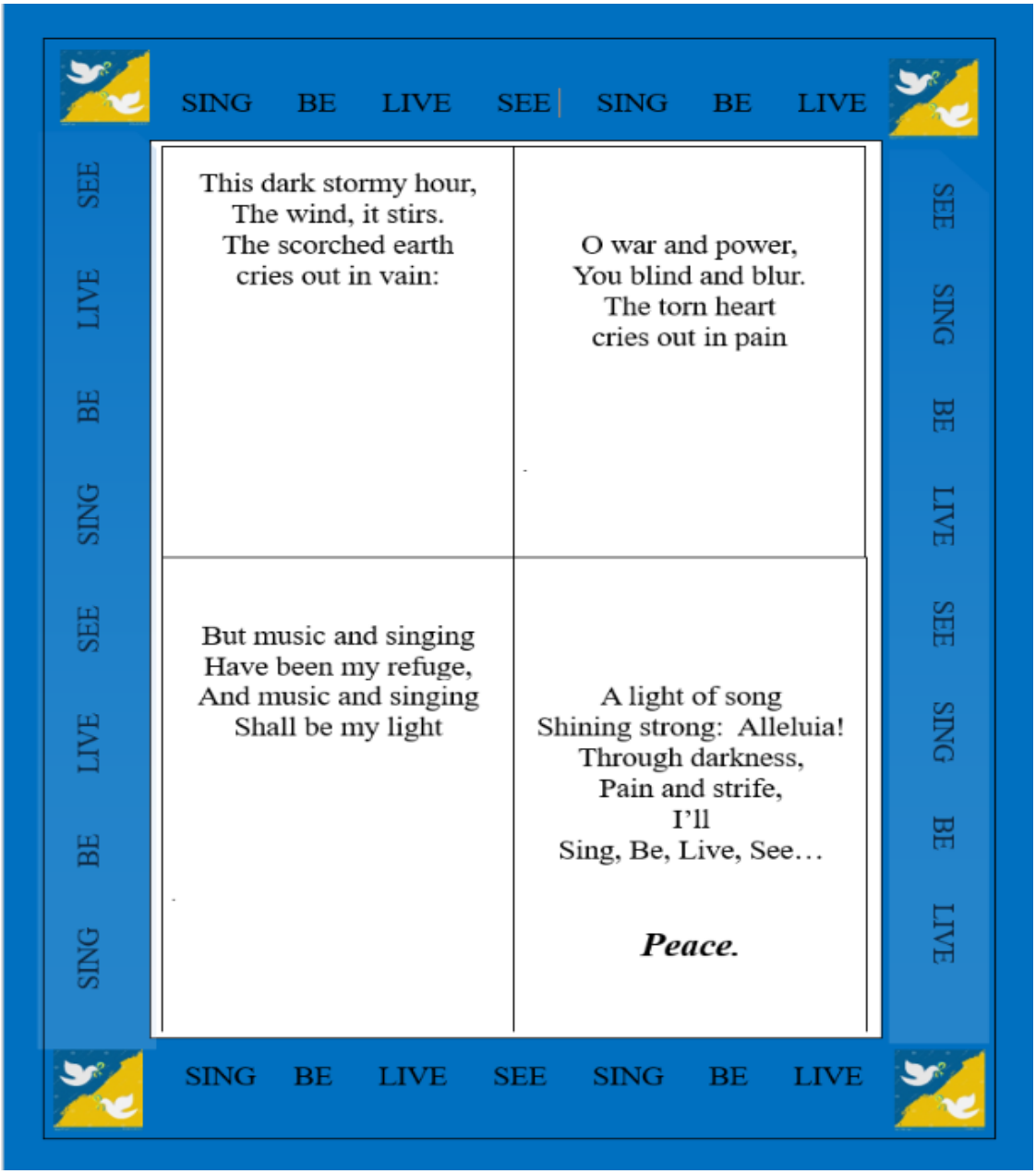


November 15, 2026

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527 **Cell: 519-274-1300**
Email: zionlc@golden.net **Website: www.zionstratford.com**

People of Zion	**Ministers**
Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen	**Pastor**
Sister Jean Widmeyer	**Visitation Minister**
Stéphane Potvin	**Minister of Music**
Laura Burton	**Organist**
Éric Charbonneau	**Pianist**

Pentecost 25 **November 15, 2026**

GATHERING

Prelude
Welcome, Announcements
Confession and Forgiveness Page 116

Hymn 870: "We Praise You, O God"

Greeting

Prayer of the Day:

> **Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

Choir Anthem: "Earth Song" **Frank Ticheli**
Children's Message

WORD

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-8, 12
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Gospel Acclamation Page 124

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Sermon: https://www.youtube.com/live/vH1EUkk00ak?si=KjdI5fjxK8nKFcjv

