

Order of Worship: Sunday, August 31, 2025

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship theme: The Labour Day weekend can move us to reflect on the meaning of our work or labours, either paid, retirement or volunteer. How do we feel about the work we have done? What hopes do we have for what we might yet do? Where do we look for value or worth from our efforts? How does our being redeemed into God's new creation shape how we understand our efforts and what is lasting?

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #43 HWB - Christ is our cornerstone

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 (NRSV)

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Hymn: #396 HWB -The work is Thine O Christ

Scripture: Ephesians 2:4-10 (NRSV) Yvonne

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what He has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Message: *Our labour is not in vain ~ Pastor Jim*

Hymn of Response: #96 HWB - We plow the fields and scatter

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #415 HWB - Forth in Thy name

Benediction

Postlude

****Please join us downstairs for coffee time.**

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**Announcements**

**Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7pm - coordinating committee meeting at the meeting house.**

**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).

**Rockway Mennonite Collegiate is hosting a free *Family Festival***, followed by a ticketed *Food Market Fundraiser* at J. Steckle Heritage Farm on **Saturday, September 13** to celebrate 80 years of Rockway AND to raise the last funds needed to complete our Capital Campaign! There are still a few tickets left. [Check out the bands](#) who will be providing our live music entertainment and visit [rockway.ca/events](http://rockway.ca/events) to buy your tickets before September 2!

All are welcome to Rockway Mennonite Collegiate on **Sunday, September 14** for an *Open House* and *Hymn Sing*, celebrating 80 years of faith-based education. Drop in for the Open House between 1:30 - 4:30 pm to check out the memory displays, connect with old friends and see how the school has changed since you've last visited. At 2:30 pm, join Mark Diller Harder as he leads our *Hymn Sing*, accompanied by Ann L. Schultz, current and former music faculty members, alumni and current students. For more information and to RSVP and suggest your favourite hymn, visit [rockway.ca/events](http://rockway.ca/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).

**On Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM at Marshall Hall, Bingemans,** we will gather for a three-course dinner and meaningful reflections under the theme:

***Rooted in Legacy, Growing Tomorrow.*** Together, we will reflect on 16 years of remarkable leadership and transformation at House of Friendship, 3A-236 Victoria St. N. Kitchener — a time marked by bold new initiatives like ShelterCare, the Live-In Addiction Treatment Centre in Cambridge, the vision for Friendship Village, and the continued growth of our Community Services. We'll honour CEO John Neufeld's legacy of innovation and celebrate 86 years of House of Friendship's service — a legacy built on the shoulders of those who came before, marked by creativity, compassion, and care for community. Most importantly, this evening will look ahead with hope — inviting you to be part of the next chapter as we continue responding to the challenges in our community with the same courage and compassion that began our journey. We would be honoured to share this unforgettable evening with you.

[fundraising@houseoffriendship.org](mailto:fundraising@houseoffriendship.org)

**Upcoming Worship Services:**

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