

Order of Worship: Sunday, December 14, 2025

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship theme: We continue our season of looking at different symbols connected with the Good News of Christmas. Here's a clue for this week: what do St. Boniface, Martin Luther, the ancient Romans, the Egyptians, and the Garden of Eden have in common?

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship and Lighting of the Advent Candles

Luke 1:62-66, 76-79 (NIV) Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, "His name is John." Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God. All the neighbors were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, "What then is this child going to be?" For the Lord's hand was with him.

*And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him,
to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins,
because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from
heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace."*

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #206 HWB - Infant holy, infant lowly

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

*Scripture: John 10:7-11 (NIV) Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through Me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*

Hymn: #215 HWB - What child is this

Scripture: Revelation 22:1-5 (NIV) Minnie - Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and His servants will serve Him. They will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will

*not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light.
And they will reign for ever and ever.*

Message: The tree of life ~ Pastor Jim

Hymn of Response: #201 HWB - Hark the herald angels sing

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #197 HWB - Angels we have heard on high

Benediction

Postlude

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

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**Announcements**

**Prayer Request** - Pray for Nyle in University Hospital London. Brother-in-law of Caroline, suffering from a stroke early this past Tuesday morning.

**Upcoming Events**

**Sunday, December 21st** - carol sing after church and potluck lunch following. KE church has been invited and will join us that day.

**Wednesday, December 24th** - Christmas Eve service @ 7 pm

**Longest Night Service** The holiday season is usually a time of joy and celebration. However life's circumstances can get in the way of all that joy whether it be sickness, a death in the family, loss or grief of any kind or a sense of despair of the state of our world. This season is hard for those who are hurting. You are not alone. A Longest Night service is a gentle and reflective service for all who are carrying pain, loss or fear during this season of celebration. Please join us on **Sunday December 21, 2025** at 4:00 p.m at Zion United Church, 215 Peel Street, New Hamburg. (The service is led by pastors from the Wilmot Eccumenical Ministerial and the Executive Director of Interfaith Counselling.)

**Wilmot Ignited churches are organizing a Christmas Choir** this year under the leadership of Janna Lynn Cressman. All youth & adults are invited to participate and we will have our practices at Wilmot Mennonite Church. The following dates have been confirmed for performances: **Sunday, December 28 for the Wilmot Ignited joint worship service @ Mannheim. Sunday, January 4/26 at Nithview Home, 2:00 pm** Five practices at Wilmot Mennonite are scheduled for: Sunday, Nov 9, Nov 16, Nov 23, Dec 7, & Dec 14, all at 6:30 pm We will have the music available at the first practice on Nov 9. If you

cannot make this practice, please let us know so that we can ensure we have music for everyone. Looking forward to working with everyone again to share meaningful Christmas music with our community. Janna Lynn & Susan Cressman ([cressman7@gmail.com](mailto:cressman7@gmail.com))

**On December 28, Wilmot Ignited** congregations are invited to worship with Mannheim on the first Sunday in Christmas. The Be Amazed! theme will continue under 'God Among Us'. The choir composed of our congregations will be singing and there will be Christmas carols sung as well. Mark your calendars to come out and worship together on that Sunday, beginning at 9:45 a.m.

**Tickets are on sale for Rockway Mennonite Collegiate's** grade 7&8 production of *Humpty-Dumpty is missing!* They will make great last minute Christmas gifts!! Visit [rockway.ca/events](http://rockway.ca/events) for a show synopsis and to buy your tickets for this comedy whodunit. Show dates: **March 5 & 6, 2026**

**Upcoming Worship Services:**

Dec 14 - Pastor Jim

Dec 21 - Pastor Jim – carol sing after service, then potluck with KE church

**Wilmot Ignited joint services**

Dec 28 - Mannheim