



Orrville Mennonite Church

1305 W. Market St. Orrville Ohio 44667

www.orrvillemenno.net

Order of Worship

February 9, 2025

Please take note! The church elevator is temporarily out of service.

Welcome

Gathering Songs	<i>God is Here Among Us</i>	WB 16
	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>	WB 120

Call to Worship and Lamp Lighting

Leader: We come to worship this morning with all of who we are.

Piano Side: Our troubles and laments (*one lamp is lit*).

Offering Side: Our victories and joys (*one lamp is lit*).

Leader: We come to worship this morning as part of a community of Jesus followers here and all over the world (*one lamp is lit*).

Piano Side: Asking for more people to join us.

Offering Side: Preparing our hearts to welcome and include.

All: We come to worship together, Lord, because you are our hope. You are our strength. You are our everything, and we are grateful (*final lamp is lit*).

Singing	<i>Don't Be Afraid</i>	SJ 105
	<i>There is More Love Somewhere</i>	SJ 109

Dollar Project Announcement

Offering Prayer

Offering Song *As I Went Down to the River to Pray* SJ 79

Scripture Revelation 21.1-7

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ I heard a loud voice from the throne say, "Look! God's dwelling is here with humankind. He will dwell with them, and they will be his peoples. God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more. There will be no mourning, crying, or pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ Then the one seated on the throne said, "Look! I'm making all things new." He also said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ Then he said to me, "All is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will freely give water from the life-giving spring. ⁷ Those who emerge victorious will inherit these things. I will be their God, and they will be my sons and daughters.

Song *We Shall Walk Through the Valley* WB 412

Message *God's Role in Suffering*

Song of Response *With My Voice Alone* VT 800

With my voice alone, there is little I can do.
Add your voice to mine— what more can two voices do?
If we gather more and more, we become a mighty roar,
Our voices loud and strong speaking out against all wrong.
With my strength alone, there is little I can do.
Add your strength to mine— what more can our forces do?
Gath'ring all our strength as one, we can move a stubborn stone,
And, with our pow'r combined, tear down each dividing wall.
With my heart alone, there is little I can do.
Add your heart to mine— what more can our two hearts do?
Joining all our hearts in love, we ask God for grace enough
To open prison doors, letting the oppressed go free.

Text: Korean; unknown, © Kyung Dong Presbyterian Church
(admin. Moon Seong Mo); trans. Andrew Donaldson (Canada),
trans. © 2013 Andrew Donaldson

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. Amen.

Benediction

Sermon Response

Prayer Requests

Announcements

Greeters, Jan and Rollie Kauffman
Usher, Josiah Bixler
PA Operator, Dan Jantzi
Song Leader, Bill Seymour
Reader, Rollie Kauffman
Sharing and Prayer, Megan Sohar
Worship Nursery, Jan and Rollie Kauffman
Trustee (February), Mark Bixler

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.

Announcements

Welcome! We have new church mailboxes for:

John and Kathy Schmid

- Address (temporary): 1090 Portage Path, Akron, OH 44313
- Phone Numbers: Kathy (406-333-0622); John (406-407-1810)
- Email Addresses: Kathy (kmsmtoh@gmail.com), John (jpsmtoh@gmail.com)
- Birthdays: Kathy (3-13-1959); John (3-20-1954)
- Anniversary: 6-24-1989

Daryl and Sue (Sweeney) Steiner

- Address: 13904 Arnold Road, Dalton OH 44618
- Phone Numbers: Sue (330-201-0387); Daryl (330-201-0774)
- Email Addresses: Sue (artbysuesteiner@gmail.com); Daryl (rdsteiner01@gmail.com)
- Birthdays: Sue (Sept 8); Daryl (Oct 29)
- Anniversary: 01-09-90

OMC's Compassion Fund is in need of more funds. Please prayerfully consider contributing to our fund to help those in need of assistance.

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MennoTable Event – The Big Story

Today! Sunday, February 9, in Akron, 5:00 – 7:00 pm at Trinity UCC on North Main St. We will listen to the story of our Congolese friends, how they started their journey from their home in Congo to a refugee camp in Tanzania and finally to Ohio. It's not an easy story to tell so let's keep them in prayers and come ready to witness an amazing Grace of God in their lives. It is time to listen with a lot of kindness and to pray for their safety.

Monday Meals. We served only 57 meals this week. We are planning beef stew for Monday, February 10.

Widows' Group is meeting this Wednesday, February 12 at Orrville Mennonite Church from 1 – 2:30 pm. Bring your favorite teacup if you have one!

