

Order of Worship: Sunday, August 24, 2025

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship theme: How do we feel about our church building? In what ways is it a part of our faith? Stephen is falsely accused of threatening the temple. Why would his enemies choose that as a way of attacking him? Does a church building ever limit or get in the way of our faith? Why might God have an uneasy relationship with church buildings?

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship

Psalms 46 (NIV) *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; He lifts his voice, the earth melts.

The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #121 - HWB Holy God we praise Thy Name

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Scripture: Acts 6:8-15 (NIV) *Donna - Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.*

Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, “We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God.” So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. They produced false witnesses, who testified, “This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us.” All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Hymn: #1 HWB - What is this place

Message: *An uneasy relationship ~ Pastor Jim*

Hymn of Response: Sanctuary [song book]

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #363 HWB - Renew Your Church

Benediction

Postlude

****Please join us downstairs for congregation discussion/coffee time.**

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**Announcements**

**KE Church will be using the church building** on Saturdays for the month of August (2nd, 9th, 16th, & 23rd) from 9am-6pm for a Youth Bible Day Camp.

**Thursday the 11th of September, 7 pm, Detweiler Meetinghouse**, 3445 Roseville Rd, Ayr, ON, we will welcome local folk/country Menno-cult darlings NDK (No Discernible Key).

**Join us on September 13 & 14** as we put together an 80th Anniversary Celebration weekend for Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. Whether you are a former student or parent, family member or friend of someone who went to Rockway, *ALL are welcome*. Visit [rockway.ca/events](http://rockway.ca/events) to learn more about the Family Festival (free entry) and Food Market Fundraiser (ticketed entry) at J. Steckle Heritage Farm on the 13th, and the Open House and Hymn Sing (free) at Rockway on the 14th. RSVP required for some events.

**Doors Open Waterloo Region: MCC Hub September 20, 10 a.m. -4 p.m., 65 Heritage Dr., New Hamburg.** The MCC Hub is a participating site of Doors Open Waterloo Region. Tour the home to MCC's material resources and thrift processing, including the innovative new meat cannery; explore behind-the-scenes operations and pack a relief kit for someone affected by conflict or disaster. See how we meet urgent needs and make a global impact — one can, one kit at a time. There's fun for the whole family with a bouncy castle and face painting, too.

**Save the Date: Sunday, September 21, 3 pm:** “Music for MCC Meat Cannery”. Come enjoy vocal and instrumental music offered by a variety of people. Concert will be held in the Steinmann Mennonite Church sanctuary. Cost by donation – all proceeds going to MCC Meat Cannery. Everyone is welcome.

**October 1 at 7 p.m., Shantz Mennonite Church, 2473 Erbs Rd, Baden**

*October 2 at 7 p.m., Conrad Grebel University College, 140 Westmount Rd N, Waterloo*

You're invited to join author and notable speaker Sarah Augustine, together with Adrian Jacobs and Mennonite Action, for two evenings of conversation about Indigenous justice and decolonization. These events are free but require registration. Learn more and register here. Capacity is limited.

**Enter the School Kit Challenge:** 24,000 school kits to help 24,000 kids during the month of August. To help you meet this challenge, we've got a fun school kit activity resource for Sunday school and VBS students! Sign up to receive our free resource full of activities for kids to learn how school supplies help children around the world receive an education. Learn more at [mcc.org/school-kit-challenge](http://mcc.org/school-kit-challenge).

**Upcoming Worship Services:**

Aug 24 - Pastor Jim  
Aug 31 - Pastor Jim  
Sept 7 - Pastor Jim  
Sept 14 - Robert Mann  
Sept 21 - Pastor Jim  
Sept 28 - Pastor Jim

Wilmot Ignited joint services

Aug 31 - St. Agatha - please bring extra snacks to share with our guests.

Oct 5 - World Communion Sunday

Dec 28 - Mannheim