

# Order of Worship: Sunday March 31, 2024

8:00 & 10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Easter Sunday

Worship theme: *Easter Sunday is the high point of the Christian year. The first believers' greatest fears and disappointments were overcome when Jesus rose from the dead.*

*And it wasn't easy or automatic for them to believe in this most wonderful news. Old assumptions and expectations can be hard to break even in the light of God's greatest miracle.*

## Sunrise Service

Scripture: Luke 24:1-10 (NIV) *On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.*

*While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen! Remember how He told you, while He was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" Then they remembered his words.*

*When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.*

Opening Hymn: #341 VT (#267HWB) – Christ Has Arisen Karen on piano

Reflection: Pastor Jim

Closing Hymn: #333 VT (#273 HWB) – Low in the Grave He Lay Karen on piano

Prayer

Breakfast

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## 10 am Easter Service

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship: Karen G

*Acts 10:36-43 (NIV) You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.*

*You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how He went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with Him.*

*"We are witnesses of everything He did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed Him by hanging Him on a cross, but God raised Him from the dead on the third day and caused Him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead.*

*He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that He is the One whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about Him that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name.”*

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: VT #340 – Lift Your Glad Voices

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation: #710 in HWB

*Scripture: Luke 24:13-35 (NIV) Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus Himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing Him.*

*He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?”*

*They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked Him, “Are You the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” “What things?” He asked.*

*“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed Him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified Him; but we had hoped that He was the One who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.*

*In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn’t find His body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said He was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”*

*He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter His glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.*

*As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if He were going farther. But they urged Him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So He went in to stay with them. When He was at the table with them, He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him, and He disappeared from their sight.*

*They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he Broke the bread.*

Special Music: And can it be Heather M, Jim B

Scripture: John 20:24-29 (NIV) Minnie

*Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”*

*A week later His disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe.”*

*Thomas said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”*

Hymn: #359 VT – Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

Message: *The Lord is risen indeed!* ~ Pastor Jim

Hymn of Response: #280 HWB – Christ the Lord is Risen today

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #355 VT – Thine is the Glory

Benediction

Postlude

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

### **Upcoming Worship Services:**

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](https://hiddenacres.ca/donate), and select "Annual Bowlathon" from the list. If you have any questions please contact us at [info@hiddenacres.ca](mailto: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 matinée on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 1 pm**. Tickets are \$10 Contact Leasa Peters, by email ([office@rockway.ca](mailto: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](https://rockway.ca/sherlock) URL for [rockway.ca/sherlock](https://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](https://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](https://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](mailto: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](https://rockway.ca) to RSVP today! **RSVP at [rockway.ca](https://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](mailto: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](https://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](https://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](https://rockway.ca/employment)