



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

Order of Worship
February 22, 2026

Welcome

Gathering Songs

In all of our singing and worship participation today, we invite you to sit or stand as you desire. We do ask that if you stand and the people behind you are sitting, that you maybe scooch over a little so that you aren't standing directly in front of them.

What is This Place

WB 1

Holy Spirit, Come with Power

WB 26

Call to Worship and Lamp Lighting (borrowing from Ps. 146)

Leader: As we gather for worship, we light some lamps to remind us that we gather in context.

Piano Side: We have personal troubles and laments.

Offering Side: We also hold troubles and laments from the action of others and of our systems.

Piano Side: We have victories and joys.

Offering Side: We have brothers and sisters locally and around the world.

Piano Side: We have longings for our Orrville Mennonite Community to grow, spiritually and physically.

All: Lord, you are our hope, our light, our example, our strength. We trust you, Lord, for growing our community.

Leader: We come to worship you, the Lord, our God, who is maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

Offering Side: Who gives justice to people who are oppressed, who gives bread to people who are starving!

Piano Side: Who frees prisoners, makes the blind see, and straightens up those who are bent low. →

Offering Side: Who loves the righteous and is faithful forever.

Piano Side: Who protects immigrants, who helps orphans and widows,

Offering Side: But who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn! who is faithful forever,

All: The Lord rules forever! Praise the Lord!

| | | |
|----------------|--|--------|
| Singing | <i>Jesus, Be the Center</i> | VT 584 |
| | <i>All Things Bright and Beautiful</i> | WB 156 |

Responsive Reading from Psalm 51

All: Have mercy on me, God, according to your faithful love!

Wipe away my wrongdoings according to your great compassion!

Offering Side: Wash me completely clean of my guilt; purify me from my sin!

Piano Side: Because I know my wrongdoings, my sin is always right in front of me.

Leader: I've sinned against you—you alone. I've committed evil in your sight. That's why you are justified when you render your verdict, completely correct when you issue your judgment. You want truth in the most hidden places; you teach me wisdom in the most secret space. Hide your face from my sins; wipe away all my guilty deeds!

All: Create a clean heart for me, God; put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me!

Offering Side: Return the joy of your salvation to me and sustain me with a willing spirit.

Piano Side: Deliver me from violence, God, God of my salvation, so that my tongue can sing of your righteousness.

Leader: Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will proclaim your praise.

All: You don't want sacrifices. If I gave an entirely burned offering, you wouldn't be pleased. A broken spirit is my sacrifice, God. You won't despise a heart, God, that is broken and crushed.

Offering Prayer/Birthday Blessing

*We celebrate Louise Bower's birthday today, which is Tuesday, Feb. 24

Offering Song *A Mighty Fortress is Our God** WB 165
Offering

Scripture Judges 11.29-35

²⁹ Then the Lord's spirit came on Jephthah. He passed through Gilead and Manasseh, then through Mizpah in Gilead, and from there he crossed over to the Ammonites. ³⁰ Jephthah made a solemn promise to the Lord: "If you will decisively hand over the Ammonites to me, ³¹ then whatever comes out the doors of my house to meet me when I return victorious from the Ammonites will be given over to the Lord. I will sacrifice it as an entirely burned offering." ³² Jephthah crossed over to fight the Ammonites, and the Lord handed them over to him. ³³ It was an exceptionally great defeat; he defeated twenty towns from Aroer to the area of Minnith, and on as far as Abel-keramim. So the Ammonites were brought down before the Israelites.

³⁴ But when Jephthah came to his house in Mizpah, it was his daughter who came out to meet him with tambourines and dancing! She was an only child; he had no other son or daughter except her. ³⁵ When he saw her, he tore his clothes and said, "Oh no! My daughter! You have brought me to my knees! You are my agony! For I opened my mouth to the Lord, and I can't take it back."

