

~Congregational Announcements~

«Bible Study resumes at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday morning! Topic: Acts of the Apostles

«Lutheran church Woman will not be meeting in the month of Aug, we will resume in September

« August Mission: Stratford School Supplies

« Please pick up a July/ Aug Newsletter! Located on the table in the back

« Pastor Zenk Contact Info: Cell 217-440-3970; Email address: alexzenk86@gmail.com | Podcast: [Undying Light](#)

***ATTENTION: We will updating our online giving to a new system, Subsplash. <https://subsplash.com/u/->



Remember in Prayer

For healing: The Family of Marlys Carlson, Larry Runyan, Pat Cahill, Nancy Neese, Lon Neese, Kyle Leeds, Lila Berglund, Geri Harris, Kim Leeds, Rodney Patterson, Louise Bergman, Dan Turner, Beth Ashman, Brian Bergman, Jeremy Dodson, Deb Flowers, Angie Goings, Leland Carlson, Chris Bauer

Attendance: Sun, 8/17-

Offering dated 08/10/25	
General Undesignated.	1125.00
General Designated Mission.	00.00
General Designated Paving	400.00
Building	00.00
Memorial	00.00
Online Giving	320.00
TOTAL	1845.00

Stratford Evangelical Lutheran Church
FB: Stratford Ev Lutheran LCMC & YouTube: Stratford Evangelical

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025

Pastor: Alex Zenk **Musician:** Digital LBW **Reader:** Julie Haberer

Ushers: Dan Larson & The Jensen Family **Video:** Dave E

please stand when indicated by * (page #'s refer to LBW)

Prelude & Silent Prayer

Ringin of the Bell % Welcome & Announcements

* Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness:

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C:Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, though Jesus Christ our Lord.

C:Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence is kept for reflection and meditation.)

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are slaves to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. On account of your great mercy, through your Son Jesus Christ, we pray that you would free us from

ourselves, so that we may trust in your promise and obey your commandments, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn:# 239 “God’s Word is Our Great Heritage”

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of Day: Holy One, refine us by the fire of your love so that we find ourselves able to stand firm in the faith. By the death and resurrection of your Son, bring to that day when we shall stand with the great cloud of witnesses in your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen. **(you may be seated)**

& **Reading: Hebrews 11:17-31;12:1-3**

& **Responsive Reading: Psalm 119** (see insert)

P: The Holy Gospel according to **the Apostle Luke the 12th chapter**

Congregation Speaks response. P.83

C: Glory to You, O’ Lord

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O’ Christ

~Children’s Sermon~

Sermon: “Not peace, but Division” Pastor Alex Zenk

* Apostles’ Creed (please **RISE**) p. 85
(congregation)

C:I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

(usher presents the offering to the altar)

* **Offering** (please **RISE**) p.96
(congregation sings)

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

* **Prayers of the Church** (**respond: “hear our prayer”**)

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through you Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

* The Lord's Prayer *(congregation)*

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

* Benediction & Amen (please rise)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Closing Hymn #526 "Immortal, Invisible God only Wise"

P: Go in peace, Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**& Responsive Reading &
Psalm 119**

L: My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word.

C: My eyes long for your promise; I ask, "When will you comfort me?"

L: For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten your statutes.

C: How long must your servant endure? When will you judge those who persecute me?

L: The insolent have dug pitfalls for me; they do not live according to your law.

C: All your commandments are sure; they persecute me with falsehood; help me!

L: They have almost made an end of me on earth, but I have not forsaken your precepts.

C: In your steadfast love give me life, that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.

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