



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

Order of Worship
March 1, 2026

Welcome

Gathering Songs	<i>Gathered Here</i>	VT 3
	<i>O Worship Our God</i>	VT 129

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.

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

God, Whose Purpose is to Kindle

VT 152

Lord Jesus, Come and Overturn

VT 146

Responsive Reading

Romans 8.19-28, 31b-32

Leader: The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice—it was the choice of the one who subjected it

Piano Side: But in the hope that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children.

Offering Side: We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now.

Leader: And it's not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free.

All: We were saved in hope.... if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience.

Leader: In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness.

Piano Side: We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans.

Offering Side: The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will.

All: We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to [God's] purpose.

Leader: If God is for us, who is against us? [God] didn't spare [God's] own Son but gave him up for us all.

All: Won't [God] also freely give us all things with [God]?

Moment in Mission Sarah Ecker from *Sacred Ground*

Offering Prayer

Offering Song *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* VT 56

Offering

Scripture Judges 15.1-7

¹ Later on, at the time of the wheat harvest, Samson went to visit his wife, bringing along a young goat. He said, "Let me go into my wife's bedroom."

But her father wouldn't allow him to go in. ² Her father said, "I was so sure that you had completely rejected her that I gave her in marriage to one of your companions. Don't you think her younger sister is even better? Let her be your wife instead."

³ Samson replied, "No one can blame me now for being ready to bring down trouble on the Philistines!"

⁴ Then Samson went and caught three hundred foxes. He took torches, turned the foxes tail to tail, and put a torch between each pair of tails. ⁵ He lit the torches and released the foxes into the Philistines' grain fields. So he burned the stacked grain, standing grain, vineyards, and olive orchards.

⁶ The Philistines inquired, "Who did this?"

So it was reported, "Samson the Timnite's son-in-law did it, because his father-in-law gave his wife in marriage to one of his companions." So the Philistines went up and burned her and her father to death.

⁷ Samson then responded to them, "If this is how you act, then I won't stop until I get revenge on you!"

Sermon *Samson, the Trickster Ladies' Man*

Song of Response *God is Working This Purpose Out* VT 770

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

Greeter, Judy King
Usher, Willie Miller
PA Operator, Virgil Troyer
Accompanist, Missy Short
Song Leader, Jeanne Jantzi

Reader, Rollie Kauffman
Preschool/Nursery,
Quiet Table, all ages welcome
Sharing & Prayer, Tim Short
March 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

We welcome Sarah Ecker from *Sacred Ground* to our worship service to share about our next Dollar Project!

Monday Meals served 125 meals last Monday. This Monday we are serving pork fried rice.

Our March Fellowship Meal is coming up next Sunday, March 8th (bring food and table service). All are welcome even if you don't bring food!

Wild Church – Please note this date change. Wild Church will be held on March 29 (the fifth Sunday) instead of March 22.

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

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

Schedule-At-A-Glance for March 1 – 8, 2026

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 Ecker from *Sacred Gound*

Monday, March 2

Monday Meal, 5:30 pm

Sunday, March 8 *Daylight Saving Time Begins*

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

Sunday School, **9:30 am**

Worship, **10:30 am**

Bill Seymour preaching

Fellowship Meal, 12 noon

Looking Ahead

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

Friday, March 20 – Game Night at OMC

March 29 – Palm Sunday, 7-Church Combined Worship

March 29 – Wild Church at Dan and Jeanne Jantzi's

April 2 – Maundy Thursday service at OMC

April 3 – Good Friday

April 5 – Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 19 – Spring Congregational Meeting

Offering Report for February 22, 2026

Ministry Spending Plan: \$3,095.00

Weekly Amount Needed for MSP: \$3,550.00

Austin and Griselda: \$500.00

Anabaptist World payment: \$49.00

Sermon Notes

Samson

His birth is foretold

He is set aside with a Nazirite vow

Violent Feats of Strength, Women, Riddles, and Revenge

Judges 15.1-7 a concise statement of Samson's character.

Judges 15.14-20 Samson's First Death Scene

Judges 16.23-31 Samson's Second Death Scene

Samson didn't defeat the Philistines. He started the defeat of the Philistines. He led Israel for 20 years, but they didn't have peace for those 20 years. He led them and they never quite got to peace.

Matthew 20.1-16 Parable of the Vineyard Owner and the Workers
So, a lesson in God's mercy. Remember. It is God's mercy that is the driver, not our good or bad actions.

Judges in context of the prophetic canon bears witness to the ultimate riddle or mystery – that a God who fervently wills faithfulness, justice, and peace remains unfailingly committed to people whose persistent unfaithfulness and disobedience regularly result in chaos and destruction. In a word, it is a riddle of grace.

J Clinton McCann
Interpretation Commentary on Judges, p. 94

So maybe the primary question is not, "Why did God allow this and even almost seemingly approve this?", and is, "Why is God still with these people? **Why is God still with us?**"

Our behavior does not compel God one way or another. God drives God's mercy.

<p>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</p>	<p>330-682-5801 Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9 am - 12 noon www.orrvillemenno.net www.ohiomennoniteconference.org</p>
<p>Pastor Bill Seymour</p> <p>Elder Council</p> <p>Dan Jantzi</p> <p>Bill Seymour</p> <p>Louisa Pirozzi Erb</p> <p>Bev Squirrell</p> <p>Hank Rossiter</p> <p>Ministers: Each member of the congregation</p>	<p>330-347-7034 (Cell) omcbill@gmail.com</p> <p>208-971-6488 (Cell) djjantzi@gmail.com</p> <p>330-347-7034 (Cell)</p> <p>330-317-0726 (Cell) louerb@gmail.com</p> <p>330-845-3732 (Cell) joshuasmombe@gmail.com</p> <p>330-749-5644 (cell -no texting) hankandmarilynrossiter@yahoo.com</p> <p>Church Copyright Licenses: CCLI #687886 One LICENSE #A-738260.</p>
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