



Orrville Mennonite Church

1305 W. Market St. Orrville Ohio 44667

www.orrvillemenno.net

Order of Worship December 8, 2024 Second Sunday in Advent

Welcome

Gathering Songs *Comfort, Comfort, O My People* WB 176
 Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee WB 182

Call to Worship based on Joel 2:12-13

Leader: Let us return to the Lord with all our hearts.

People: **With our whole heart?**

Leader: The hurting and hurtful part?

The bleeding and empty part?

People: **The sewn-up-tight-don't-come-in heart part?**

All: ***With our whole heart, with all our hearts
we come to worship the Lord God,***

Leader: whose merciful compassion,
abundant patience, and faithful forgiving love
meet us in our need.

Song *Create in Me a Clean Heart* WB 128

Candlelighting

Reader 1: We know God to be merciful and compassionate,

Reader 2: patient and full of faithful love,

Reader 1: ready to forgive.

Reader 2: Created in God's image, we yearn to reflect these
same attributes in our hearts and lives.

The first two Advent candles are lit

All: ***We open our hearts to receive the Spirit, to become more
like our loving God.***

Love Step Prayer (unison)

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 *How Many Times We Start Again* screen
VT 553

Offering Prayer

Offering Song *Praise with Joy the World's Creator* SJ 16

Come forward during the song and place gifts and offerings in vessels for regular offering, Dollar Project and My Coins Count.

Scripture Joel 2:12–13, 28–32

“But even now,” says the Lord,

“repent sincerely and return to me
with fasting and weeping and mourning.

¹³ Let your broken heart show your sorrow;
tearing your clothes is not enough.”

Come back to the Lord your God.

He is kind and full of mercy;
he is patient and keeps his promise;
he is always ready to forgive and not punish.

²⁸ “Afterward I will pour out my Spirit on everyone:
your sons and daughters will proclaim my message;
your old people will have dreams,
and your young people will see visions.

²⁹ At that time I will pour out my Spirit
even on servants, both men and women.

³⁰ “I will give warnings of that day
in the sky and on the earth;
there will be bloodshed, fire, and clouds of smoke.

³¹ The sun will be darkened,
and the moon will turn red as blood
before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. →

³² But all who ask the Lord for help will be saved.
As the Lord has said,
‘Some in Jerusalem will escape;
those whom I choose will survive.’”

Message *Walking with God's Spirit*

Hymn of Response *Let Us Build a House* screen
VT 36

Sending blessing

May you leave here renewed by the Holy Spirit, blessed by God to be a blessing, with an open heart for Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Sermon Response When in your walk with God have you felt particularly energized by God's Spirit?

Prayer Requests

Announcements

Greeter, LaVonne Amstutz
Usher, Sherm Amstutz
PA Operator, Norm Sohar
PowerPoint Projector, Sandy Miller
Song Leader, Hank Rossiter
Accompanist, Marilyn Rossiter
Candle Lighting Reading, Sharon Stutzman and Nancy Hostetler
Candle Lighter, Violet Andreasen
Reader, Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi
Sharing and Prayer, Megan Sohar
Worship Nursery, Liz Snyder, Jan and Rollie Kauffman
Preschool Nursery, Sky Lofty
Trustee (December), Ken Wenger

Sermon Notes

Announcements

Today, December 8, is the second Sunday in Advent

Our Advent/Christmas worship theme this year is focused on the idea of walking with God and each other. Each Sunday, there will be a focus question. Today's question is:

When in your walk with God have you felt particularly energized by God's Spirit?

We express sincere sympathies to Larry and the Gerber family in the passing of Joyce on December 2nd. A contribution has been made to the I.W. Royer Scholarship Fund in Larry's memory.

Sign-up sheets for nursery helpers and greeters are at the back of the sanctuary for January through March. Also, feel free to check your calendar at home and email or call the church office to let us know what works for your schedule.

Second Annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Sunday

Here at Orrville Mennonite Church! Sunday, December 15, let's see how many of us can wear ugly Christmas sweaters! No judgment, just laughter (and warmth – we will be wearing sweaters after all!).

The Orrville widows' group will be meeting this Wednesday, December 11, from 1-2:30 p.m. at Orrville Mennonite Church. We invite you to join us for informal fellowship and connection. Bring a few cookies to share! We look forward to seeing you then!

Hear ye! Hear ye!

Please mark your calendar: You're invited to a Carol Sing at Orrville Mennonite Church, Sunday, December 15 at 6pm, with cookies and cocoa afterward! All ages and abilities welcome! I am organizing this event to benefit our Monday Meals program, which has been serving about 200 meals per week to those in our community who need them. If you're unable to make it, I hope you'll still consider sending in a donation, this is a wonderful program, and I'd love to see it continue as long as possible.

The 36th year of "Search for the Christ Child" at

Oak Grove Mennonite Church, 7843 Smucker Rd., Smithville, OH, is today -- Sunday, December 8, 2024 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

This is an indoor-outdoor walk-through experience of what the first Christmas may have been like. Dress Warmly! Handicap Accessible. Admission is one article of canned food or toiletries for "People to People Ministries" Everyone is welcome!

Handel's Messiah

All are invited to experience Handel's Messiah at Oak Grove Mennonite Church, Smithville, on Sunday, December 15 at 2:30 pm. Whether in the audience or as a choir member, this beautiful

and reverent work will warm your heart this Christmas season. To share your voice in the mass choir, practices will be held at the church Friday, December 13, 7-9 pm and on Saturday, December 14, 3:15-5:15 pm. Merry Christmas!

Upcoming Sermon Series

Renewal – Learning from 500 Years of Anabaptism

January 5-19 and the 26th

A look at Story, Repentance, Trust and Yieldedness, and the Lord's Table through the eyes of our history.

Wait, God ... Really?!?

February 2 - March 2

A five week look at some head-scratching and even scandalous things in the Bible and faith

1. God's role in our suffering
2. The difficulty of faith and prayer
3. Is it really only through Christ?
4. Scandal -- The treatment of women
5. Scandal -- The land promise and conquest and modern colonialism

Schedule-At-A-Glance for December 8 – 15, 2024

Sunday, December 8 2nd Sunday in Advent

Gathering and Coffee Time, **9:00 am**

Worship, **9:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Sunday School, **10:45 am**

Search for the Christ Child at Oak Grove, 5 – 7 pm

Wednesday, December 11

Koinonia Ladies Lunch at LaVonne Amstutz's, 12 noon

Orrville Widows' Group at OMC, 1 – 2:30 pm

Next Sunday, December 15 3rd Sunday in Advent

Gathering and Coffee Time, **9:00 am**

Worship, **9:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Sunday School, **10:45 am**

Carol Sing at OMC, **6:00 pm**

Looking Ahead

December 15	Ugly Christmas Sweater Sunday Carol Sing with Amber – 6:00 pm at OMC
December 21	6:00-8:00 pm – 60 th birthday party open house for Allison (location TBA)
December 24	Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 pm Christmas Open House at the Seymour's, 7:30 pm

Offering Report for December 1, 2024

Ministry Spending Plan: \$2,385.00

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,555.00

Dollar Project (Salvation Army): \$14.00

Miscellaneous (Open Arms payment for color copies): \$36.61

FH Rental: \$50.00

December birthdays and anniversaries

1	Bret Andreasen
4	Bobby Haas
17	Allison Seymour
20	Mel/Mim Wenger
24	Ken Wenger
30	Nathan Kalapodis

Orrville Mennonite Church

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