



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

Order of Worship
November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Gathering Songs	<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>	WB 328
	<i>O Come, O Come, Immanuel</i>	WB 172

Call to Worship

Leader: God of our ancestors, you are our constant hope through all the ages.

Piano Side: We come eager for stories of you standing among us.

Offering Side: We come longing to feel your presence among your people once again.

Leader: As the days darken around us, hope can feel a distant memory.

All: Even in the middle of trials, we keep our eyes on you. Our allegiance is to you alone.

Leader: Trust in God's steadfast love. Stand in amazement, ready to recognize God already among us here, in this place.

All: Our hope is in you, O God. Fill our hearts with the courage of our ancestors. Ready us to enter their story and be amazed.

Singing	<i>When We Walk with the Lord</i>	WB 544
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Candlelighting

Leader: We have been wandering in the dark, fear engulfing us like a burning furnace. We long for your hope to find us and silence the flames of our fears.

All: Come, Hope of the world. Come amaze us. May your hope flood the flames of our fears.

Sing verse 1 of the theme song *Come, Hope of the World* as the candle is lit.

Responsive Prayer

Leader: Ever present God, we confess that the darkness can be frightening.

Offering Side: On our own we hesitate; our hope flickers like a fragile flame. Yet you have gone before us.

Piano Side: You were with the faithful in the fire; you have stood beside your people in the blaze.

Leader: Strengthen us with the witness of those who have remained steadfast in the face of misused power. Give us the courage to trust you with our whole lives.

All: Give us the boldness to step forward in faith, knowing that only in the deepest night can we see the blazing light of your power. Amen.

Singing *Sometimes a Light Surprises* VT 618

Offering Prayer

Offering Song *How Firm a Foundation* WB 567

Offering

Scripture Daniel 3.13-23

¹³ In a violent rage Nebuchadnezzar ordered them to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They were brought before the king.¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar said to them: “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: Is it true that you don’t serve my gods or worship the gold statue I’ve set up? ¹⁵ If you are now ready to do so, bow down and worship the gold statue I’ve made when you hear the sound of horn, pipe, zither, lyre, harp, flute, and every kind of instrument. But if you won’t worship it, you will be thrown straight into the furnace of flaming fire. Then what god will rescue you from my power?”

¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered King Nebuchadnezzar: “We don’t need to answer your question.

¹⁷ If our God—the one we serve—is able to rescue us from the furnace of flaming fire and from your power, Your Majesty, then let him rescue us. ¹⁸ But if he doesn’t, know this for certain, →

Your Majesty: we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you've set up."

¹⁹ Nebuchadnezzar was filled with rage, and his face twisted beyond recognition because of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. In response he commanded that the furnace be heated to seven times its normal heat. ²⁰ He told some of the strongest men in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and throw them into the furnace of flaming fire. ²¹ So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were bound, still dressed in all their clothes, and thrown into the furnace of flaming fire. (²² Now the king's command had been rash, and the furnace was heated to such an extreme that the fire's flame killed the very men who carried Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to it.) ²³ So these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell, bound, into the furnace of flaming fire.

Sermon *Even if God doesn't...*

Song of Response *Be Still, My Soul* VT 664

Love Step Prayer

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

Go now with courage, trusting in the God who walks with you through the fire. May the light of God's salvation shine brightly for you even in the darkest days. Hold fast to hope, for the Lord is faithful and will never forsake you. Go in peace, ready to be amazed by the One who acts to save.

Sermon Response

**Prayer Requests, Prayer
Announcements**

Greeters, Kathy Schmid, Lou Erb
Usher, Sherm Amstutz
PA Operator, Dan Jantzi
PowerPoint Operator, Bev Squirrell
Song Leader, Jane Beyeler
Preschool/Nursery, Jan and Rollie Kauffman
Quiet Table, all ages welcome
Reader, Rollie Kauffman
Sharing & Prayer, Megan Sohar

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

Advent and Christmas Season. Advent begins today. This year, as with most, we are using Advent Materials from Menno Media worship aid magazine, *The Leader*. The series is titled: *Be Amazed!*, and we will take a look in the Fiery Furnace, into the Valley of Bones, out into the desert, and into the cosmos as God incarnates on earth. Sharon Stutzman is creating a display for the stage. We will have our traditional Christmas Eve service at 6:00 pm on Christmas Eve, followed by an open house at the Seymour's. There are some new Advent devotional books on the bookshelf in the coffee area, if you would like to borrow one.

Today is our Fifth Sunday Mission Offering. This is the final Fifth Sunday offering for 2025. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this special offering.

