



Orrville Mennonite Church

1305 W. Market St. Orrville Ohio 44667

www.orrvillemenno.net

Worship Order for December 3, 2023 First Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Advent Candle-Lighting

Responsive Reading

Isaiah 64.4, 8, 12

Leader: From ancient times, no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any god but you who acts on behalf of those who wait for [the Lord]!

Piano Side: [God], You are our father.

Offering Side: We are the clay...

Piano Side: You are our potter.

Leader: All of us are the work of your hand. ...

All: Will you hold back, Lord? Will you keep silent...?

Gathering Songs

*Savior of the Nations, Come!
If the War Goes On*

WB 173
SJ 66

Call to Worship

Leader: O God, tear open the heavens and come down so that the mountains would quake at your presence!

Piano Side: No one has heard,

Offering Side: no ear has perceived,

All: no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for you.

Leader: No one knows when the time will come.

Bill: How long must we wait?

(pause)

All: Together we wait.

Singing

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
O Savior, Rend the Heavens*

WB 178
WB 175

Offering Prayer

All are invited to come forward with gifts and offerings as we sing.

Regular Offerings

My Coins Count (water projects around the world)

Offering Song

We Walk By Faith

WB 570

Scripture Mark 13:24–37

24 “In those days, after the suffering of that time, the sun will become dark, and the moon won’t give its light. 25 The stars will fall from the sky, and the planets and other heavenly bodies will be shaken. 26 Then they will see the Human One[a] coming in the clouds with great power and splendor. 27 Then he will send the angels and gather together his chosen people from the four corners of the earth, from the end of the earth to the end of heaven.

28 “Learn this parable from the fig tree. After its branch becomes tender and it sprouts new leaves, you know that summer is near.

29 In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that he’s near, at the door. 30 I assure you that this generation won’t pass away until all these things happen. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

32 “But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the angels in heaven and not the Son. Only the Father knows. 33

Watch out! Stay alert! You don’t know when the time is coming.

34 It is as if someone took a trip, left the household behind, and put the servants in charge, giving each one a job to do, and told the doorkeeper to stay alert. 35 Therefore, stay alert! You don’t

know when the head of the household will come, whether in the evening or at midnight, or when the rooster crows in the early morning or at daybreak. 36 Don’t let him show up when you weren’t expecting and find you sleeping. 37 What I say to you, I say to all: Stay alert!”

Sermon

Obviously, it’s like the fig tree!

Love Step Prayer (standing if able)

Lord, open my eyes to see when you introduce me to someone. Help me to meet them with love where they are and to be met in love where I am. Help us to walk together, learn from each other, and share your love with others. Help us to see that as we do these things together, we are growing closer to Christ.

Song *Come, Walk with Us* SJ 2

Benediction

Leader: Together we wait.
Child: How long must we wait?
Leader: No one knows when the time will come.
 So, go! Keep alert, strengthened by God's
 faithfulness to you.

**Sharing (prayer requests) and Caring
Announcements**

Sermon Notes

Greeter, LaVonne Amstutz
Usher, Sherm Amstutz
PA System Operator, Norm Sohar
Worship Nursery, Sky Lofty; Sunday School Nursery, Kathy Troyer
Sunday Morning Trustee (December), Ken Wenger
Song Leader, Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi
Advent Reading, Megan Sohar and Sandy Sohar
Readers, Virgil and Kathy Troyer
Sharing (prayer requests) and Caring/Announcements, Pete & Lou Erb

Announcements

An invitation! Please consider parking on the side of the church and entering through the front door of the church if you are willing and able. It's another way to make the front of our building more open and inviting to our community.

Coffee time! Coffee, tea and hot chocolate will be available upstairs in the church beginning at 9:00 am. Please consider coming earlier than 9:30 so you have some time to sit and enjoy a cup before the service begins at 9:30. Starting this Sunday, there will be a place for coats in the overflow in addition to the row of hooks near the elevator and the coat rack near the library.

Dollar Project for Salvation Army thank you! Thanks for your faithful giving to those in need. The Salvation Army received 109 cans of soup and a check for \$469.61 to purchase additional food for Christmas food baskets from our dollar project giving. They share their extreme thanks!

Christmas Carols, Cookies and Cocoa!!!! You're invited to a Carol Sing at Orrville Mennonite Church, next **Sunday, December 10** at 6pm, with cookies and cocoa afterward! A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Monday Meals program, which serves about 200 people per week. All ages and abilities welcome!

