

~Congregational Announcements~

★Sunday school starts at 9am

★confirmation class is Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30pm starting back in January on the 14th

★Bible Study resumes at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday morning! Topic: History of Israel

★Lutheran church Woman will meet Jan 20th at 2:00 pm! All are welcome to join!

★ Annual Financial Meeting Jan. 25 following church service

★ January outreach:Domestic Assault Outreach

★ Please pick up a Jan/Feb 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: Tom Tilley, Tim Bergman, Larry Runyan, Joan Petterson, 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, Chris Bauer, Marsue Zenk and Colton Pedyty

Attendance: 1/11- 64

Offering dated 1/11/2025

General Undesignated	\$ 1342
General Rent.	00.00
Building.	00.00
Memorial.	00.00
Online.	254
Total.	\$ 1596

Stratford Evangelical Lutheran Church

FB: Stratford Ev Lutheran LCMC & YouTube: Stratford Evangelical

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026

Pastor: Alex Zenk Musician: Digital LBW Reader: Janae Zenk

Ushers: Lon Neese Video: Dave E

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

Prelude & Silent Prayer

Ringing 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:# 36 “On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry”

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 God, through your Son, Jesus, many came to faith in you. Bring us to faith by your grace that we may obediently worship and follow you; 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: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9



Responsive Reading: Psalm 40 (see insert)

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Apostle John the 1st chapter vs 35-42

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: “Keep the Name” 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: Doxology: Hymn #565

C: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

* 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 #35 “ Hark, the Glad Sound”

P: Go in peace, Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 40

L: I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

C: He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

L: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

C: Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!

L: You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

C: In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

L: Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me:

C: I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

L: I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

C: I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

L: As for you, O Lord, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!

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