

**CHRISTMAS MASKS:** We have some Christmas Masks, which were made with care and donated to us for the purpose of raising money to put towards the “Current Deficit”. We have set them out on a card table at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Please feel free to help yourself! Any donation given will again be put towards the “Current Deficit. Thank you for your support!!

**THIS WEEK WE PRAY:**

>for our members and friends with special needs: Sharon, Susan, Steve, Nya, Dan, Jane, Maria, Bob, Brian, Murray, Mary, Lynnette, Al, Glenn, Muriel, Beryl, Cathy, Jack, John, Katana, Ron, Brian and Kolby.  
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021 AS WE WORSHIP:**

Greeters: Volunteers Needed

Reader: Isabel Cook

Usher Captain: Steve Lamont Team

Counter: Lois Lemon Team

**VOLUNTEERS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE AND ARE NEEDED** in order to celebrate our weekly Worship. If you are able to help us out by volunteering for any role (Usher, Reader, etc.), please contact Jane in the office 519-271-8527. Usher and Reader Schedules are currently in the process of being made for 2022. Thank you!!

***A SPECIAL “THANK YOU” TO OUR CURRENT VOLUNTEERS  
FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!!***



## *Third Sunday of Advent*

*December 12, 2021*

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

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email: [zionlc@golden.net](mailto:zionlc@golden.net)

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## People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Laustsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Sandra Mogensen

## Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

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## ADVENT 3

December 12, 2021

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## GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness Page 116

### **HYMN 250: "Blessed Be the God of Israel"**

Greeting Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

**Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

## WORD

First Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has  
Become my salvation.

**With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation.**

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on  
God's name;  
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations;  
proclaim that this name is exalted.

**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be known in all the earth.**

Shout aloud and sing for you, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

**ANTHEM: "Rejoice Greatly"**

Selection by Messiah

Performed by Larry & Laura

Sermon:

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!Alrwdlq5YZa1jElyuywVEOKFg6zC>

**HYMN 624: "Jesus, Still Lead On"**

Nicene Creed Page 126

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace Page 128

**ANTHEM: "A Child is Born"**

Thad Jones, Composer

Performed by Larry & Paul

## MEAL

Offertory Prayer Page 129

The Great Thanksgiving Page 129

The Lord's Prayer Page 134

Distribution of Holy Communion

Post-Communion Prayer Page 136

## SENDING

Blessing Page 136

**HYMN 873: "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"**

Dismissal

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. 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. The ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the centre aisle.

**MUSICAL GUEST:** A warm "WELCOME" and "THANK YOU" to our musical guest today, *Larry Larson on trumpet*.

We also want to say "THANK YOU" to Paul Shilton for arranging this week's awesome talent!

**NEW ADVENT BANNER** - Our Advent worship is blessed this year by our new Advent banner that was crafted by members of our Thursday Confirmation Class. The words on the four candles correspond with the themes of this season of waiting and preparation for the coming of our Lord:

**Listen:** "Listen, I am about to do a new thing; now it springs up, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."- Isaiah 43:19

**Wait:** "Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I will wait all day long."-Psalm 25:5

**Be Glad:** "Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart."-Psalm 21:11

**Proclaim:** "We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you may also have fellowship with us."-1 John 1:3

The class members who created this banner under the direction of Susan Laustsen are Ellen Bondi, Macy Kollman, Summer Kollman, Mayla Laukka, Collin Sousa and Kayla Winter-Pacheco.

**BC FLOOD RELIEF** - Canadian Lutheran World Relief invites you to pray for the people of British Columbia who are suffering from the massive floods and landslides that have devastated parts of the province and displaced thousands of residents. CLWR is accepting donations on its' website at [clwr.org/BCfloods](http://clwr.org/BCfloods) or by emailing a cheque to 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0W5.

**HOUSE OF BLESSING:** To help the House of Blessing with their significant increase in the number of people using their services since this time last year, as you are able, if you could bring **hygiene items such as body wash and Feminine Pads; or food items such as Side Dishes or Cereal** for the

House of Blessing Food Bank and place it in the basket at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing your blessings with those in need.

**2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available for pickup. If you pre-register for Sunday morning worship, I will have your envelopes on the table at the entrance of the church. We are still working on delivering as many as possible within Stratford; so, if you have not received your envelopes, please check your mailbox regularly. If you wish to pick up your envelopes or if you live outside of Stratford, you can pick them up just inside the doors off the side parking lot.

**Please DO NOT use your 2022 envelopes until January, 2022.** Please call Jane in the office 519-271-8527 any weekday morning if you cannot find your offering envelopes or if you wish to start receiving them. You may also contact the office if you wish to switch to **POP, the pre-authorized offering program.** Thank you!

Offering Envelopes are available for anyone wishing to use them for their contributions; a taxable receipt is given at year end. To receive your envelopes, please contact Jane in the office 519-271-8527 or drop into the office during office hours (currently Tuesday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).

## **\*\* YEAR END OFFERINGS \*\***

**PLEASE NOTE:** As stated in the December Newsletter, we will be accepting 2021 offerings at the office during the last week of December, namely December 27 to December 31, 2021 or they can be left in the locked mailbox. We will also be accepting offerings for 2021 on Sunday, January 2, 2022 as long as the member uses a 2021 offering envelope. If the offering is made via a cheque, it is must be dated with a December date.

**FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS:** Donations are now being accepted until the middle of December so the Women of Faith can purchase flowers to decorate the church for our Christmas celebrations. If you wish to donate, please put **"Christmas Flowers" and your name on a separate envelope** and place it on the offering plate; or drop it off in the locked mailbox, or bring it to the church office. Thank you for your gift.