Advent. This Sunday, December 3, is the First Sunday in Advent. We'll be focusing on typical advent themes of hope, joy, peace, love, and as we look at the idea of waiting, asking the question, "How will we know?" If you are interested in some general information about Advent, here is a link with some solid stuff.
<https://bibleproject.com/guides/advent/>

Stirrup Courage would like to invite all our supporters, friends, family, and the community to join us for our 2nd Annual "Deck the Stalls" Christmas Open House event! Join us on Sunday, December 10th between 1:00-4:00pm for free refreshments, facility tours, contests and prizes for the kids, fun Christmas photo opportunities, and a fundraiser raffle full of great gifts! Located at Stirrup Courage Equestrian Learning Center, 823 S Kohler Rd, Orrville. Also accepting donations of cookies/baked goods, and raffle prize items for the event. For more information contact Tara Steiner, stirrupcourage@gmail.com

Prayer Time. The elders will continue to offer Sunday morning prayer times on designated Sunday mornings at 8:45 am. Stay tuned for more opportunities to join in prayer for church growth.

OMC Church Directory Update. Thank you for your help in gathering photos and updated info for the next directory. **There's still time to send updated pics and info!** If we do not hear from you, we will keep your information and picture the same. The directory will be printed by December 31st.

January 2024 Worship and Fellowship Series

Beginning January 7, with a combined worship service at Oak Grove Mennonite, we will be in a series call, **The Jesus Way**, looking at Anabaptist Faith and Practice. Herald Press has a series

of 10 books, focused around questions of faith and practice, called *The Jesus Way, Little Books of Radical Faith*. An order sheet for the books is on the back table in the Sanctuary.

Schedule At-A-Glance for December 3 – 10, 2023

Sunday, December 3 **1st Sunday of Advent**

Coffee Time, **9:00 am**

Worship Service, **9:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Sunday School, **10:45 am**

Tuesday, December 5

REFIT, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 6

Axis Youth Group, 6:30 pm

Thursday, December 7

Women's Fellowship and Service, 9:30 am

Elder Council meeting at church, 3:15 pm

Saturday, December 9

Women's Pancake Breakfast at Lou Erb's, 8:30 am

Sunday, December 10 **2nd Sunday of Advent**

Coffee Time, **9:00 am**

Worship Service, **9:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Sunday School, **10:45 am**

Carol Sing, Cookies and Cocoa at OMC, 6 pm

Looking Ahead

December 24

Regular Worship Service, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6:00 pm

Evening Open House @ Seymour's, 7:15 pm

December 31

9:15 am Brunch @ OMC -- then we'll bring

our worship to Orrvilla Maple Terrace to

include Ruth Conrad and Lois Leidig. **Our**

**worship will be in the Maple Terrace
basement at 10.45am**

January 7

Combined Worship Service at Oak Grove, 10 am. Lunch following.

January 8

Monday Meals start up again.

January 10

First of 5 monthly Wednesday suppers and Bible Studies with our Six Church Group. This first one is at Orrville Mennonite.

January 14

Our normal Worship, Sunday School, and 2nd Sunday Carry-In meal.

Offering Report for Sunday, November 26, 2023

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,408.00

Ministry Spending Plan: \$1,470.00

Monday Meals: \$100.00

Ohio Conference: \$100.00

Dollar Project (Salvation Army): \$469.61

Fellowship Hall Rental: \$50.00

Orrville Mennonite Church

1305 W. Market St., Orrville, OH 44667

330-682-5801

Email address: omcjan@gmail.com

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 am - 12 noon

Orrville Mennonite Church Website

www.orrvillemenno.net

Ohio Conference of MC USA Website

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

Staff

Pastor Bill Seymour

omcbill@gmail.com

330-347-7034 (Cell)

Elder Council

Dan Jantzi – Elder for Finance/Facilities & EC Facilitator

208-971-6488 (Cell)

dijantzi@gmail.com

Bill Seymour – Elder for Worship

330-347-7034 (Cell)

omcbill@gmail.com

Louisa Pirozzi Erb – Elder for Missions

330-317-0726 (Cell)

louerb@gmail.com

Bev Squirrell – Elder for Community/Discipleship

330-845-3732 (Cell)

joshuasmombev@gmail.com

Ministers: Each member of the congregation

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