

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH
AS WE WORSHIP

Greeter: Robert & Beverley Keutsch **Reader:** Carmen Beck
Usher Captain: Steve Lamont Team **Counter:** Liz Bomasuit



WHAT IS THE MAIN PURPOSE OF BAPTISM

Baptism is significant in that it represents the forgiveness and cleansing from sin that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. Baptism publicly acknowledges one's confession of faith and belief in the gospel message. It also symbolizes the sinner's entrance into the community of believers (the church).

WHAT JESUS SAYS ABOUT BAPTISM

Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.



January 8, 2023

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

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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

Baptism of Our Lord

January 8, 2023

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Hymn 303: “Brightest and Best of the Start”

Greeting

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Prayer of the Day:

**O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm: 29

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon:

<https://youtu.be/li7hSv4D9JQ>

Hymn 310: “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”

Apostles’ Creed

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Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

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MEAL

Offertory 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

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

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SENDING

Blessing

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Hymn 314: “Arise, Your Light Has Come!”

Dismissal

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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. Trays holding individual cups of wine are on stands at either side of Pastor Jeff for those wishing to receive wine. The ushers will invite the congregation to come forward down the centre aisle.

Please note that masks are “no longer mandatory”; but, continuing to wear a mask is strongly recommended. Our ropes for “limited” capacity have come down; but, we do encourage “social distancing” wherever possible. “Pre-registration” for worship is no longer required.

FIRST COMMUNION: This morning we rejoice as we welcome Declan Bessey, Kolby McLeod and Sydney McLeod to the Lord’s Table to receive their First Holy Communion. We believe that the Lord’s Supper is “*the*

true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and to drink” and that “forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament” (Small Catechism). As they join us at this Holy Supper, may they be blessed and strengthened by this gift to love and serve others in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: A reminder that Sunday School is on a break this week; and *will return next Sunday, January 15, 2023.*

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES: There are still a few Offering Envelopes that need to be picked up at the entrance off of Erie Street. If you are able to deliver the envelopes belonging to a family member, friend or neighbour, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please call Jane in the office at 519-271-8527 any weekday morning if you can't find your offering envelopes or 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!

ANNUAL REPORT: Submissions from Committees for the Annual Report are due on January 30, 2023. Thank you!

UPDATING OUR RECORDS: *Have you moved? Have you given up your land line to use a cell phone? Have you established new households? Have you gotten new email addresses?*

If you have made any of these changes, please notify Jane in the church office so we can update our records and keep in touch. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

DECORATING COMMITTEE: There is a meeting of the Decorating Committee on Tuesday, January 10th at 10:00 AM.

ZION QUILTERS: *Our quilting ladies have also returned from Christmas break.*

They are always looking for new projects. If you, or anyone you know, would like our talented ladies to make a beautiful quilt for you or as a gift, please contact Irene Ehgoetz at 519-271-8878.

Anyone who is interested in quilting, our quilting ladies invite you to come and join them on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

BIBLE STUDY *has returned on Thursdays at 12:00 Noon in the Church Parlour.* If any one is wanting to explore God's Word and what it means for us in our daily lives as Christians, bring your lunch and come out and join us on Thursdays at noon. For further information, please speak with Pastor Jeff.

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 cereal or canned fruit 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.

THIS WEEK WE PRAY:

>for our members and friends with special needs: Helen, Robert, Avrey, Paul, Tom, Darlene, Jack, Alan, Phyllis, Verlie, Brian, Anne, Sharon, Bruce, Susan, Nya, Jane, Linda, Donna, Brian, Jim, Lynnette, Al, Glenn, Brock, Cathy, Katana, Brian, David and Kolby;
>for those who have no one to pray for them.

THIS WEEK AT ZION:

<u>Mon. Jan. 9</u>	2:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	6:00 PM	Pathfinders
<u>Tues. Jan. 10</u>	7:00 AM	Rotary
	9:30 AM	Chair Yoga
	10:00 AM	Meeting of Decorating Group
	6:30 PM	Sparks
<u>Wed, Jan. 11</u>	9:00 AM	Quilters
	1:00 PM	Avon Menn. Prayer Group
	2:00 PM	Worship at McCarthy Place
<u>Thurs. Jan. 12</u>	12:00 Noon	Bible Study
	2:30 PM	Worship at Hillside
	4:15 PM	Confirmation
	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
<u>Sat. Jan. 14</u>	6:00 AM	Festival Hydro Renting Kitchen
<u>Sun. Jan. 15</u>	10:00 AM	Worship
	10:00 AM	Sunday School Returns
