

The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

November 8, 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 24 **November 8, 2026**

GATHERING

Prelude
Welcome, Announcements
Confession and Forgiveness Page 116

Hymn 244: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

Greeting

Prayer of the Day:

> **O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

Children's Message

WORD

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel Acclamation Page 124

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon: https://www.youtube.com/live/1MQxkJww8NA?si=I6T86DXHoM4bPh_r

Hymn 441: "Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand"

Apostles' Creed Page 127
Prayers of Intercession
Sharing the Peace Page 128

Choir Anthem: "God, My King, Thy Might Confessing" **Samuel Farrar**

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: 438, 785

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing Page 136
Post-Communion Prayer Page 136
Blessing Page 136
Hymn 638: "Blessed Assurance"

Dismissal Page 137
Postlude: "Postludium" **by Flor Peeters**

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, 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:

Mon. Nov. 9	10:00 AM Rotary in Boardroom 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl in Parlour 6:30-8:30 PM SSYO in Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Choir in Chapel
Tues. Nov. 10	7:00 AM Rotary in Fellowship Hall 9:30 AM Chair Yoga in Fellowship Hall 2:00 PM Greenwood Worship 3:00 CFUW in Boardroom 4:00-6:30 PM Huron Perth Centre in Parlour
Wed. Nov. 11	9:00 AM Quilters in Parlour 2:00 PM McCarthy Place Worship 5:00 PM Bethel Community Meal in Fellowship Hall 5:00-6:00 PM Playmakers in Shuffleboard Room
Thurs. Nov. 12	12:00 Noon Bible Study in Parlour 2:30 Hillside Worship 4:15 Confirmation in Parlour 5-7:30 Playmakers in Shuffleboard & SS Rooms
Fri. Nov. 13	12:00-2:00 PM Seniors' Luncheon
Sun. Nov. 15	*** PENTECOST 25 *** 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday School COFFEE HOUR 4:00-8:00 PM Jesus Is Lord Church in Parlour

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Darrell & Judy Renecker
Usher Captain: Darrell Renecker
Altar: Carmen Beck
Reader: Aline Kouhi-Klemencic
Counting Captain: Shirley Whittaker
House of Blessing: Wayne Faulhafer

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR: The beautiful mums on the altar this morning have been placed by ***Terry & Linda Fink*** to commemorate their ***50th Wedding Anniversary on November 6, 2026***.

Congratulations Terry & Linda!
We wish you many more years together!



COFFEE HOUR: There will be a Coffee Hour after worship next Sunday, November 15th. Your host, Shirley Whittaker, invites you to drop down to the Fellowship Hall after worship 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.

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 CONCERT featuring *"Beethoven's Sixth"*

November 14, 2026 at 7:30 PM.

Avondale United Church
Conductor: William Rowson
Soloist: Gwendolyn Nguyen, Cello

For more information and tickets contact Stratford Symphony Orchestra at 519-271-0990 or visit their website https://www.stratfordsymphony.ca.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART: Gifts from the Heart catalogues are available at each of the entrances.



SAVE THE DATE: LIGHTS OF LOVE

You are invited to join Rotary Hospice on Friday, November 20th 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.

More details will be shared soon, but for now, mark your calendar and plan to join them for this meaningful community tradition.

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.

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.