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, February 22 is the women's breakfast at Lou Erb's house at 8:30 am. Feel free to bring a friend. Lou will make a casserole and provide coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Just let her know if you're coming so she gets the right number of plates out :o)

MCC Connections Volunteer Needs. The MCC Connections thrift store has opportunities to join an engaging community which provides regular, purposeful activity. We are in need of volunteers for the following jobs:

- ❖ Snow removal (using our equipment)
- ❖ Cashier - substitutes and half day Saturdays
- ❖ Christmas sorting
- ❖ Crafts
- ❖ Donation reception and separation

- ❖ Furniture Pick-up
- ❖ Housewares
- ❖ Hardware and Electrical

Training is provided. Please contact Mark Bixler at 330-857-7802 ext. 2# if interested and/or attend our open house on Wednesday, March 19 from 1-3 PM to learn more. A volunteer form can also be filled out at mccconnections.com. Thank you for your support of Mennonite Central Committee.

Winter/Spring Sermons

Wait, God ... Really?!?

February 9 - March 9

Starting today -- 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 February 9 - 16, 2025

Sunday, February 9

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Monday, February 10

Monday Meal, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, February 12

Widows' Group, 1 – 2:30 pm

Next Sunday, February 16

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Looking Ahead

February 19 – Men’s Breakfast at OMC, 8 am

February 20 – Koinonia Women’s Lunch at Marilyn K’s (noon)

February 21 – OMC Game Night

February 22 – Women’s Breakfast at Lou Erb’s, 8:30 am

Feb 28 – Mar 1 – MCC Comforter Bash at Fairlawn Mennonite

March 7, 8 – Ohio Annual Conference Assembly @ Berlin MC

Sunday, May 4 – Combined Worship with guest speaker Ann Graber Hershberger, Executive Director for MCC US

Offering Report for February 2, 2025

Ministry Spending Plan: \$1,844.55

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,367.00

Mennonite Disaster Service: \$100.00

Dollar Project (Zuerchers): \$213.00

February birthdays and anniversaries

2	Joshua Squirrel	20	Jen Bixler
3	Ralph Rheinheimer	24	Louise Bowers
5	Jane Beyeler		Dawn Campbell
16	Sharon Stutzman	27	Bill Seymour
	Joshua Cooper		

Orrville Mennonite Church

1305 W. Market St., Orrville, OH 44667
Email address: omcjan@gmail.com

Orrville Mennonite Church Website
Ohio Conference of MC USA Website

Pastor Bill Seymour

330-682-5801

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

www.orrvillemenno.net
www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

330-347-7034 (Cell)
omcbill@gmail.com

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)

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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Sermon Notes

Suffering

What is God's Role?

How do we move forward when suffering?

Questions to Ask:

What can I learn from this?

How will God redeem or give purpose to this?"

How can I help someone else who is suffering?

Matthew 10.8, 25.35

Galatians 6.2

James 5.13-20

"Life Goes On"

Howard Thurman

During these turbulent times we must remind ourselves repeatedly that life goes on. This we are apt to forget.

The wisdom of life transcends our wisdoms;

The purpose of life outlasts our purposes;

The process of life cushions our processes.

The mass attack of disillusion and despair, distilled out of the collapse of hope, has so invaded our thoughts that what we know to be true and valid seems unreal and ephemeral. There seems to be little energy left for aught but futility.

This is the great deception. By it whole peoples have gone down to oblivion without the will to affirm the great and permanent strength of the clean and the commonplace. Let us not be deceived.

It is just as important as ever to attend to the little graces by which the dignity of our lives is maintained and sustained.

Birds still sing;

The stars continue to cast their gentle gleam over the desolation of the battlefields,

And the heart is still inspired by the kind word and the gracious deed.

There is no need to fear evil.

There is every need to understand what it does, how it operates in the world, what it draws upon to sustain itself.

We must not shrink from the knowledge of the evilness of evil.

Over and over we must know that the real target of evil is not destruction of the body, the reduction to rubble of cities; the real target of evil is to corrupt the spirit of man and to give his soul the contagion of inner disintegration. When this happens, there is nothing left, the very citadel of man is captured and laid waste.

Therefore the evil in the world around us must not be allowed to move from without to within. This would be to be overcome by evil.

To drink in the beauty that is within reach,

To clothe one's life with simple deeds of kindness,

To keep alive a sensitiveness to the movement of the spirit of God in the quietness of the human heart and in the workings of the human mind— this is as always the ultimate answer to the great deception.

Excerpted by Renovare, from *Meditations of the Heart* by Howard Thurman. Text First Published January 1953. Beacon Press

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