Hymn 707: "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

Apostles' Creed — Page 127

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace — Page 128

Choir Anthem: "Gather 'Round and Praise the Lord" — **Eric Wild**

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: 491, 674

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing — Page 136

Post-Communion Prayer — Page 136

Blessing — Page 136

Hymn 632: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

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: Ralph, Barbara, Jochen, Elfrieda, Jean, Heather, Beth, Liz, Peter, Isabelle, David, 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:

Mon. Nov. 16	2:00 PM Prayer Shawl in Parlour 6:30-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Choir in Chapel
Tues. Nov. 17	9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall 4:00-6:30 PM Huron Perth Centre in Parlour
Wed. Nov. 18	9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour 5:00-6:00 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room 7:00 PM Congregational Council Meeting in Parlour
Thurs. Nov. 19	12:00 Noon Bible Study in Parlour 2:30 PM Knollcrest Worship 4:15 PM Confirmation in Parlour 6:00 PM Shelterlink in Parlour
Fri. Nov. 20	9:00 AM WOF making sandwiches in kitchen
Sun. Nov. 22	*** PENTECOST 26 *** 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Wayne & Linda Faulhafer
Usher Captain: Brian Coe
Altar: Sister Jean
Reader: Stephen Fischer
Counting Captain: Irene Ehgoetz
House of Blessing: Mary Mueller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S BULLETIN: is sponsored by **Jean Weir** in loving memory of her husband, ***Bill Weir*** +November 17, 1999, and sisters ***Marilyn Pickering*** +October 16, 2004 and ***Marjorie Robinson*** +April 29, 2016 and special friends ***Joyce Dietz*** +July 27, 2019 and ***Carol Schlemmer*** +July 19, 2022.



COFFEE HOUR: Immediately following worship Shirley Whittaker invites you to drop down to the Fellowship Hall for a delicious hot cup of coffee, tea or a cold glass of punch and, of course, a sweet treat. See you there!

DECORATING FOR ADVENT: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
The church year is coming to an end. Our hearts are beginning to turn to the season of Advent. This year **Advent** will begin on **Sunday, November 29th.** This means that help is needed to decorate Zion's worship space for Advent. **Decorating** will be done on **Tuesday, November 24th at 10:30 AM** Tasks to be completed include placing decorations on the Christmas trees, hanging garland on the balcony and doorways and placing decorative candles throughout the sanctuary. Volunteers are invited to come and help. Many hands make for light work.

WOMEN OF FAITH: The next Women of Faith meeting will be on **Saturday, December 5th at 9:30 AM in the Church Parlour**. We will be packing the Christmas ***"Care Bags"*** and delivering them when finished. At noon we will gather at **Swiss Chalet Restaurant** for our Christmas luncheon. All Zion ladies are welcome to attend.

Please call Darlene Illman (519-271-0996) or Wendy Hansen (519-271-4664) by **Tuesday, December 1st** if you can join us.

We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas season!

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.

SAVE THE DATE: LIGHTS OF LOVE

You are invited to join Rotary Hospice on **Friday, November 20th AT 7:00 PM for *"Lights of Love"*,** a special evening of remembrance and reflection at Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth.

As the holiday season begins, we'll come together to honour the people we carry in our hearts as we light up Rotary Hospice with love. The evening includes a candlelight procession and viewing of the slideshow of dedication messages. Warm comforts of cocoa and soup will be served.

You are invited to dedicate a Light of Love by visiting rotaryhospice.ca; calling 519-508-4900 or picking up a dedication form at the Rotary Hospice reception desk. **To ensure your message is included in the slideshow on November 20th, please submit dedication messages by noon on November 19th.**

JAZZ VESPERS: **Sunday, November 22, 2026 at 4:00 PM**
Holy Trinity Anglican Church
41 Mornington Street, Stratford

Featuring

THE MICHAEL WOOD TRIO
Michael Wood (Vibraphone)
Ralf Bushmeyer (Guitar)
Clark Johnston (Bass)

ALL ARE WELCOME
TO THIS INFORMAL EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

(FREE WILL OFFERING)

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM: St. James Lutheran Church, Perth East celebrates with their **29th Traditional "Journey To Bethlehem" on Saturday, November 28th**. See the enclosed insert for more information and a map to get there.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART: When you are looking for a gift for the "hard to buy for" people on your Christmas list, consider purchasing from "Gifts from the Heart". This way you will be helping those less fortunate while giving a meaningful gift. Catalogues are available at each of the entrances. Please see the insert for more information.

UPCOMING BLOOD DONATION EVENTS:

Stratford Rotary Complex
353 McCarthy Road, Stratford

Tuesday, December 1st	**1:00 PM to 8:00 PM**
Tuesday, December 29th	**1:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

VELVET & IVORY presents ***"A Vintage Holiday Special"*** featuring ***Beverley Maranger*** on vocals and ***Tim Elliott*** on piano ***and musical friends!***

Friday, December 4th at 7:00 PM
Stratford Perth Museum

Tickets are $35 + tax and can be obtained by calling the Stratford Perth Museum at 519-393-5311 or visiting www.stratfordmuseum.ca.

