

Order of Worship: Sunday, September 21, 2025

10:00 am – In-person worship

Pastor: Jim Brown

Worship theme: What does it mean to be brothers and sisters? Not only as fellow believers but to be brothers and sisters in and through Christ? As we start digging into Paul's letter to the Christians at Colossae what can we learn to help us be faithful to Christ by being faithful to each other?

Prelude

Welcome & Call to worship

1 Peter 2:4-10 (NIV) *As you come to Him, the living Stone —rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to Him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame.”

Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”

and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Opening prayer

Opening Hymn: #43 HWB - Christ is our cornerstone

Prayer of Confession/Affirmation

Hymn: #91 HWB - Praise to God, immortal praise

Scripture: **Colossians 1:1-6** (NIV) Masuma

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

to God’s holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God’s people — the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the

whole world —just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace.

Message: *Brothers and sisters in Christ ~ Pastor Jim*

Hymn of Response: #322 HWB - For we are strangers no more

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Offering

Closing Hymn: #421 HWB - Bless'd be the tie that binds

Benediction

Postlude

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

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### **Announcements**

*Thank you for your prayers, visits, phone calls and food after my surgery. We are truly blessed to have such a caring, sharing church family.*

*God's blessings to all of you.*

*Floris*

**Doors Open Waterloo Region: MCC Hub September 20, 10 a.m. -4 p.m.,** 65 Heritage Dr., New Hamburg. The MCC Hub is a participating site of Doors Open Waterloo Region. Tour the home to MCC's material resources and thrift processing, including the innovative new meat cannery; explore behind-the-scenes operations and pack a relief kit for someone affected by conflict or disaster. See how we meet urgent needs and make a global impact — one can, one kit at a time. There's fun for the whole family with a bouncy castle and face painting, too.

**Save the Date: Sunday, September 21, 3 pm:** “Music for MCC Meat Cannery”. Come enjoy vocal and instrumental music offered by a variety of people. Concert will be held in the Steinmann Mennonite Church sanctuary. Cost by donation – all proceeds going to MCC Meat Cannery. Everyone is welcome.

**You're invited to the Wilmot & Wellesley Resource Centre's** 31st annual Community Fundraiser (Poor Boy's Luncheon), Thursday, September 25, 2025, at the New Hamburg Community Centre @ 251 Jacob St. Lunch: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. / Dinner: 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tickets available online (scan Or code) at the door: \$10/person; \$35/family.

Thank you for your ongoing support in building strong and healthy communities where all individuals are accepted and have opportunities to participate and grow.

### **October 1 at 7 p.m., Shantz Mennonite Church, 2473 Erbs Rd, Baden**

*October 2 at 7 p.m., Conrad Grebel University College, 140 Westmount Rd N, Waterloo*

You're invited to join author and notable speaker Sarah Augustine, together with Adrian Jacobs and

Mennonite Action, for two evenings of conversation about Indigenous justice and decolonization. These events are free but require registration. Learn more and register here. Capacity is limited.

**Mark your calendars for Friday, October 17** and let Rockway Mennonite Collegiate prepare a delicious Spaghetti Supper for you! More information at [rockway.ca/events](https://rockway.ca/events)

**Friday, October 17, 2025 at Conrad Grebel University College** in Waterloo and online

Every three years, service providers supporting Low German-speaking communities come together in Ontario for a dynamic day of learning and networking. This year's provincial conference will take place on October 17 and features a compelling line-up of speakers with both professional and lived experience with the Low German population. Join us in-person or online. Learn more at [mcc.org/Low-German-Challenging-Assumptions](https://mcc.org/Low-German-Challenging-Assumptions). Early-bird registration ends July 31st.

**On Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM at Marshall Hall, Bingemans,** we will gather for a three-course dinner and meaningful reflections under the theme:

***Rooted in Legacy, Growing Tomorrow.*** Together, we will reflect on 16 years of remarkable leadership and transformation at House of Friendship, 3A-236 Victoria St. N. Kitchener — a time marked by bold new initiatives like ShelterCare, the Live-In Addiction Treatment Centre in Cambridge, the vision for Friendship Village, and the continued growth of our Community Services. We'll honour CEO John Neufeld's legacy of innovation and celebrate 86 years of House of Friendship's service — a legacy built on the shoulders of those who came before, marked by creativity, compassion, and care for community. Most importantly, this evening will look ahead with hope — inviting you to be part of the next chapter as we continue responding to the challenges in our community with the same courage and compassion that began our journey. We would be honoured to share this unforgettable evening with you.

[fundraising@houseoffriendship.org](mailto:fundraising@houseoffriendship.org)

**Save the date! Sat. Dec. 13. Wilmot Ignited Advent Women's Retreat** at Crieff Hills Retreat Centre.

More details to follow in the coming weeks.

**Upcoming Worship Services:**

Sept 21 - Pastor Jim

Sept 28 - Pastor Jim

**Wilmot Ignited joint services**

Oct 5 - World Communion Sunday

Dec 28 - Mannheim