



Orrville Mennonite Church

1305 W. Market St. Orrville Ohio 44667

www.orrvillemenno.net

Worship Order for March 3, 2024 Third Sunday of Lent

Welcome

Singing	<i>Rejoice, the Lord is King!</i>	WB 288
	<i>Joys Are Flowing Like a River</i>	WB 301

The lamps will be lit during the opening songs.

Lighting these lamps, we remember:

- Our sisters, brothers, friends, partners.
- Our laments.
- Our thanksgivings.
- The hope we have together in Christ.

Responsive Reading 2 Corinthians 5.14-15, John 3.3, 6, 8,
2 Cor. 5.17, Ephesians 2.4-7, John 3.16-17, 2 Cor. 5.21

Leader: The love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded [that] one died for the sake of all; therefore, all died.

Piano Side: [Jesus] died for the sake of all so that those who are alive should live not for themselves but for the one who died for them and was raised.

Offering Side: Jesus [said], "I assure you, unless someone is born anew, it's not possible to see God's kingdom."

All: *Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

Leader: God's Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going. It's the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

All: *So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived! →*

Leader: God is rich in mercy. [God] brought us to life with Christ while we were dead as a result of those things that we did wrong.

Piano Side: [God] did this because of the great love that he has for us. You are saved by God's grace! And God raised us up and seated us in the heavens with Christ Jesus.

Offering Side: God did this to show future generations the greatness of his grace by the goodness that God has shown us in Christ Jesus.

All: *God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life.*

Leader: God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

All: *God caused the one who didn't know sin to be sin for our sake so that through him we could become the righteousness of God.*

Singing	<i>God Sent His Son</i>	WB 345
	<i>I Know Not Why God's Wondrous</i>	WB 338

Offering Prayer

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

Regular Offering

My Coins Count (water projects around the world)

Dollar Project (Austin and Griselda Zuercher)

Offering Song	<i>Lord, I Am Fondly, Earnestly</i>	WB 514
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Scripture	Eph. 2.12b-16, 2 Cor 5.18-19, Eph. 2.8-10, 20-22
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Leader: You were aliens rather than citizens of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of God's promise. In this world you had no hope and no God. Now, thanks to Christ Jesus, you who once were so far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

All: *Christ is our peace.*

Leader: He made both Jews and Gentiles into one group. With his body, he broke down the barrier of hatred that divided us.→

Piano Side: He canceled the detailed rules of the Law so that he could create one new person out of the two groups, making peace.

Offering Side: He reconciled them both as one body to God by the cross, which ended the hostility to God.

Leader: All of these new things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and who gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

All: ... God was reconciling the world to himself through Christ, by not counting people's sins against them. [God] has trusted us with this message of reconciliation.

Leader: You are saved by God's grace because of your faith. This salvation is God's gift. It's not something you possessed. It's not something you did that you can be proud of.

Piano Side: Instead, we are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things.

Offering Side: God planned for these good things to be the way that we live our lives.

Leader: As God's household, you are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. The whole building is joined together in him, and it grows up into a temple that is dedicated to the Lord. Christ is building you into a place where God lives through the Spirit.

All: Christ is building us into a place where God lives through the Spirit.

Sermon *Why?*

Song *Beyond a Dying Sun*

WB 323

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.

Benediction

Sharing (prayer requests) and Caring Announcements

Usher, Ken Wenger

PA Operator, Virgil Troyer

Song Leader, Jane Beyeler

Accompanist, Marilyn Rossiter

Readers, Sherm and LaVonne Amstutz

Sharing and Prayer, Mark Bixler

Greeters Today, Pete and Lou Erb

Next Sunday, Bev Squirrell, Mark & Jen Bixler

Worship Nursery, Marilyn Kamp

Next Sunday, Sky Lofty

Sunday School Nursery, Dan Jantzi

Next Sunday, Kathy Troyer

Sunday Morning Trustee, Ken Wenger

Sermon Notes

What Difference Does Jesus' Death Make?