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.

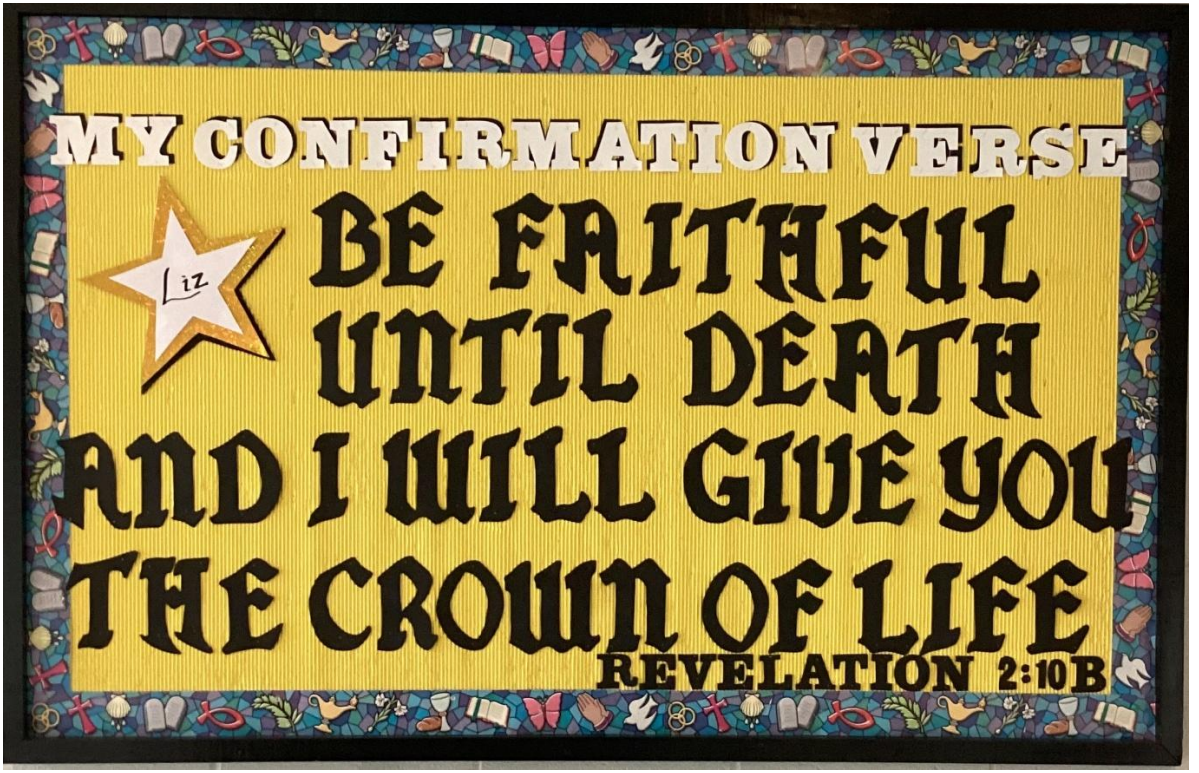
For convenience, you may drop off donations here at Zion in the bins located at the back of the Sanctuary or inside the office entrance door.

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! ❤️

STRATFORD
House of Blessing

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 fish (tuna and salmon) or Hot and cold cereal** and place them in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.



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!

St. James Lutheran Church, Perth East
celebrates with their

29TH TRADITIONAL

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Celebrate with us – Christ is the Gift

A nativity re-creation with live farm animals
at

BETHLEHEM STABLE

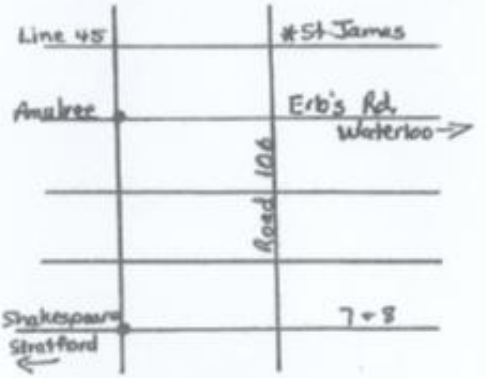
(Church's Red Shed – Remember to dress warmly and bring a blanket!)

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 28TH 2026, 4:00PM & 7:00PM

Cost: Priceless

Refreshments to follow the program.

For more details, please call
Carol Horst 519-274-4494
carolh@cwisp.ca



Church is located at the corner of
Line 45 and Road 106,
1998, Line 45, Perth East, ON



ALL WELCOME!



This Christmas, choose Gifts from the Heart to share God's love and make a meaningful difference for people around the world!

clwr.org/gfth

Canadian Lutheran World Relief