

Order of Worship: Sunday, September 15, 2024

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship theme: This week our study of Revelation gives us a dramatic twist on how God works. It might surprise us but it is also a key to how we not only understand the book of Revelation but also to how we understand God's plans.

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship: # 861 (VT)

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #180 (VT) – This is God's Wondrous World

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-7 (NIV) *Here is My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on Him, and He will bring justice to the nations.*

He will not shout or cry out, or raise His voice in the streets.

A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out.

In faithfulness He will bring forth justice; He will not falter or be discouraged

till He establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.”

This is what God the LORD says, the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out,

who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people,

and life to those who walk on it: “I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness;

I will take hold of Your hand. I will keep You and will make You to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

Hymn: #87 (HWB) – Great is the Lord

Scripture: Revelation 5 (NIV) Gary Z – *Then I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. 2 And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?”*

3 But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. 4 I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside.

5 Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

6 Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

7 He went and took the scroll from the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. 8 And when He had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God’s people.

9 And they sang a new song, saying:

*“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals,
because You were slain, and with Your blood you purchased for God
persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.
10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,
and they will reign on the earth.”*

*11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand
times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. 12 In a loud voice they
were saying:*

*“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!”*

*13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in
them, saying:*

*“To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and
ever!”*

14 The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Message: *The Lion is the Lamb ~ Pastor Jim*

Hymn of Response: #116 (HWB) – Crown Him with many crowns

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #327 (HWB) – Great is thy faithfulness

Benediction

Postlude

Please join us downstairs for sermon discussion/coffee time.

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**Announcements**

**Steinmann MC is celebrating their bicentennial this year and is inviting St. Agatha MC** to join in the Friday night hymn sing: Music Through the Years” on Friday, September 20, 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. An offering will be received for the Wilmot Family Resource Center. Following the singing, there will be refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join any or all of the Saturday planned events. You are also invited to join us for worship and the potluck noon meal on Sunday, September 22.

**A tour of the Wilmot Township Amish Settlement** is planned for Saturday morning September 21 – 8 am – 12:30 pm. The morning includes: Breakfast at Schmittsville and the bus led by tour guide, David Neufeld. Cost is \$60/person. E-transfers can be sent to [accountant@smchurch.ca](mailto:accountant@smchurch.ca). For more info, contact Steinmann Mennonite Church 519.634.8311.

**\*\*\*Sunday, September 29 - potluck lunch** following coffee hour and sermon discussion to celebrate and welcome Heather Mann joining our church family. (We will still have a time of sermon discussion with coffee/tea but not the finger foods as we'll be having lunch together after sermon discussion.)

**On October 6<sup>th</sup>, 3 pm, Trinity Lutheran Church**, 23 Church St, New Hamburg, is hosting the Canadian debut performance of composer and pianist Thomas Keesecker. Mixing his own reflective piano compositions with storytelling, poetry, and humor, concert-goers will hear Keesecker's unique blend of classical technique, jazz improvisation, Celtic and folk music influences. Attendees will also lend their own voices, as Keesecker leads engaging hymn singing from the piano. Thomas Keesecker retired as a church musician after serving over 40 years in Lutheran and Roman Catholic parishes in Virginia, Montana, and Maryland. His sacred music is published by MorningStar, Augsburg Fortress, Choristers Guild, Concordia, and GIA. He studied at the Berklee College of Music in Boston and the Catholic University School of Music in Washington, D.C. Tickets: \$20 Adult, \$10 child, available at the door or in advance from the church office. 519-662-1810 Reception to follow. [telc.ca](http://telc.ca)

**You are invited to the beautiful Hidden Acres Camp** on *October 7th* to explore the theme of Falling in Love with Creation - For God so loved the world. What does loving God's good creation look like? What changes in us when we pay loving attention to creation? Come join us for a day of encouragement, reflection and good food. To register visit [hiddenacres.ca/programs/seniors-retreat](http://hiddenacres.ca/programs/seniors-retreat). See poster for more details.

### **Upcoming Worship Services:**

Sept 15: Pastor Jim

Sept 22: 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary service at Steinmann MC. Service starts @ 9:45 am. Potluck lunch following the service there. Please bring food to share and your own dishes.

Sept 29: Pastor Jim

Oct 6: Pastor Jim

Oct 13: Nancy Mann

**This year's Wilmot Ignite long weekend services** are as follows:

Dec 29: hosted by Wilmot

### **Future events**

Oct 5: Church cleanup starting at 9.30. Come for all day, morning or afternoon. Bring a snack & lunch. Oct 19, 26 back up days.

Oct 6: World Communion Sunday

Nov 3: St Agatha MC 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary service with potluck, sharing and singing to follow. Invite your friends.

Nov 17: Potluck lunch and congregational meeting to disburse funds

Dec. 1. 7 pm.: First Advent Joint service at St Agatha Roman Catholic church

Dec.22: Christmas potluck & then carolling