

Order of Worship: Sunday, November 2, 2025

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

This morning we welcome Fred Lichti as our guest speaker and look forward to discussions with him after the service over coffee and snacks.

Worship theme: In the Nicodemus-Jesus dialogue are insights for our own spiritual journeys.

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #250 HWB - Beneath the Cross of Jesus.

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Scripture: Numbers 21:4-9 (NIV) *They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”*

Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Hymn: #617 HWB - Jesus Keep me near the Cross

Scripture: John 3:1-21 (NIV) *Gail - Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs You are doing if God were not with him.” Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”*

Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the One who came from heaven —the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in Him.”

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Message: Look to the cross ~ Fred Lichti

Hymn of Response: #598 HWB - A Wonderful Saviour

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #521 HWB - Come Thou Fount

Benediction

Postlude

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

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### **Announcements**

**Join us and Discover Rockway for your family during** our Open House on **Thursday, November 6 from 7 - 9 pm**. To learn more and to register for this event, visit our [Discover Rockway](#) webpage. [Rockway Mennonite Collegiate - Annual General Meeting](#): **Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 7:30 pm** on Zoom. Email [AGM@rockway.ca](mailto:AGM@rockway.ca) to RSVP for the Zoom link. All are welcome.

**Friday, November 7, 7 pm: Laughter as a Place of Belonging** -- created and performed by Ted Swartz of Ted & Company. This show is a unique mix of humor, storytelling, and spiritual reflection — a theatrical experience that’s unlike anything your congregation or community has seen. \$20 general admission/\$10 under age 12. Steinmann Mennonite Church, 1316 Snyder’s Rd. W. Baden. **Pastor Jim has tickets**, and also may be purchased at the door on November 7.

**Saturday, November 8- 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm- Nithview Community Christmas Bazaar**. Join us for an afternoon of festive shopping! If you or someone you know is an interested vendor who wishes to rent

a table to sell your unique items, please contact Recreation Lead Jane Schultz-Janzen by emailing: [j SchultzJanzen@tcmhomes.com](mailto:j SchultzJanzen@tcmhomes.com) or call 519-574-5537. Table rental fee is \$30.

**The Working Centre is looking for volunteers** to help put together bed frames in their new affordable housing facility at 97 Victoria St. N., Kitchener. You are welcome to join Greg Yantzi (Nith Valley MC) and a few others on **Thursday, November 13 from 9:30 am - 12 pm**. Future dates will also be arranged until all 44 beds are completed. There are other ways you can be involved in this housing project that don't require tools! Contact Greg for more information or to participate ([pastor@nithvalleymennonite.com](mailto:pastor@nithvalleymennonite.com))

**Nov 15 TCMH presents:** An evening with Wendal Clark, including a 3 course meal at Puddicombe House, New Hamburg. For tickets go to [www.tcmhomes.com/donate](http://www.tcmhomes.com/donate). See poster in foyer or ask Pastor Jim for details.

**The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Makers Market will be held at Steinmann Mennonite Church** (1316 Snyder's Rd. W. Baden) on Saturday, November 15, 2025 from 9 am to 2 pm. You are warmly invited to attend and peruse 35+ local vendors' homemade items as well as, the popular, Ten Thousand Villages and Raw Carrot. (A great opportunity to support local artisans **and** find that perfect gift). Soup lunch will be served at 11 am. Proceeds will be given to Wilmot & Wellesley Resource Centre. For more information, see the poster at back of church. Hope to see you there!

**Dwell - a Wilmot Ignited Women's Retreat for all ages.** From Kathryn... Advent is my favourite season of the church year. Join me in a "time-out" from the busyness of the Christmas season as we ponder the beauty of the Incarnation - the gift of God becoming fully human. Through story, reflection and light activity, my hope is for this to be a day of grounding and renewal for you. **Saturday, December 13, 2025**, 10am-4pm. Buffet lunch provided. Crieff Hills Retreat Centre, 7098 Concession 1, Puslinch, ON. Cost: \$48. RSVP by November 22 using this link. Questions? email Kathryn at [kathryn@hillcrestmc.ca](mailto:kathryn@hillcrestmc.ca)

**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))

**Once again, our congregation is very excited to be involved with The Annual Advent Ecumenical Prayer and Song service**, on Sunday, November 30th. We will be celebrating with our Christian brothers and sisters from the Catholic, Mennonite, Lutheran and Salvation Army churches. Please join us at St. Agatha RC Church at 2:30 pm (note the new time change) when the Salvation Army musicians will begin our service with an instrumental prelude. Scripture, prayers and hymns will begin at 3pm. Following the Ecumenical service, everyone is invited to continue our fellowship as we gather for coffee/tea and treats in the church hall. Treats will be provided by The Salvation Army Community Church this year. If you are interested or know someone who is interested in being a member of the Ecumenical Mass Choir, please reach out to Tracy Weber ( [emailgtweber@sympatico.ca](mailto:emailgtweber@sympatico.ca) ) in order to receive details about our 3 Saturday morning choir rehearsals ( Nov 15, 22, 29, 9-10:30 am). We would love to have you join us in preparing music, as well as preparing our hearts for the upcoming Advent season.

**Upcoming Worship Services:**

Nov 2 - Fred Lichti

Nov 9 - Dave Rogalsky

Nov16 - Pastor Jim - potluck, and congregational meeting to distribute excess donated funds

Nov23 - Pastor Jim

Nov30 - Pastor Jim

**Wilmot Ignited joint services**

Dec 28 - Mannheim