



Orrville Mennonite Church

1305 W. Market St. Orrville Ohio 44667

www.orrvillemenno.net

Order of Worship December 22, 2024 Fourth Sunday in Advent

Welcome

Gathering Songs *Love Came Down at Christmas* WB 208
 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice WB 210

Call to Worship based on Luke 1:26–38

Leader: The Lord is with us, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Can you conceive it?

Don't say, "It's all relative."

People: **It's real! It's right now! It's right here!**

Leader: Come young, come old.

Let us worship in the name of Jesus,

All: ***for nothing will be impossible with God!***

Song *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* WB 211

Candlelighting

Reader 1: Mary was told that she would be the mother to the promised Messiah.

Reader 2: And she responded, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said."

Reader 1: With the courage of Mary, we can accept the journey ahead of us.

Reader 2: But we do not need to walk it alone.

Reader 1: We need the support of others. →

The four Advent candles are lit

All: ***With Christ as our center, we join hands with others, walking together on the journey.***

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 *The Angel Gabriel* WB 180

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

Scripture Luke 1:26–49

26 When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, 27 to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David’s house. The virgin’s name was Mary. 28 When the angel came to her, he said, “Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!” 29 She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 The angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. 31 Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. 33 He will rule over Jacob’s house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom.”

34 Then Mary said to the angel, “How will this happen since I haven’t had sexual relations with a man?” →

35 The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God’s Son. 36 Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled ‘unable to conceive’ is now six months pregnant. 37 Nothing is impossible for God.” 38 Then Mary said, “I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.” Then the angel left her. 39 Mary got up and hurried to a city in the Judean highlands. 40 She entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 With a loud voice she blurted out, “God has blessed you above all women, and he has blessed the child you carry. 43 Why do I have this honor, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. 45 Happy is she who believed that the Lord would fulfill the promises he made to her.”

Message *Lending a Hand – Embodying God’s Spirit*

Hymn of Response *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* WB 307

Sending blessing **unison**

May Jesus be nurtured, and born, and grow in our lives
so that he would find a home with us,
we would be at home with him,
and the world would be blessed
to see and know and love this Jesus—*God-with-us*. Amen.

Sermon Response When in your walk with God have people
walked with you, supporting you?

Prayer Requests
Announcements

Greeters, Mark and Jen Bixler, Emmett Andreasen
Usher, Judy King
PA Operator, Norm Sohar

Song Leader, Hank Rossiter
Accompanist, Marilyn Rossiter
Readers, Virgil and Kathy Troyer
Advent Candle Lighting Readers, Mark, Jen, Amos, Jo Bixler
Sharing and Prayer, Hank Rossiter
Worship Nursery, Marilyn Kamp
Trustee (December), Ken Wenger

Sermon Notes

Announcements

The fourth Sunday in Advent is TODAY, December 22nd. Our Advent worship theme this year is focused on the idea of walking with God and each other. There is space in the sermon response time to share stories of walking with God and each other. This Sunday's focus question is:

When in your walk with God have people walked with you, supporting you?

Nursery Note. There are no volunteers assigned for the Sunday School hour this morning. Please feel welcome to attend to your children in the nursery or in the play area at the back of the sanctuary anytime during the morning.

Invite your friends and family to join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service, 6 pm here at Orrville Mennonite! Bill and Allison are hosting a Christmas Open House following the service at their home, 7:30 pm.

The church office will be closed on Christmas Day and Friday, December 27th.

Next Sunday, December 29th is our Fifth Sunday Mission Offering where your designated offerings go towards the missions you would like to support. This is the final Fifth Sunday Mission Offering in 2024.

Schedule-At-A-Glance for December 22 – 29, 2024

Sunday, December 22 **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

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

Worship, **9:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Sunday School, **10:45 am**

Tuesday, December 24 **Christmas Eve**

Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service, **6 pm**

Christmas Eve Open House at Bill & Allison's, **7:30 pm**

Christmas Day – Jesus is Born!

Next Sunday, December 29

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

Worship, **9:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Fifth Sunday Mission Offering

Sunday School, **10:45 am**

Looking Ahead

- December 24 Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 pm
Christmas Open House at the Seymour's, 7:30 pm
- December 29 Fifth Sunday Mission Offering
- January 12 Menno Table Bible Study with Elvis Otieno at
Martins Mennonite Church
- January 21 Ohio Conf Cluster Mtg at Crown Hill MC, 6:30 pm
- January 26 Combined Worship Service at Wooster MC
For 500th Anabaptist Anniversary Celebration
Amy Gingerich, special speaker

Offering Report for December 15, 2024

- Ministry Spending Plan: \$6,057.24
Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,555.00
Monday Meal Fundraiser: \$167.87
Austin Zuercher: \$600.00
Dollar Project: \$50.00
Anabaptist Community Bible(s): \$82.22

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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Orrville Mennonite Church Website

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