Review from Colossians 2.6-3.17

1. Jesus submitted to our death so that we could participate in his resurrection.
 - a. Our Response:
 - i. Be rooted and built up in Christ.
 - ii. Be established in faith in Christ.
 - iii. Overflow with thanksgiving in Christ.
 - iv. Live in and through and for the Risen Christ.
 - v. Because ALL the fullness of God dwells in Christ, and you are filled with Christ.

Why?

More than going to heaven.

2 Corinthians 5.14-21

Not holding peoples' sin against them

Reconciling

Announcements

Worship and Fellowship Series – *The Jesus Way*. Along with Oak Grove, Crown Hill, and Wooster Mennonite Churches, we are in a sermon series called, *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*. This Sunday we will complete two weeks about the Atonement. The book is *Why Did Jesus Die and What Difference Does it Make?* by Michele Hershberger, professor at Hesston College. We will also include material from the book, *Who Was Jesus and What Does It Mean to Follow Him*, by Nancy Elizabeth Bedford. This latter book will not receive two weeks of its own, instead being used throughout to augment the other material.

Monday Meals. This past Monday, February 25, we served 132 meals. This Monday, March 4, is leftover night. Leftover nights create a lot of extra packing and especially extra kitchen work. We could really use **3 extra people**. Two to focus on dish washing from 5:00 to 6:30 pm and one to help with packing from 5:10 – 6:00 pm. Please let Bill know if you can help. Thanks!

Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on March 8-9. A handmade comforter provides not only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Join others of all ages for this two-day event at Fairlawn Mennonite Church to knot comforters that Mennonite Central Committee will distribute around the world. **Times:** Friday, March 8 (9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.); Saturday, March 9 (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.). **Location:** Fairlawn Mennonite Church - 8520 Emerson Rd, Apple Creek, OH 44606.

February/March Dollar Project. The \$Project for the month of February and the first two Sundays of March will support Austin and Griselda Zuercher in God's ministries in Honduras. This is the second year of our commitment to this couple in ministry there. We are committed to \$500, and anything given above that amount will also go to them for their financial support. A recap of

their year 2023 is on the Bulletin Board at the bottom of the back entry stairway. Thank you for your generosity.

Prayer Time. Church Growth – The elders invite you to a time of prayer, specifically for our church to grow. Jesus replied, “Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” Matthew 17:20-21. As we come together, in faith, we will discover how nothing is impossible for our Lord. **Prayer times will be 8:45am every other Sunday.** We will meet in the room under the balcony... If you are unable to attend in person, perhaps you can commit to spending time in prayer asking our Lord to open our doors for others to walk through so that they will know the love of our Lord and experience our Love Step Prayer in action. The next prayer time is this **Sunday, March 10th.**

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.

Schedule At-A-Glance for March 3 – 10, 2024

Sunday, March 3 **3rd Sunday of Lent**

Coffee Time, **9:00 am**

Worship Service **9:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Sunday School, **10:45 am**

Monday, March 4

Monday Meals, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, March 6

Axis Youth Group, 6:30 pm

Thursday, March 7

Women's Fellowship and Service, 9:30 am

Elder Council Meeting, 3:30 pm

Friday – Saturday, March 8 & 9

MCC Comforter Bash at Fairlawn Mennonite Church

Sunday, March 10 **4th Sunday of Lent**

Daylight Saving Time begins

Prayer Time, **8:45 am**

Coffee Time, **9:00 am**

Worship Service **9:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Sunday School, **10:45 am**

Monthly Carry-In Meal, **12 noon**

Offering Report for Sunday, February 25, 2024

Ministry Spending Plan: \$2,236.66

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,555.00

Compassion Fund: \$40.00

Dollar Project (Zuerchers): \$93.00

I.W. Royer Fund: \$75.00

Looking Ahead

March 13 2nd Wednesday Supper & Bible Study
at Crown Hill MC

March 24 Palm Sunday

March 28 Maundy Thursday

March 31 Easter Sunday

April 3 Spring Congregational Meeting, 7 pm

Orrville Mennonite Church

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Orrville Mennonite Church Website

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Ohio Conference of MC USA Website

www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

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Ministers: Each member of the congregation

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