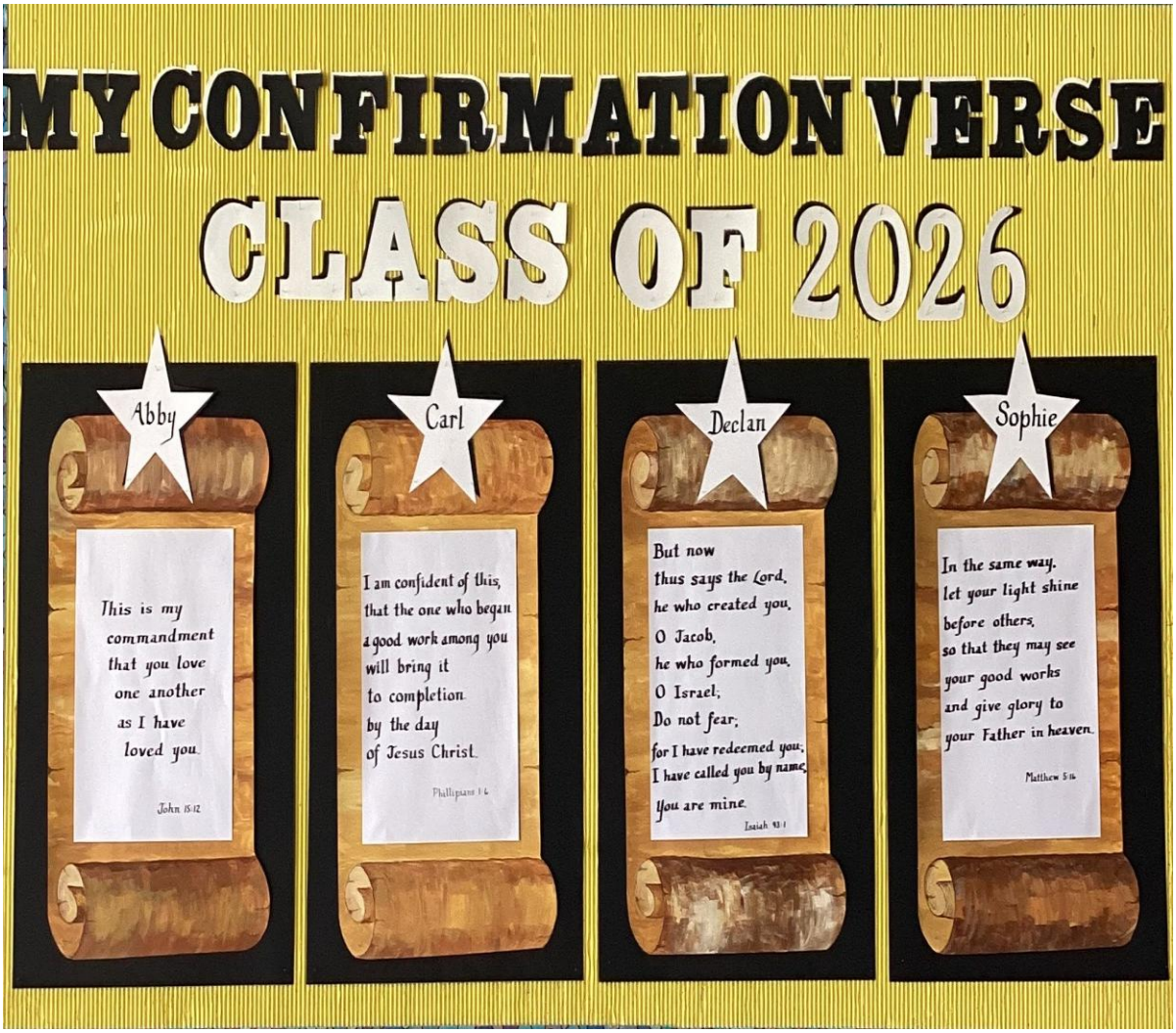
For convenience, you may drop off donations here at Zion in the bins located at the back of the Sanctuary or inside the office entrance door.

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 vegetables and fruit or Baked beans** 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

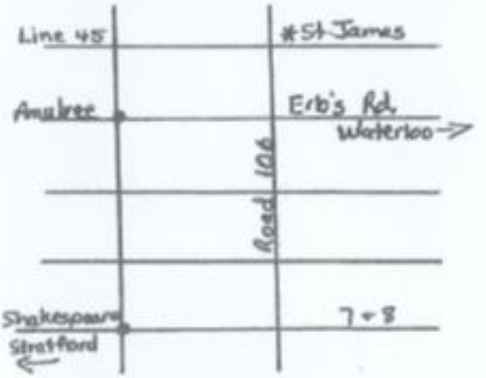
(Church's Red Shed – Remember to dress warmly and bring a blanket!)

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!