



Orrville Mennonite Church
1305 W. Market St. Orrville Ohio 44667
www.orrvillemenno.net

Order of Worship
August 31, 2025

Welcome

Gathering Songs *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* WB 110
For the Beauty of the Earth WB 89

Call to Worship and Lamp Lighting

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

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

Piano 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: As we gather, we wonder who else could bless us and be blessed by becoming a part of us.

Offering Side: We trust you, Lord, for growing our community (one lamp is lit).

All: Lord, because you are our hope we come to worship together. You are our light, so we learn together. You are our example, so we serve together. You are our strength, so we stand together (final lamp is lit).

Singing *Joys Are Flowing Like a River* WB 301

Responsive Reading Isaiah 55.1-7

Leader: All of you who are thirsty, come to the water! Whoever has no money, come, buy food and eat! Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk!

Piano Side: Why spend money for what isn't food, and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy?

Leader: Listen carefully to me and eat what is good; enjoy the richest of feasts. →

Women: Listen and come to me;

Men: Listen, and you will live.

Leader: I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful loyalty to David. Look, I made him a witness to the peoples, a prince and commander of peoples. Look, you will call a nation you don't know, a nation you don't know will run to you because of the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, who has glorified you.

Offering Side: Seek the Lord when he can still be found; call him while he is yet near.

All: Let the wicked abandon their ways and the sinful their schemes. Let them return to the Lord so that he may have mercy on them, to our God, because he is generous with forgiveness.

Singing

We Dream of a Turning

VT 209

Offering

MCC Thank You Video

Prayer

Offering Song *Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee*

VT 215

Presenting our Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Scripture

Luke 14.1, 7-15

¹ One Sabbath, when Jesus went to share a meal in the home of one of the leaders of the Pharisees, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When Jesus noticed how the guests sought out the best seats at the table, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When someone invites you to a wedding celebration, don't take your seat in the place of honor. Someone more highly regarded than you could have been invited by your host. ⁹ The host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give your seat to this other person.' Embarrassed, you will take your seat in the least important place. ¹⁰ Instead, when you receive an invitation, go and sit in the least important place. When your host approaches you, he will say, 'Friend, move up here to a better seat.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. ¹¹ All who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up." →

¹² Then Jesus said to the person who had invited him, “When you host a lunch or dinner, don’t invite your friends, your brothers and sisters, your relatives, or rich neighbors. If you do, they will invite you in return and that will be your reward. ¹³ Instead, when you give a banquet, invite the poor, crippled, lame, and blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they can’t repay you. Instead, you will be repaid when the just are resurrected.”

¹⁵ When one of the dinner guests heard Jesus’ remarks, he said to Jesus, “Happy are those who will feast in God’s kingdom.”

Meditation

Lifting and Being Lifted

The Lord’s Supper

Song

I Come with Joy

VT 478

Words of Institution

Bread and Cup

Prayer

Song

There’s A Wild Hope in the Wind

VT 828

Love Step Prayer and Benediction

All: 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.

Leader: Send us, Lord, in your love and in your joy.

All: Help us to see that as we walk with people and share your love together that we are growing closer to Christ.

Leader: Go. Be Jesus’ Love. Be Jesus’ Peace.

All: Amen.

Sermon Response

Prayer Requests, Prayer

Announcements

Post Worship Conversation -- whether or not to include sermon response in the livestream.

Greeters, Rollie and Jan Kauffman
Usher, Ken Wenger
PA Operator, Virg Troyer
Accompanist, Missy Short
Song Leader, Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi
Preschool/Nursery, Liz Snyder, Sky Lofty
Quiet Table, all ages welcome
Reader, Sandy Miller
Sharing & Prayer, Bev Squirrel
Trustee (August), Mark Bixler

The new greeter list for September is at the back of the sanctuary. Don't forget to stop by and sign up for a spot!

The "Quiet Table" is available in the coffee area during the worship services at Orrville Mennonite. People of all ages are welcome to come to do quiet hands-on activities as a way of listening and focusing during the worship time. This area works best if there are equal numbers of adults and children sitting together. If you are someone who enjoys listening while creating, maybe this area will be your new regular pew! Our youngest children will "graduate" to this area after their nursery Sunday School hour. If you have been a nursery volunteer in the past, please consider continuing your relationship with the littles at this table.

Announcements

Monday Meals served 126 meals this week. This Monday, we will be off for Labor Day.

Sermon Series – A Jesus Community – starts next week!

Note from Bill -- Over more than 35 years of pastoral ministry, I have been part of three congregations of people who worked at being church, living for Jesus together. There have been all manners of faults and foibles, disappointments, and failed expectations. At times I no longer wanted to be a part of a church community. At some point in the journey, I started wondering what sort of Jesus Community I could really be excited about.

A few years ago, I started to write down my thoughts, my observations, my hopes, and dreams – a vision for Jesus Community. I quickly realized that most of what I had written looked like Orrville Mennonite Church, or the trajectory we are on, so I presented an early draft to the Elder Council for discussion, and they helped with development and discernment to arrive at a rough expression of Jesus Community – specifically the sort of Jesus Community the Elder Council and I see that Orrville Mennonite is already becoming and could continue to grow into. We shared parts of this with the congregation in the beginning of 2024 -- *Who We Are* and *How We Hold the Bible*, which led to some good conversations and even a couple of corrections.

The writing has continued and starting September 7, we will use this writing as a basis for a Six Week Sunday School and Sermon series. Sunday School classes have already agreed to use the curriculum. Topics will include sin, accountability and faithfulness, the Bible, identity, Christian Nationalism, Human sexuality, and brief discussion about immigration, abortion, and racism will be included as well – all in a way to coalesce a picture of what Jesus Community could be like.

At the end of the 6 weeks, we, the Elder Council, will ask the congregation, “What do you want us to do with this?” and will take our cues for next steps from the responses we hear.

MCC Canning for Relief for 2025 will take place in the Gerber Building behind Central Christian School from October 20 – 23. Times of operation are to be decided. During last year’s canning, 22,000 pounds of pork was processed. The pork was all eventually sent to Ukraine except for 1,000 pounds retained here for local distributions. Total costs for Canning were about \$54,000. This year’s upcoming event will be an even greater exercise in faith due to the current lack of significant funds. Thankfully, MCC Akron will be providing an operational loan for Canning in Kidron so that it can happen as scheduled. Please call/text Trent Metcalf

at 330-465-4191 to schedule a time for your group to come. Walk ins are always welcome.

Schedule-At-A-Glance for August 31 – September 7, 2025

Sunday, August 31

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Communion

Fifth Sunday Mission Offering

Monday, September 1 Office Closed for Labor Day

No Monday Meal

Wednesday, September 3

Yoga Class in Fellowship Hall, 5:30-6:30

Sunday, September 7

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Offering Report for August 24, 2025

Ministry Spending Plan: \$4,309.00

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,367.00

Compassion Fund: \$50.00

Mennonite Central Committee: \$50.00

Dollar Project/School Kits: \$30.00

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

5 Jaydon Nissley

Josiah Bixler

8 Sue Steiner

9 Amos Bixler

16 Alexander Seymour

19 John/Barb Shilling

26 Roland Kauffman

29 Bret/Amber Andreasen
30 Megan Sohar

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Ministers: Each member of the
congregation

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Unless otherwise noted, Bible Passages in the bulletin are from the CEB Bible. *The Common English Bible: Bible dictionary.* Nashville: CEB Bible, 2011. Print.

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