Sermon *When We Don't Know God*

Song of Response *Could It Be That God is Singing* VT 42

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

Sermon Response

Prayer Requests, Prayer

Announcements

Greeters, Kathy and Virgil Troyer
Usher, Judy King
PA Operator, Dan Jantzi
Accompanist, Marilyn Rossiter
Song Leader, Hank Rossiter

Reader, Marilyn Kamp
Preschool/Nursery, Kathy Troyer
Quiet Table, all ages welcome
Sharing & Prayer, Virgil Troyer
February Trustee, Mark Bixler

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 172 meals last Monday. Next Monday Daryl and Norm are making chicken noodle soup.

Copies of *Our Daily Bread* devotional for March – May are available by the church mailboxes.

Bill will be away this Sunday afternoon through Thursday (Feb. 22-26), attending the Pastors and Leaders Conference at AMBS (Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary) in Elkhart, IN.

Wild Church at Dan and Jeanne Jantzi's Sunday, February 22 at 4 pm.

If you are someone who meets God in the outdoors, Wild Church is for you. Dress for the weather and bring something warm to drink.

MCC Connections Thrift Shop in Kidron is having an Open House for people interested in volunteering. Please meet in the Furniture Room of the store from 3:00 - 4:30 on Tuesday afternoon March 17. We will begin with a tour, then a time for questions and learning about the work

of Mennonite Central Committee. Current volunteer needs will also be part of the discussion.

Join the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on March 12-14! This year we are gathering at the new MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron (4080 Kidron Road). With the new location, the format will be a bit different with the event spread over three days. We still need volunteers for knotting and trimming comforters, along with sewists to bind and finish them. *See specific times below.* A handmade comforter provides not only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. For more information, visit mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash or contact 234-415-1036 or GLOhio@mcc.org.

Dates: March 12-14, 2026 (*Snacks and coffee/tea will be provided.*

Please pack your own food for meals.)

Thursday, March 12th

- * 8 am - 8 pm: Knotting
- * 4 pm - 8 pm: Trimming & Binding

Friday, March 13th

- * 8 am - 8 p: Trimming & Binding
- * Noon - 8 pm: Knotting

Saturday, March 14th

- * 8 am - 4 pm: Knotting, Trimming & Binding

Location: MCC Material Resources Center - 4080 Kidron Road, Kidron OH 44636

Schedule-At-A-Glance for February 22 – March 1, 2026

Sunday, February 22

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Wild Church at Dan and Jeanne Jantzi's, 4 pm

Monday, February 23

Monday Meals, 5:30 pm

Saturday, February 28

Elder Retreat at Dan Jantzi's, 9 am – 3 pm

Sunday, March 1

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Moment in Mission – Sarah Eckert from *Sacred Gound*

Looking Ahead

Thursday – Saturday, March 12-14, MCC Comforter Bash
at MCC Material Resources Center

Sunday, April 19 – Congregational Spring Meeting

Offering Report for February 15, 2026

Ministry Spending Plan: \$13,048.82

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,550.00

Anabaptist World subscription: \$49.00

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

| | | | |
|----|---------------|----|-------------------|
| 9 | Danae King | 24 | Stu/Char Newcomer |
| 13 | Kathy Schmid | 26 | Norm Sohar |
| 16 | Bev Squirrell | 27 | Sherman Amstutz |
| 20 | John Schmid | | |

Sermon Notes

GOD drives mercy, not human behavior or repentance

What would it mean for our own spiritual growth if we looked at our own faith journey not from the standpoint of our obedience and disobedience and the results of that? If instead we saw our spiritual journey as being driven by God's mercy, regardless of our behavior?

Galatians 5.13-26 and 1 John 1.5-2.2 seem to speak a little bit about this.

Bargaining with God

Jephthah, who didn't know God

Judges 10.10-16

Whoever helps us will be our ruler

Judges 11.1-10

If I help you, I ALONE want to be ruler

Judges 11.29-35

Lord, if you help me, I will kill, in honor of you, Lord, the first thing that comes out of my front door when I return from victorious battle.

Subtext:

That's what you want, right?

Psalms 51

Not sacrifice, but a broken and contrite heart

Luke 9.23-24

²³ Jesus said to everyone, "All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴ All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will save them.

Orrville Mennonite Church

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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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