



Orrville Mennonite Church  
1305 W. Market St. Orrville Ohio 44667  
[www.orrvillemenno.net](http://www.orrvillemenno.net)

**Order of Worship**  
**December 21, 2025**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Welcome**

<b>Gathering Songs</b>	<i>Creator of the Stars of Night</i>	VT 236
	<i>Love Has Come</i>	VT 258

**Call to worship**      Isaiah 9.2-7

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.

**All: You, [Lord], have made the nation great; you have increased its joy.**

Leader: They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest, as those who divide plunder rejoice.

**Piano Side: ...You've shattered the yoke that burdened them, the staff on their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor.**

Offering Side: Because every boot of the thundering warriors, and every garment rolled in blood will be burned, fuel for the fire.

**All: A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders.**

Leader: He will be named

**All: Wonderful**

Men: Counselor

Women: *Mighty God,*

**Piano Side: Eternal Father**

*Offering Side: Prince of Peace.*

Leader: There will be vast authority and endless peace for David's throne and for his kingdom, establishing and sustaining it with justice and righteousness now and forever.

**All: The zeal of the Lord of heavenly forces will do this.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who moves among us, the Christ who draws near, the Spirit who shines in our hearts.

**All: *The Light is coming! We tremble in excitement and uncertainty. Watching, waiting, for Love to be born.***

**Singing**

*Love Came Down*

WB 208

### **Candlelighting**

Leader: We have been wandering in the long, dark night, looking into the vastness, looking for even a glimmer of light, to usher in your love.

**All: *Come, Love of the world. Come amaze us.***

Leader: May your love dispel the darkness and reveal your path of grace and mercy, inviting us to journey with you.

Sing verses 1-4 of the theme song *Come, Hope of the World* as the candles are lit.

### **Responsive Prayer**

Leader: God of love, as we wait in these final days of Advent, our hearts are drawn toward the gentle light of your coming.

In the stillness, we listen for the sound of your baby-cry piercing the darkness; in the shadows, we look for love to be made known. You are not distant or removed—you come to dwell among us, full of grace and truth.

**All: *Open our eyes, let us see your glory, open our hearts to receive your love, and prepare us to bear witness to the wonder of Christ's coming.***

**Singing**

*O, How Shall I Receive Thee*

WB 182

**Offering Prayer**

**Offering Song**

*He Came Down*

SJ 31

**Offering**

**Scripture** John 1.1-5, 9-14, 16-18

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word

and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup> The Word was with God in the beginning.

<sup>3</sup> Everything came into being through the Word,

and without the Word nothing came into being.

What came into being <sup>4</sup> through the Word was life,

and the life was the light for all people.

<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light that shines on all people

was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> The light was in the world,

and the world came into being through the light,

but the world didn't recognize the light.

<sup>11</sup> The light came to his own people,

and his own people didn't welcome him.

<sup>12</sup> But those who did welcome him, those who believed in his

name, he authorized to become God's children,

<sup>13</sup> born not from blood nor from human desire or passion,

but born from God.

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his home among us.

We have seen his glory,

glory like that of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

<sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace;

<sup>17</sup> as the Law was given through Moses,

so grace and truth came into being through Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. God the only Son, who is at the

Father's side, has made God known.

**Sermon**

*Be Amazed: Love Comes Down*

**Song of Response**

*In the Beginning*

VT 270

## **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, watching and waiting for love to come down.

Look into the world ready to be amazed—light shines in the darkness, steady, sure.

Hold fast to hope, for the Word is becoming flesh, grace and truth are drawing near to dwell among us.

May the God who speaks, the Christ who comes near, and the Spirit who shines within you fill you with love and peace, now and always.