Monday Meals served 137 meals this Monday, all from leftovers, and we are now closed for the season. We will return on January 6, 2026.

3rd Annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Day

Will be Sunday morning, December 14. This is your chance to dress badly with no guilt! Be creative! No prizes, just good laughs together.

November's Dollar Project is to support Orrville Salvation Army's Christmas Food Box drive. Financial donations will help to purchase turkeys and hams used for the nearly 200 families to be served. Canned fruit, pie filling and vegetables as well as stuffing mix, rice and instant mashed potatoes are also welcomed. Many thanks for your generous support.

We have been invited to ring bells for Salvation Army during the Christmas month of December. The Mission and Service ministry team is offering you an opportunity to ring bells at the Orrville Buehler's store. There is a sheet at the back of the church for you to sign up. Thank you for considering another way to support our community.

Orrville Mennonite Kit Packing Event at Kidron Material Resource Center. Please plan to join us at the new Kidron Material Resource Center for a kit packing event. This is an opportunity to process donated kits, preparing them for international shipment by Mennonite Central Committee. It's also a chance to see the new material resources building.

Date: **Tuesday, December 2**

Times:

- 1st Shift – 3:30pm to 5:30pm
- Shared Meal/Pizza – 5:30pm.
- 2nd Shift – 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Activities: (options for all ages, young and old!)

- Checking and packing school kits for shipment
- Taping pencils, pens, sharpeners in preparation for packing
- Folding comforters and (maybe) baling comforters

The Material Resources building is located in Kidron, next to the MCC Connections Thrift Shop. Please come for as much time as you feel comfortable. I very much appreciate the strong →

support we receive from Orrville Mennonite and am excited to share this part of the MCC ministry with all of you.

~ Virgil Troyer – on behalf of the Missions & Service Commission

The Mennonite Action potluck and training will take place next Sunday, December 7, at Lee Heights Community Church (4612 Lee Rd) as part of the national *To Build Our Courage* tour! The potluck and discussion begins at 1:00 p.m. in the downstairs fellowship hall, and the training is from 2-4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. It includes a presentation and activities based on noncooperation, grassroots organizing, and mutual aid, along with time for worship in prayer and song. Childcare will be provided. This is a great opportunity to join with other Mennonites and friends around Northeast Ohio to gain skills and support in seeking courage, inspiration, and deeper commitment to peace and justice.

You can register here: <https://www.mennoniteaction.org/tour>

and sign up for the potluck here: <https://bit.ly/MAPotluckSignUp>

Please reach out to Marita Beachy-Owusu with any questions.

(beachy.marita@gmail.com)

Need for volunteers: Some scheduled Mennonite Disaster Service volunteers had to cancel their time of service for the West Asheville project next week, on Nov 30-Dec 6. The project director said they can potentially take up to 7 volunteers for next week. If you know anyone who would be interested in serving, please reach out to me this week. Lou Erb - MDS Project Coordinator, West Asheville (330-317-0726)

Schedule-At-A-Glance for November 30 – December 7

Sunday, November 30 **1st Sunday of Advent**

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Tuesday, December 2

MCC Kit Packing at the Kidron Material Resource Center

1st Shift – 3:30 to 5:30 pm

Shared Meal/Pizza – 5:30 pm

2nd Shift – 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Sunday, December 7 **2nd Sunday of Advent**

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Looking Ahead

November 30 – 1st Sunday of Advent

December 2 – Orrville Mennonite Kit Packing event at the Kidron MRC

December 14 – 3rd Annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Morning

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service at church and Open House at Bill and Allison's afterwards

January 4, 2026 – Combined, multi-language worship at Oak Grove, 10:30 am

Offering Report for November 30, 2025

Ministry Spending Plan: \$2,180.00

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,367.00

Dollar Project (Salvation Army): \$480.00

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Bret Andreasen
Monica Trapp |
| 4 | Bobby Haas |
| 17 | Allison Seymour |
| 20 | Mel/Mim Wenger |
| 24 | Ken Wenger |

Orrville Mennonite Church

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Orrville Mennonite Church Website
 Ohio Conference of MC USA Website

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 9 am - 12 noon

www.orrvillemenno.net
www.ohiomennoniteconference.org

Pastor Bill Seymour

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

Elder Council

Dan Jantzi – Elder for Finance/Facilities & EC
 Facilitator

208-971-6488 (Cell)
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Bill Seymour – Elder for Worship

330-347-7034 (Cell)

Louisa Pirozzi Erb – Elder for Missions

330-317-0726 (Cell)
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Bev Squirrel – Elder for
 Community/Discipleship

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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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