

CHRISTMAS MASKS: We have some Christmas Masks in a basket on the table at the entrance of the church which are left over from last year. Please feel free to help yourself. A donation to the Current Deficit Fund would be greatly appreciated.

**** YEAR END OFFERINGS ****

PLEASE NOTE: 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 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.

OFFICE CLOSED: The office will be closed Monday, December 27 and Tuesday, December 28 for the Christmas holiday.

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, Beryl, Cathy, Jack, John, Katana, Ron, Brian and Kolby.

>for those who have no one to pray for them.

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021 AS WE WORSHIP:

Greeters: Volunteers Needed

Reader: Marg Lamont

Usher Captain: David Doherty Team

Counter: Lois Lemon Team



Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

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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

ADVENT 2

December 5, 2021

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Page 116

HYMN 264: "Prepare the Royal Highway"

Performed by Laura

Greeting

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Prayer of the Day:

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; 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: Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm Luke 1:68-79

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.

**You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of your servant David.**

Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from
our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,

to show mercy to our forebears,

and to remember your holy covenant.

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

free to worship you without fear,

holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

to give God's people knowledge of salvation

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of
death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Anthem: "Come Thou Redeemer of the Earth"

Sermon:

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!Alrwdlq5YZa1jDV9WHbwJrTfuxom>

HYMN 249: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Performed by Paul

Nicene Creed

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Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

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Anthem: "O Come O Come Emmanuel"

MEAL

Offertory Prayer

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The Great Thanksgiving

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The Lord's Prayer

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Distribution of Holy Communion

Post-Communion Prayer

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SENDING

Blessing

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HYMN 239: "Hark, the Glad Sound"

Performed by Laura

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.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY for this morning's worship are placed in loving memory of **Alvin & Oleva Faulhafer** by Wayne, Linda, Brad, Tim, Diana and grandchildren Emma and Owen.

MUSICAL GUESTS: A warm "WELCOME" and "THANK YOU" to our musical guests: **Andrew Chung on violin** and **Leisel Deppe on flute.**

A "BIG THANK YOU" goes out to **Susan Laustsen, Derrick Brodhagen, Janis & Nora Auster and Ellen Bondi** for sharing their beautiful voices with us this morning!

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

On December 12, 2021 we look forward to welcoming Paul's musical guest, Trumpeter, Larry Larson.

Larry Larson enjoys a career with a great deal of variety. He is the Principal Trumpet of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony; leads his own jazz combo "Larry's Jazz Guys"; and has spent many a season at the Stratford Festival, both in the orchestra and on the legendary Fanfare Trumpet team. Larry is thrilled to be making music today with two dear friends, Paul and Laura!

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 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 shampoo and conditioner; or food items such as large cans of soup or canned meats (tuna, salmon, ham, chicken)** 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 will try to deliver as many as possible within Stratford; so 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!