

Order of Worship: Sunday, February 23, 2025

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship Theme: The theme for our service this morning is Answered Prayer. Likely we have all experienced prayers that have been answered, even sometimes when we did not realize it! But we have also felt that some of our heart-felt prayers have not been answered. How do we understand God's love and care for us in these difficult times?

Prelude

Welcome – Gail N.

Call to worship and Opening prayer – Peggy Roth

Leader: *“Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people....*

All: ***Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.”***

~ Psalm 85: 8 & 10

Opening Hymn: VT # 743 Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Lifted Voices: *Come, Come Unto Me*

Ken Dosso

Reflection on Prayer

Peggy Roth

Hymn: VT # 54 Kindle in Us your Love

Reflection

Peggy Roth

Lifted Voices: *All the Way my Saviour Leads me*

F. Crosby/R. Lowry/T. Fettke

Reflection

Peggy Roth

Lifted Voices: *He Never Failed Me Yet*

Robert Ray

Hymn: VT # 653 – Nothing is Lost on the Breath of God

Scripture: Psalm 17: 1 -2, 6 – 9

Jennifer Jacobi

Reflection

Peggy Roth

Lifted Voices: *Bow the Knee*

C. Machen/M. Harland/D. Allen

Reflection

Wendy Priebe

Lifted Voices: *I know the Lord has Laid His Hands on Me*

Ruth Artman

Reflection

Carolyn Burkhardt

Lifted Voices: *Hear Me, Redeemer*

Henry Mollicone

Reflection

Peggy Roth

Lifted Voices: *Speak Lord!*

M. Martin and David Lantz III

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Nancy Mann

Announcements

Gail N.

Offering

Gail N.

Offertory: *The Prayer (Lifted Voices)*

C. Sager/D. Forter/ Tom Fettke

Closing Hymn: VT # 832 The Lord Lift You Up

Lifted Voices: Choral Benediction *May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You*

M. Wilson/M. Huff

Postlude

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

Intro to Lifted Voices for the bulletin:

We welcome Lifted Voices to share in our time of worship this morning. Lifted Voices is a ladies ensemble which has been singing songs of Christian praise and worship for over 35 years. Current members are: Carolyn Burkhardt, Jennifer Jacobi, Nancy Mann, Wendy Priebe, Susan Pries and Peggy Roth. Originally they were all members of First Mennonite Church, Kitchener. Over the years, they have been able to "Lift their Voices" at many worship services and other community events. We welcome them back to St. Agatha Church this morning.

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**Announcements**

**Rockway's Founders' Day Chapel, Soup Supper Fundraiser** and Alumni Sports Challenge originally scheduled for Friday, February 14 has been postponed to Friday, May 2. Please visit [www.rockway.ca/events](http://www.rockway.ca/events) for more information. We thank you for your continued prayers as our school continues to heal from the tragic loss experienced in our community. Thank you so much for your understanding and support, Jen on behalf of Rockway Admin - *Should you have questions, comments or suggestions about any of these, please feel free to reach out via email [jenhb@rockway.ca](mailto:jenhb@rockway.ca) or phone 519.743.5209 x3547*

**Registration for Rockway's 30th Annual Golf Classic** is open! Grab your friends and sign up to play in this tournament to help support our Student Tuition Assistance program. Not a golfer but want to show your support? Become a golf sponsor! Your sponsorship will help ensure the Rockway Experience can be accessible to more families. Contact Chris Ainsworth, Director of Advancement, at [advancement@rockway.ca](mailto:advancement@rockway.ca) to learn more.

**Rockway Mennonite Collegiate** invites you to their all-school musical, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Join us February 27 - March 1, 2025. Tickets are \$20 adult, \$15 child 12 and under and can be purchased at: [www.rockway.ca/events](http://www.rockway.ca/events). If you are a Jr. Youth Leader, take advantage of our special pricing for youth and chaperones. Email [events@rockway.ca](mailto:events@rockway.ca) for more information.

### **Invitation: Anabaptism at 500: Commitment to Scripture**

February 27, 7:00 PM (CST). In person and livestream

Featuring John Roth, Sheila Klassen-Wiebe, Paul Doerksen, Brian Froese. From 1525 to 2025, Anabaptists have taken a very personal *and* community-oriented approach to their embrace of the scriptures. This panel conversation will investigate the ways the Bible shaped the 16<sup>th</sup> century Anabaptist movement at its inception and continues to uniquely define the Anabaptist tradition today. We will also celebrate the Canadian launch of the *Anabaptist Community Bible*. Livestream link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L13NZ3j-YfM>.

**Nith Valley invites you to join them for a Lenten online** contemplative gathering (Zoom), using material provided by the Spiritual Directors of MCEC, starting Thursday March 6 at 7:00 **am**. If you are interested contact Greg at [pastor@nithvalleymennonite.com](mailto:pastor@nithvalleymennonite.com) for the materials and the Zoom link.

**March 6, 7:30–8:45 AM: Breakfast at Graffiti Market** with Jenna Deboer (137 Glasgow St, Suite 385, Kitchener). We are excited to welcome **Jenna Deboer, Executive Director of Wellington-Waterloo Community Futures (WWCF)**. WWCF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting small businesses and fostering economic growth in rural Wellington County and Waterloo Region. Through flexible business loans, expert mentorship, and tailored support programs, WWCF helps entrepreneurs start, expand, and thrive. As part of the Community Futures network, WWCF is committed to driving local economic development and building resilient, innovative communities.

**7:00–9:00 PM:** Celebrate International Women's Day with an inspiring evening featuring the film *She Rises Up* at The Elora Gorge Cinema (43 Mill St W, Elora, ON).

**Grandparent & Grandchild Day at Hidden Acres** - Looking for something to do with your grandkids during March Break? On Thursday March 13th join guest speaker Wanda Mann for a day of connecting with God through creativity and music. The theme for the day is *GOD... GRAND'S... G'KIDS... Connecting the Dots*. Cost is \$25/person and includes lunch. For more information or to register go to

[hiddenacres.ca/programs/grandparent-child-days](http://hiddenacres.ca/programs/grandparent-child-days)

**Seniors Retreat at Hidden Acres** - On April 14, 2025 seniors are invited to Hidden Acres for *Exploring Beginnings: The New Testament and the Anabaptist Bible* with guest speakers Alicia Batten and Mollee Moua. Cost is \$55 and includes lunch. For more information or to register go to [hiddenacres.ca/programs/seniors-retreat](http://hiddenacres.ca/programs/seniors-retreat)

### **Upcoming Worship Services:**

Feb 23: Lifted Voices - Nancy Mann

Mar 2: Josh Penfold - Hidden Acres

Mar 9: Pastor Jim - joint potluck to follow the service

### **Future events**

\*Thanks to all who helped in the spring cleaning of the foyer, office and sanctuary!

The basement cleaning is on hold until construction of the ramp is completed.