## **Sermon Response**

### **Prayer Requests, Prayer Announcements**

Greeter, Bev Squirrel

Usher, Jo Bixler

PA Operator, Virgil Troyer

PowerPoint Operator, Lou Erb

Accompanist, Marilyn Rossiter

Song Leader, Hank Rossiter

Preschool/Nursery, Sandy Miller

Quiet Table, all ages welcome

Readers, Amber Andreasen and Family

Sharing & Prayer, Kathy Troyer

December Trustee, Ken Wenger

**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** is closed for the season. We will return on January 6, 2026.

### **New church mailbox for Erin Bracken-Sanchez and Family!**

1376 Alpha Street NW

Massillon, OH 44647

Phone: 903-399-2844

Email: [Ebracksanch1@gmail.com](mailto:Ebracksanch1@gmail.com)

Kaleb Sanchez (23) The College of Wooster

Diego Sanchez (19) The University of Akron

Ellie (16) RG Drage/Tuslaw Local

### **Christmas Eve Service at OMC and Open House after at Bill and**

**Allison's** – After the Christmas Eve service at 6:00 pm, come on over to the Seymour's house for refreshments and fellowship.

Everyone is welcome, including your guests and families who join you. Feel free to bring some sort of food to share but come regardless. We'll have some spiced cranberry cider, a cheese ball, and some ham balls.

### **Reflection and Hymn Sing for December 28**

On our last Sunday of the year, December 28, rather than a regular service with a sermon, we'll have a service with readings, hymn sing, and time for reflection. There will be two reflection spaces in the service. The first will invite you to share what you have learned this year in sermons or Sunday School that you wish to remember. The second sharing time will give space for sharing hopes and dreams for our Orrville Mennonite community in the new year. The usher will have slips of paper available to write

down your reflections as well. A basket will be on the table at the back of the sanctuary for your written reflections. *Due to the sharing within the service the livestream on Dec. 28 will be unlisted. Only people with the link will be able to view it and we will only give the link to people from Orrville Mennonite.*

## **Schedule-At-A-Glance for December 21 – 28, 2025**

Sunday, December 21 **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Wednesday, December 24 **Christmas Eve!**

Christmas Eve Service, **6 pm**

Open House at Bill and Allison's

Thursday, December 25 **Christmas Day!**

Sunday, December 28

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Time of Sharing, Reflection and Singing

Wild Church at Dan and Jeanne Jantzi's **3 pm**

## **Looking Ahead**

**December 24** – Christmas Eve Service at OMC, **6 pm** and Open House after at Bill and Allison's.

**December 28** – Reflection and Hymn Sing for our worship hour (last Sunday of the year)

**December 28** – Wild Church at **3 pm** at Dan and Jeanne's

## **Offering Report for December 14, 2025**

Ministry Spending Plan: \$4,793.82

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,367.00

I.W. Royer Fund: \$40.00

Memorial (John Kauffman): \$40.00

## December Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1      Bret Andreasen  
        Monica Trapp  
4      Bobby Haas

**Orrville Mennonite Church**

1305 W. Market St., Orrville, OH 44667  
Email address: [omcjan@gmail.com](mailto:omcjan@gmail.com)

Orrville Mennonite Church Website  
Ohio Conference of MC USA Website

**330-682-5801**

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

[www.orrvillemenno.net](http://www.orrvillemenno.net)  
[www.ohiomennoniteconference.org](http://www.ohiomennoniteconference.org)

**Pastor**      Bill Seymour

330-347-7034 (Cell)  
[omcbill@gmail.com](mailto:omcbill@gmail.com)

**Elder Council**

Dan Jantzi – Elder for Finance/Facilities & EC      208-971-6488 (Cell)  
Facilitator      [djjantzi@gmail.com](mailto:djjantzi@gmail.com)

Bill Seymour – Elder for Worship      330-347-7034 (Cell)

Louisa Pirozzi Erb – Elder for Missions      330-317-0726 (Cell)  
[louerb@gmail.com](mailto:louerb@gmail.com)

Bev Squirrell – Elder for      330-845-3732 (Cell)  
Community/Discipleship      [joshuasmombev@gmail.com](mailto:joshuasmombev@gmail.com)

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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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