

**THIS WEEK AT ZION:**

- Mon. April 3                    2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry  
6:00 PM Pathfinders
  
- Tues. April 4                    7:00 AM Rotary  
9:30 AM Chair Yoga  
6:30 PM Sparks
  
- Wed. April 5                    9:00 AM Quilters  
1:00 PM Avon Menn. Prayer Group
  
- Thurs. April 6                    “MAUNDY THURSDAY”  
11:00 AM Spruce Lodge - Worship  
12:00 Noon Bible Study  
7:00 PM Worship
  
- Fri. April 7                    “GOOD FRIDAY”  
10:00 AM Worship
  
- Sun. April 9                    “EASTER SUNDAY”  
10:00 AM Worship

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**SERVING MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6<sup>th</sup> AS WE WORSHIP**

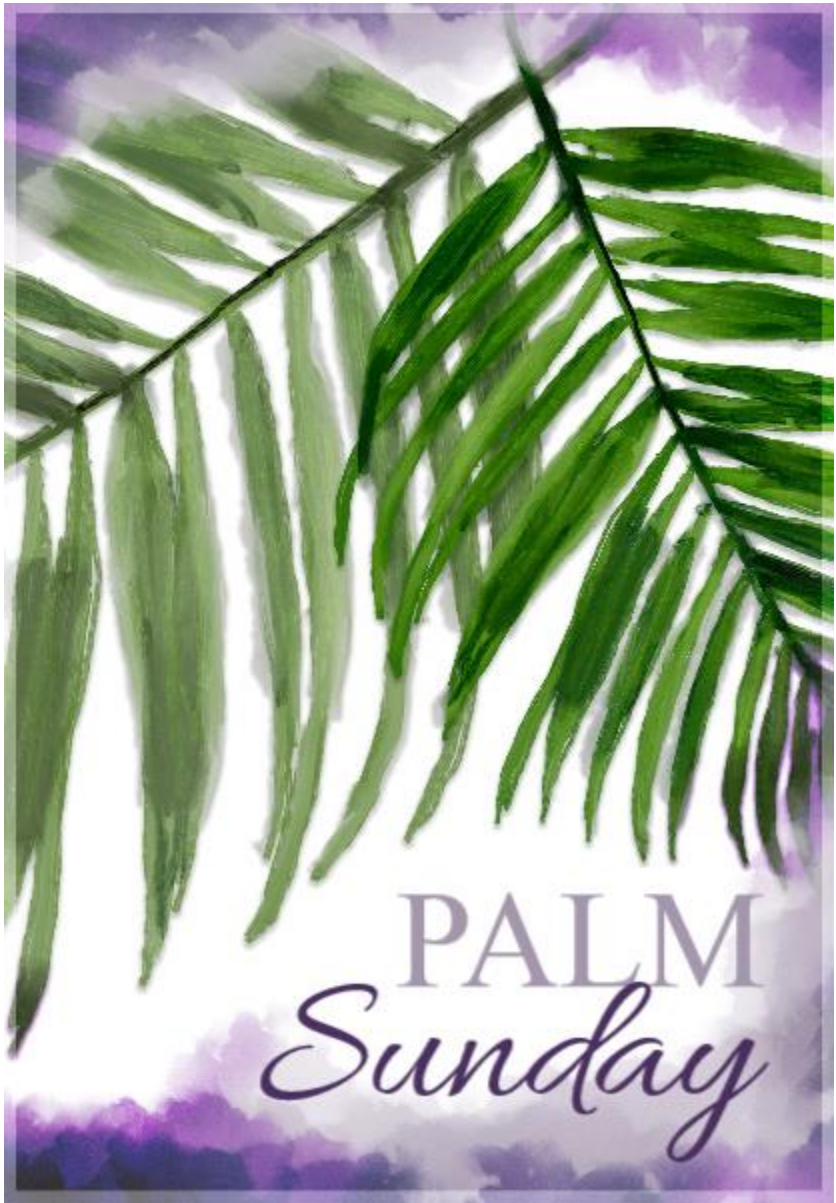
**Greeters:** Gerald & Isabel Cook                    **Reader:** Isabel Cook  
**Usher Captain:** Tom Cosstick Team                    **Counter:** NO COUNTERS  
**Altar:** Pastor Jeff & Sister Jean will strip the altar

