

Order of Worship: Sunday, December 21, 2025

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship theme: On our 4th Sunday of Advent, we take one more look at symbols of the season. Wreaths: when is a circle more than a circle? Angels: what do we believe about angels? What is Biblical and what goes beyond what the Bible wants to tell us? Candy Canes: why are they shaped the way they are? Can we appreciate symbols in a way that can deepen our faith this Christmas?

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #196 HWB - While Shepherds watched

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Scripture: Luke 2:8-15 (NIV) *And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.*

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

Hymn: #199 HWB -The first noel, the angel did say

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:13-18 (NIV) Brenda - *Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, because we know that the One who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to Himself. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.*

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Message: Appreciating more symbols of the season ~ Pastor Jim

Hymn of Response: #275 VT - O Beautiful star of Bethlehem

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #211 VT - Hope is a candle

Benediction

Postlude

****Please remain for carolling, then join us downstairs for a potluck lunch with the KE church.**

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

Jan 4 - Pastor Jim

Jan 11 - Teen Challenge

Jan 18 - Pastor Jim

Jan 25 - Pastor Jim

**Wilmot Ignited joint services**

Dec 28 - Mannheim