

# **Order of Worship: Sunday, March 22, 2026**

**10:00 am – In-person worship**

**Pastor: Jim Brown**

Worship theme: The book of Leviticus talks a lot about blood. And blood is a central part of the process with sacrifices. So why is blood so important? Why does God care about what's done with blood? How blood is viewed and to be used in the sacrifices can teach us a lot about life, creation, cleansing, and maybe even impact how we look at and treat our world. As we get closer to Good Friday we also think of Jesus' blood being shed. Is there a connection between blood in Leviticus and Jesus' blood?

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship

Matthew 26:26-29 (NIV) While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My body." Then He took a cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #253 HWB - Alas! and did my Savior bleed

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Scripture: Leviticus 17:1-7 (NIV) The LORD said to Moses, "Speak to Aaron and his sons and to all the Israelites and say to them: 'This is what the LORD has commanded: Any Israelite who sacrifices an ox, a lamb or a goat in the camp or outside of it instead of bringing it to the entrance to the tent of meeting to present it as an offering to the LORD in front of the tabernacle of the LORD—that person shall be considered guilty of bloodshed; they have shed blood and must be cut off from their people.

This is so the Israelites will bring to the LORD the sacrifices they are now making in the open fields. They must bring them to the priest, that is, to the LORD, at the entrance to the tent of meeting and sacrifice them as fellowship offerings. The priest is to splash the blood against the altar of the LORD at the entrance to the tent of meeting and burn the fat as an aroma pleasing to the LORD. They must no longer offer any of their sacrifices to the goat idols to whom they prostitute themselves. This is to be a lasting ordinance for them and for the generations to come.'

Hymn: #555 MH - Would you be free

Scripture: Leviticus 17:10-14 (NIV) Gary B - "I will set my face against any Israelite or any foreigner residing among them who eats blood, and I will cut them off from the people. For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life. Therefore I say to the Israelites, "None of you may eat blood, nor may any foreigner residing among you eat blood."

“Any Israelite or any foreigner residing among you who hunts any animal or bird that may be eaten must drain out the blood and cover it with earth, because the life of every creature is its blood. That is why I have said to the Israelites, “You must not eat the blood of any creature, because the life of every creature is its blood; anyone who eats it must be cut off.”

Message: Blood, life and ownership ~ Pastor Jim

Hymn of Response: #258 HWB - Man of sorrows

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #259 HWB - When I survey the wondrous cross

Benediction

Postlude

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

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**Announcements**

**\*\*For the season of Lent** I'm planning a series on the book of Leviticus. So I encourage you to work at reading it over the next weeks. If you look deeply into it, it just might surprise you! Pastor Jim

**"Youth Unlimited YFC Wilmot fundraising Banquet**, Saturday March 28th at 5:30 pm at Bethel EMC New Dundee. Good food, fellowship and an update on what is happening in the Waterloo Oxford community. The first 8 people to let Karen know that they would like to attend will represent our church."

**The Early Bird registration deadline for [Rockway's 31st Annual Golf Classic](#)** is March 27. Be sure to sign up and get your name in a draw for a \$250 gift pack! Whether you golf and fundraise or sign up to be a sponsor, your efforts directly support students as all golf proceeds go to Tuition Assistance.

**Seven skilled volunteer fixers** will be waiting to help you repair your broken item at the **Nith Valley EcoBoosters Repair Cafe on Saturday, March 28th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Zion United Church, 215 Peel St. New Hamburg.** Bring clothing that needs mending including knitted and crocheted items plus jewelry and books that need repairs. One of our fixers will also be able to do repairs on broken household items and simple mechanical or woodworking and chair repairs. Most materials, tools and safety items will be provided. However, if you know that your item requires specialized materials or tools, please bring them along. This free in-person community event is intended to reduce waste, pass on valuable skills, and foster community. There will also be refreshments and resources on repairs and sustainability. This is a free event, and registration is encouraged, but not mandatory. Questions? Contact details – [nvebrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:nvebrepaircafe@gmail.com)

**On Mon April 20, 2026 seniors (55+)** are invited to spend the day at **Hidden Acres**. Our theme is *Consider the Birds: Practicing Hope In A Worrisome World*. Cost is \$55 and includes lunch. For more information or to register click [here](#).

**Mark your calendars! Rockway is hosting the Mennonite Schools Network** (formerly Council) Choral Festival from April 30 - May 2. Join us at The St. Matthews Centre on May 2 at 3 pm for a concert featuring 7 choirs (including our Senior Choir) from Canada and the US. Stay tuned to [rockway.ca/events](http://rockway.ca/events) for more information.

**Families interested in learning more about Rockway Mennonite Collegiate** are encouraged to attend our **Grades 7 - 12 Information Night** on **Tuesday, April 14 at 7 pm**. Join us for a short program and campus tour. RSVP at [rockway.ca/events](http://rockway.ca/events).

**Save the Date: “Our Water – Challenges & Solutions”** On December 4, 2025, the Region of Waterloo announced a significant water capacity issue linked to population growth and aging infrastructure. The concern affects the Mannheim Service Area, which supplies Kitchener, Waterloo, parts of Cambridge, and Woolwich and Wilmot Townships. To help our community understand what this means and what can be done, theNith Valley EcoBoosters invite you to: **Our Water – Challenges & Solutions** Tuesday, April 21, 2026 7:00–9:00 p.m. Zion United Church, 215 Peel St., New Hamburg Our keynote speaker, Dr. Hugh Simpson, is a hydrogeologist with over 30 years of experience in provincial and municipal groundwater management. Q&A will follow. This event is free, but registration is required. A livestream option will also be available. Registration details coming soon!

**Tri-County Mennonite Homes** is looking for members of our 15 supporting congregations to serve on our Board of Directors commencing at our annual meeting in June. If you are interested or have someone to recommend, please contact Bruce Bechtel for more information. 519-801-0470  
[BBechtel@tcmhomes.com](mailto:BBechtel@tcmhomes.com).

**Upcoming Worship Services:**

Mar 22 - Pastor Jim

Mar 29 - Nancy Mann

April 5 - Pastor Jim

April 12 - Rebecca Riek

April 19 - Pastor Jim

April 26 - Pastor Jim