

Order of Worship: Sunday March 29, 2024

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Good Friday

Worship theme: *Good Friday is a holy day which along with Easter is at the core of what it means to be a Christian. These days are essential to our beliefs about God working through Jesus for our reconciliation, salvation and new life. Good Friday and Easter shape how we see ourselves as Jesus followers and how we are called to follow our Lord and Master. Today we gather to remember, to give thanks, to celebrate, and to act out our commitment to each other as brothers and sisters in the faith.*

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship

Isaiah 53:1-6 (NRSV) *Who has believed what we have heard?*

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

For He grew up before Him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground;

He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him,

nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him.

He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces

He was despised, and we held Him of no account.

Surely He has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted Him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

But He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities;

upon Him was the punishment that made us whole, and by His bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way,

and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Opening prayer

Special Music: O Sacred Head, now wounded Heather M, Jim B

Hymn: HWB #240 – Go to Dark Gethsemane

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Scripture: **John 18:28-40** (NIV) *Then the Jewish leaders took Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness they did not enter the palace, because they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. So, Pilate came out to them and asked, “What charges are you bringing against this man?”*

“If He were not a criminal,” they replied, “we would not have handed Him over to you.” Pilate said, “Take Him yourselves and judge Him by your own law.”

“But we have no right to execute anyone,” they objected. This took place to fulfill what Jesus had said about the kind of death He was going to die.

Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked Him, “Are You the king of the Jews?” “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about Me?” “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed You over to Me. What is it You have done?”

Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, My servants would fight to prevent My arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now My kingdom is from another place.” “You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus

answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to Me.”

“What is truth?” retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, “I find no basis for a charge against Him. But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews’?” They shouted back, “No, not Him! Give us Barabbas!” Now Barabbas had taken part in an uprising.

Hymn: HWB #258 – Man of Sorrows

Scripture: **John 19:16-30** (NIV) Gary B.

Finally Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying His own cross, He went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). There they crucified Him, and with Him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.”

Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. “Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.”

This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, “They divided My clothes among them and cast lots for My garment.” So this is what the soldiers did.

Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When He had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Message: *Filling up on Jesus ~ Pastor Jim*

Hymn: #471 HWB – Eat this Bread [3x]

Sharing at the Lord’s Table

Expressing our commitment to each other through foot and handwashing.

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Hymn: HWB #259 – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Benediction

Postlude

There will **not** be coffee/ sermon discussion time after the service today.

Upcoming Worship Services:

Mar 29: Pastor Jim **Good Friday 10 am service.** Let's join together to remember Jesus' death on the cross for us and celebrate the Lord's Supper and Foot/Hand washing. There will **not** be coffee/sermon discussion after the service.

Mar 31: Pastor Jim **Easter Sunday: 8 am Sunrise service,** followed by breakfast together and then our 10 am service celebrating the resurrection of our Lord. There will **not** be coffee/sermon discussion after the 10 am service.

April 7: Pastor Jim

April 14: Dave Rogalsky

Announcements

We are planning a Family night to MCC's Material Resource Centre in New Hamburg on Friday April 12th for a tour of their facility and also to pack Hygiene Kits. In order to pack the kits, we need to bring funds or supplies with us. You are welcome to purchase the following items for these kits. You are also welcome to give a financial donation as well. There is a box for items and a jar for spare change at the back of the church. If you would like to allocate funds and receive a tax receipt for it, please designate your offering accordingly.

Here are the items to include. New items only.

1 adult-sized toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging)

1 large bar bath soap (in original wrapper)

1 nail clipper (good quality)

1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colours preferred, approx. 40cm x 65cm/16in x 26in)

1 wide tooth comb 15-20cm/ 6-8in

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp's 40th Annual Bowlathon is happening again this year on April 6th! This is one of the camp's main annual fundraising events with last year's Bowlathon raising almost \$30,000! You can show your support by making a donation at hiddenacres.ca/donate, and select "Annual Bowlathon" from the list. If you have any questions please contact us at info@hiddenacres.ca or 519-625-8602. Thank you!

Rockway's Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson is in three, one-act plays. For more info [visit our website](#). Residents of local retirement homes and seniors in churches, may join us for a special afternoon matinee on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 1 pm**. Tickets are \$10 Contact Leasa Peters, by email (office@rockway.ca) or phone by April 3 (519.743.5209) to reserve seats. April 11-13 is for the public audience. Tickets are \$15 per person. visit: rockway.ca/sherlock URL for rockway.ca/sherlock: <https://rockway.ca/sherlock/>

IF Gathering Local at Wilmot Church, April, 19-20 (Friday evening and all day Saturday). IF is an interdenominational event that focuses on bringing women together to worship and study the word of God together. Each session begins with worship and then we watch different speakers on video from the actual large IF GATHERING that was held live last month in Texas. Here is a [link](#) to the event in Texas, which gives you a flavour of what the event was like. Meals and snacks are included in the registration cost. Details at: [IF Gathering 2024 at Wilmot Centre MC](#) - What is the weekend all about?
[IF Gathering: Some History - How it all got started](#)

SLMC Summer Camp – Registration is open! Visit slmc.ca/summer-camp to view all programs available at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp this summer **Music is Medicine Retreat** – Come to Silver Lake for a weekend of singing and instrumental music from April 19-21. All meals provided. Register at slmc.ca/retreats.

Waterloo Network Hub's Annual Spring Banquet @ Shantz Mennonite Church, April 20th, 2024. Doors open 5:30 pm, 6:00 pm dinner. Live Music. \$55 per person. Join us for an evening of inspiration, knowledge & connection. RSVP by April 12. network@meda.org

Rockway teachers are passionate about creating engaging lessons, challenging their students to think critically & caring for their wellbeing. Join us on April 16 at 7 pm to discover the Rockway Experience for your child. Visit rockway.ca to RSVP today! **RSVP at rockway.ca: <https://rockway.ca/about/discover-rockway/discover-rockway-night/>**

Help support Rockway's Student Tuition Assistance program by becoming a golf sponsor in our **29th Annual Golf Classic**. Contact Chris Ainsworth, Director of Advancement, at advancement@rockway.ca to learn more. The **Early Bird registration closes on Monday, April 15**. URL for Rockway's Golf Classic: <https://rockway.ca/golf>

April 24, 9:30 am - 12 pm, MCC Community Room, 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener

If you witness a violent situation, will you know how to respond? Training Active Bystanders shows you how. Participants learn to analyze harm-doing and respond in everyday ways. For more info and to register, go to mcc.org/events.

Spring Seniors Retreat at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp

On Monday, April 29th join us for a day of fellowship, community and conversations. Dr. Martha Taylor will share with us in the morning and Jane Kuepfer will host a panel discussion in the afternoon as we intentionally explore end-of-life conversations. www.hiddenacres.ca See Bulletin Board for more info.

Save the date: Sunday, December 1, evening for a Christmas Choral Concert. All MCEC churches in Wilmot Township as well as East Zorra MC and Tavistock MC are invited to participate. Each church (or combination) choir will present 2 selections on their own. Together the mass choir will sing a few selections. Steinmann Mennonite Church will serve as host; Nancy Steinmann Yantzi has agreed to serve as choral conductor for the mass choir. More details will be coming later in the year.

Pray for peace in Haiti and for political and social stability that people can go about their normal lives. Pray also for MCC staff and its 11 partners in the country that they would have wisdom and resilience in the course of ongoing stress and trauma.

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate is accepting applications for the position of Vice-Principal. This is a full-time position effective July 2024. If you, or someone you know would be a good fit for our school, please view and share the full job posting at: rockway.ca/employment