**SERVING GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7<sup>th</sup> AS WE WORSHIP**

**Greeters:** VOLUNTEERS NEEDED                    **Reader:** Marilyn Wells  
**Usher Captain:** Darrell Renecker Team                    **Counter:** NO COUNTERS

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 9<sup>th</sup> AS WE WORSHIP**

**Greeters:** Gerry & Janet Ahrens                    **Reader:** Murray Scholl  
**Usher Captain:** Brian Coe Team                    **Counter:** NO COUNTERS  
**Altar:** Ellen Wolfe



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**April 2, 2023**

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# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

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

Cell: 519-274-1300

website: [www.zionstratford.com](http://www.zionstratford.com)

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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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Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023

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## GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Palm Sunday Liturgy

Page 256

Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

Blessing of Palms

Page 256

**Processional Hymn 344: "All Glory, Laud, and Honour"**

Prayer of the Day:

**As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.**

**Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## Choir Introit: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Franz Schubert

### WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm: 31:9-16

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Matthew 27:11-54

Children’s Message

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/Ui7NZfYtGIY?feature=share>

### Hymn 338: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

Apostles’ Creed Page 127

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace Page 128

**Choir Anthem: “Alleluia”**

**William Boyce**

### MEAL

Offertory Prayer Page 129

The Great Thanksgiving Page 129

Communion Prayer Page 133

The Lord’s Prayer Page 134

Distribution of Holy Communion

**Communion Hymns: 351, 347**

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer Page 136

### SENDING

Blessing Page 136

**Hymn 349: “Ah, Holy Jesus”**

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

*Please note that masks are “no longer mandatory”; but, continuing to wear a mask is strongly recommended.*

**STRATFORD BLOOD DONATION EVENT: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Best Western The Arden Park Hotel, 552 Ontario Street. By appointment. Book now by calling 1-888-236-6283.**



**EASTER FLOWERS:** A reminder that the Women of Faith are still accepting donations to purchase flowers and decorate the church for our Easter celebrations.

Please write **“Easter Flowers” and your name on a separate envelope** and place it on the offering plate, in the locked mailbox, or bring it in to the church office any weekday morning.

Thank you!

*Worship With Us  
This Easter*



**EASTER SERVICES:**

<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>April 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>April 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>April 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE “NO SUNDAY SCHOOL”  
ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>.**

**EASTER SUNDAY SPECIAL MUSICAL TREAT:** For Easter Sunday service the choir will provide some special music. Our Minister of Music, Paul, has composed an original anthem that will have it’s premier performance on Easter Sunday. It is written for Organ, Trumpet and choir. Our accompanist that day will be *Kelly Walker*, who has been with us before, and the trumpet player will be *Jennifer Peace*. Please join us!

**SPECIAL EASTER OFFERING:** The “Special Easter Offering” this year will be divided equally between Canadian Lutheran World Relief and our Current Fund. Thank you for your support!

**BIBLE STUDY:** 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 in the Parlour. 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 side dishes (ie: side kicks) or meals in a can for the homeless (ie: chilli or stew etc.) 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.

### **SALT 3 – THE “AL TAEH” FAMILY FROM SYRIA**

Robin Rutherford is looking for a tricycle, a bicycle or two (the oldest is 10) and one or two scooters for the children of this Syrian family who arrived in Stratford on January 27, 2023. She also is gathering outdoor play items (small pool to use as a sandbox, badminton racquets, skipping ropes, kites, wagon, hockey nets for backyard soccer, trampoline). Contact Robin at [robinrutherford2@icloud.com](mailto:robinrutherford2@icloud.com) if you can help with those items.

Thank you!

**Zion’s Representatives are:**

**Jan Bennewitz**

**Sister Jean**

[bennewitzjan@gmail.com](mailto:bennewitzjan@gmail.com)

[srjw@rogers.com](mailto:srjw@rogers.com)

### **THIS WEEK WE PRAY:**

>for our members and friends with special needs: Bob, Willi, Al, Melinda, Mike, Paul, Brian, Sharon, Bruce, Susan, Nya, Linda, Donna, Brian, Jim, Lynnette, Al, Brock, Cathy, Katana, Brian, Jim, Glenn and Kolby;

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