

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.



THIS WEEK AT ZION:

Mon. May 1 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry
6:00 PM Pathfinders

Tues. May 2 9:30 AM Chair Yoga
6:30 PM Sparks

Wed. May 3 9:00 AM Quilters
1:00 PM Avon Menn. Prayer Group
7:00 PM Visioning Committee Meeting

Thurs. May 4 11:00 Spruce Lodge Worship
12:00 Noon Bible Study
4:15 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Sun. May 7 10:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Coffee Hour
2:00 PM Teutonia Choir in FH



SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 7TH AS WE WORSHIP

Greeters: Gerald & Isabel Cook **Reader:** Mary-Lou Drown
Usher Captain: Darrell Renecker Team **Counter:** Tom Cosstick
Altar: Sister Jean



The
sheep
follow
him
because
they
know
his
voice.

John 10:4, NRSV



Sunday, April 30, 2023

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stratford, Ontario

Church Office: 519-271-8527

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Cell: 519-274-1300

website: www.zionstratford.com

People of Zion

Rev. Jeffrey Lautsen

Sister Jean Widmeyer

Paul Shilton

Laura Burton

Sandra Mogensen

Ministers

Pastor

Visitation Minister

Minister of Music

Organist

Pianist

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Hymn 778: "The Lord's My Shepherd"

Page 116

Greeting

Page 120

Prayer of the Day:

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, 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: Acts 2:42-47

Psalm: 23

Second Reading: 1Peter 2:19-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10

Children’s Message

Sermon: <https://www.youtube.com/live/68wNzKLIDj8?feature=share>

Hymn 502: “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Nicene Creed	Page 126
Prayers of Intercession	
Sharing the Peace	Page 128
Choir Anthem: “Deep in Our Hearts” John Oldham & Ron Klusmeier	

MEAL

Offertory Prayer	Page 129
The Great Thanksgiving	Page 129
Communion Prayer	Page 133
The Lord’s Prayer	Page 134
Distribution of Holy Communion	
Distribution Hymns: 785, 781	

Post-Communion Blessing	
Post-Communion Prayer	Page 136

SENDING

Blessing	Page 136
Hymn 789: “Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”	
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 now “optional or personal preference”. Disposable masks remain at all entrances for those wishing to continue to wear one.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOCATIONAL SUNDAY: Today is “Vocational Sunday” which means it is a **Day of Prayer for Vocations to Rostered Ministry**. ELCIC has passed on the prayer below asking that congregations pray together for this very important cause.

Holy God, we pray for our church as we continue to engage in renewal: that the Spirit would guide us and enlighten us, and that in living into a renewed vision of the church we may all be strengthened for ministry in and for our church, and in and for our world.

We give thanks for the gift of being called through baptism. Bless the church with faithful pastors and diaconal ministers. Inspire us all to pattern our lives on our Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to you and in service to others. Grant us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others. Amen.

LAST SUNDAY FOR SPECIAL EASTER OFFERING: Today is the last Sunday to make your “Special Easter Offering”. Easter (yellow) envelopes are located at the back of the Church and on the table by the ramp entrance. This year these offerings will be divided equally between the Canadian Lutheran World Relief and our Current Fund. Thank you for your support!

COMMUNITY MEAL AT AVONDALE UNITED CHURCH, 194 Avondale Ave. is taking place this evening, Sunday, April 30th, at 5:15 P.M
Use entrance off of Huntingdon Street.

VISIONING COMMITTEE MEETING: A reminder there is a meeting of the Visioning Committee on Wednesday, May 3rd at 7:00 P.M. in the Parlour.



COFFEE HOUR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 7TH:

A reminder that the Congregational Life Committee will be hosting “**COFFEE HOUR**” after the Sunday Service next Sunday, **MAY 7TH**. Drinks and light snacks will be served.

The next “COFFEE HOUR” will be on Sunday, June 4th.

We look forward to seeing you!

MOTHER’S DAY: *Mother’s Day is just around the corner on Sunday, May 14th, 2023!* If you are looking for that “something special” for your Mother, how about considering a handmade quilt made with love by our Quilting Ladies. A large selection of quilts for sale is on display in the Parlour. Feel free to contact Irene Ehgoetz at 519-271-8878 for more information or to purchase a beautiful quilt.

BIBLE STUDY: Bible study continues on Thursdays at noon in the 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. For further information, please speak with Pastor Jeff.

HOUSE OF BLESSING: We have received an updated list of items from the House of Blessing that they are currently in need of. 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 personal hygiene items (mostly shampoo, conditioner and deodorant) 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.

*Lend a
helping
hand*



Volunteers play a vital role. Since I have been publishing that I am looking for volunteers to pick up and deliver the House of Blessing gifts and take them to the House of Blessing I have received one (1) response for which I am truly grateful. Please, if you can spare a little of your time to help with this, contact Jane in the office at 519-271-8527 Tuesdays to Fridays from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Thank you!

