

# Order of Worship: Sunday, April 7, 2024

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship theme: *After 7 weeks of Lent, it's important that we also take more time to reflect on the resurrection. How real is the resurrection for us? Or is it mostly a one-day celebration of chocolate and Easter eggs? What difference does the resurrection make in how we look at the world around or how we face what comes our way? Is the resurrection really that much of a game changer?*

Prelude: recorded music

Welcome & Call to worship

1 Corinthians 15:12-20 (NIV) *But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that He raised Christ from the dead. But He did not raise Him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either.*

*And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #341 VT – Christ has arisen Alleluia

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Scripture: Matthew 28:5-15 (NIV) *The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him.’ Now I have told you.”*

*So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” He said. They came to Him, clasped His feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see Me.”*

*While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, “You are to say, ‘His disciples came during the night and stole Him away while we were asleep.’ If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.*

Hymn: Alleluia [see bulletin for lyrics]

Scripture: Luke 24:9-12 (NIV) *Floris - When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.*

Message: *If the resurrection really happened... ~ Pastor Jim*

Hymn of Response: The Lord is Risen to life [words in bulletin]

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering: recorded music

Closing Hymn: #743 VT – Just a closer walk with Thee

Benediction

Postlude: recorded music

### **Announcements**

**We are planning a Family night on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm** at the MCC Material Resource Centre, 41 Heritage Dr., New Hamburg, for a tour of their facility and also to pack Hygiene Kits. In order to pack the kits, we need to bring funds or supplies with us. You are welcome to purchase the following items for these kits. You are also welcome to give a financial donation as well. There is a box for items and a jar for spare change at the back of the church. If you would like to allocate funds and receive a tax receipt for it, please designate your offering accordingly. Here are the items to include. New items only.

1 adult-sized toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging)

1 large bar bath soap (in original wrapper)

1 nail clipper (good quality)

1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colours preferred, approx. 40cm x 65cm/16in x 26in)

1 wide tooth comb 15-20cm/ 6-8in

### **MCC Run for Relief 2024**

Is anyone interested in being part of a team from St. Agatha MC taking part in this year's MCC Run for Relief? I've been part of several teams doing a variety of walks to raise funds for MCC. I was thinking of doing a walk from our church to the fairgrounds in New Hamburg: about 13-14 km. People could walk for part of it or all of it. We would wear bright safety vests as well as have a secondary way to let vehicles know of our presence from a distance. To do this it would be helpful to also have a support vehicle to supply drinks or snacks as well as transport anyone as needed. If you are interested in considering this please speak to me: Pastor Jim

**Rockway's** Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson is in three, one-act plays. For more info [visit our website](#). Residents of local retirement homes and seniors in churches, may join us for a special afternoon matinée on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 1 pm**. Tickets are \$10 Contact Leasa Peters, by email ([office@rockway.ca](mailto:office@rockway.ca)) or phone by April 3 (519.743.5209) to reserve seats. April 11-13 is for the public audience. Tickets are \$15 per person. visit: [rockway.ca/sherlock](https://rockway.ca/sherlock) URL for [rockway.ca/sherlock](https://rockway.ca/sherlock): <https://rockway.ca/sherlock/>

**IF Gathering Local at Wilmot Church, April, 19-20** (Friday evening and all day Saturday). IF is an interdenominational event that focuses on bringing women together to worship and study the word of God together. Each session begins with worship and then we watch different speakers on video from the actual large IF GATHERING that was held live last month in Texas. Here is a [link](#) to the event in Texas, which gives you a flavour of what the event was like. Meals and snacks are included in the registration cost. Details at: [IF Gathering 2024 at Wilmot Centre MC](#) - What is the weekend all about?  
[IF Gathering: Some History - How it all got started](#)

**Rockway teachers are passionate about creating** engaging lessons, challenging their students to think critically & caring for their wellbeing. Join us on April 16 at 7 pm to discover the Rockway Experience for

your child. Visit [rockway.ca](https://rockway.ca) to RSVP today! **RSVP at [rockway.ca](https://rockway.ca): <https://rockway.ca/about/discover-rockway/discover-rockway-night/>**

**Waterloo Network Hub's Annual Spring Banquet @ Shantz Mennonite Church**, April 20th, 2024. Doors open 5:30 pm, 6:00 pm dinner. Live Music. \$55 per person. Join us for an evening of inspiration, knowledge & connection. RSVP by April 12. [network@meda.org](mailto:network@meda.org)

**Help support Rockway's Student Tuition Assistance** program by becoming a golf sponsor in our [29th Annual Golf Classic](#). Contact Chris Ainsworth, Director of Advancement, at [advancement@rockway.ca](mailto:advancement@rockway.ca) to learn more. The **Early Bird registration closes on Monday, April 15**. URL for Rockway's Golf Classic: <https://rockway.ca/golf>

**April 24, 9:30 am - 12 pm, MCC Community Room, 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener**

If you witness a violent situation, will you know how to respond? Training Active Bystanders shows you how. Participants learn to analyze harm-doing and respond in everyday ways. For more info and to register, go to [mcc.org/events](https://mcc.org/events).

**Remembering Henry Pauls** – A CILT Cabin Dedication Service will be held on April 28 at 10am at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp to honour Henry Pauls' legacy with the camp.

**SLMC Summer Camp** – Registration is open! Visit [slmc.ca/summer-camp](https://slmc.ca/summer-camp) to view all programs available at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp this summer.

**Spring Work Weekend** – Enjoy a family-friendly, free weekend at Silver Lake to help open the camp for the summer. All meals provided. April 26-28. Register at [slmc.ca/retreats](https://slmc.ca/retreats).

**Spring Seniors Retreat at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp**

On Monday, April 29th join us for a day of fellowship, community and conversations. Dr. Martha Taylor will share with us in the morning and Jane Kuepfer will host a panel discussion in the afternoon as we intentionally explore end-of-life conversations. [www.hiddenacres.ca](https://www.hiddenacres.ca) See Bulletin Board for more info.

**Pray for peace in Haiti** and for political and social stability that people can go about their normal lives. Pray also for MCC staff and its 11 partners in the country that they would have wisdom and resilience in the course of ongoing stress and trauma.

**Upcoming Worship Services:**

April 7: Pastor Jim

April 14: Dave Rogalsky