

**Sermon:** The Prophet Calls

-Pastor Seth

**Hymn of Response:** VT 533 Quietly, Peacefully

**Benediction**

“While peace can evoke a number of things, in the Advent season the word appears in carols and Christmas wishes as a longed-for state of being....But peace in this context is a state of being, despite the circumstances. It is a certain groundedness and inner resolve that allows one to engage in the relationships, tasks and challenges of each day in a particular way: accessing hope, responding graciously, being generous with love, and living free from anxiety.”

- Gerber and Lantz, *Comfort and Joy*, pg. 89

Practice: Think of someone who is struggling in this season of life; hold them intentionally in prayer throughout the week. Write them a letter/card telling them they are loved.

**Postlude**

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**CALENDAR**

**This Week:**

- Today, Worship: *The Prophet Calls*: Pastor Seth; Search for the Christ Child: 5-7 PM
- Sunday, December 15: *Who Belongs?* Pastor Seth
- Sunday, December 15: Messiah Concert - 2:30 PM
- Thursday, December 12: Board Meeting - 7 PM

**Upcoming Events:**

- Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service: 6:30 PM

<b>Oak Grove Mennonite Church</b>	
7843 Smucker Road, Smithville, OH	
330.669.2697	
<a href="http://www.oakgrovemc.org">www.oakgrovemc.org</a>	
Pastor Seth Miller	<a href="mailto:seth.miller@oakgrovemc.org">seth.miller@oakgrovemc.org</a>
Church Office	<a href="mailto:office@oakgrovemc.org">office@oakgrovemc.org</a>
<i>Church office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 8 AM - 2 PM</i>	
<i>Wednesdays: 8 AM- Noon</i>	
Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer.oakgrove.smithville@gmail.com">treasurer.oakgrove.smithville@gmail.com</a>
Church WiFi Password (OakGrove-Guest):	WelcomeOG
FH WiFi Password:	schoolisbestforyou!



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**Sunday, December 8, 2024**

**Prelude:** *Angela Buller*

**Welcome:** *Dottie Hathaway*, worship leader

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Let us return to the Lord with all our hearts

**People: With our whole heart?**

Leader: The hurting and the hurtful part?

The bleeding and the empty part?

**People: The sewn-up-tight-don't-come-in heart part?**

**All: With our whole heart, with all our hearts**  
*we come to worship the Lord God,*

Leader: whose merciful compassion, abundant patience, and faithful forgiving love meets us in our need.

**Prayer**

**Hymns:** VT 57 Holy Spirit, Come with Power  
VT 212 Comfort, Comfort, O My People  
- *Gloria Miller*, song leader

**Community Life Announcements** – Please sign the welcome pads

**Children’s Time:** *Krista Mast*

**Advent Candle Lighting:** *Ryan Conrad and Bryan Martin*

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Offering**

**Hymn:** VT 215 Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee

**Scripture:** Joel 2:23-32

## Sunday December 1, 2024

### **Worship: 149**

### **Offering:**

\$4,656.00 - Spending Plan

\$100.00 - Relief Canning, Kidron

\$100.00 - Mennonite College Assistance

\$9,000.00 - HVAC/Roof Renovation Project

\$10.00 - MYF Fundraiser: Cider sales

\$.10 - Primary/Jr. SS

#### **Financial Summary-- 11 Months (Nov. 30, 2024)**

Spending Plan**	318,424.00	%age
Income to date	273,062.00	86%
Expense to date	273,671.46	86%
* Outreach	SP 58,750.00	40,757.27 69%

\*\* Spending plan Over past 5 yrs, expenses averaged 90% of SP

### **THIS SUNDAY, 12.8.24**

Greeters: 9AM Paul & Sherry Miller: 10AM John, Carrie Skarl & family

Nursery: Rita Schrock & Hannah Miedel

### **NEXT SUNDAY, 12.15.24**

Greeters: 9AM Scott & Jolene Jaquet & family: 10AM John & Mary Lynn Miller

Nursery: Jen/Mara Steiner & Sue Turskey

### **Happy Birthday!**

10 Ericka Breneman

11 Howard Nikkel

13 Cody Weaver

### **Please Remember in Prayer:**

- Steve Gill as he recovers from hip and back surgery.
- Debbie Beechy as she recovers from hip surgery.
- Prayer request from Matthew and Toni Krabill for guidance, encouragement and healing. Matthew has been diagnosed with a rare form of Rheumatoid Arthritis.
- Mission Associates supported by Oak Grove
  - Kate Widmer (MMN) - France
  - Matthew and Toni Krabill (MMN) - Ghana, West Africa
  - Austin and Griselda Zuercher (EMM) - Honduras

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**From the Search Committee:** Following church today, we will finish the set up for the Search. We will set up the stable, the Inn, lepers, beggars, luminaries, and the animal pen. All workers for the Search are to park on the west side (gravel side) of the church. Please be in costume, in the music room or the FC for prayer at 4:30.

**Set up time for Messiah risers is on Monday, December 9th.** We will need help at 9AM to move risers into the church and to remove items from the front of the sanctuary. At 6PM, we will need lots of help to set up risers and chairs.

**Parents of Primary Sunday School Children:** The Primary Sunday School children will be singing with the adult choir on Sunday, December 22. They will practice with the adult choir on Monday, December 16 in the church sanctuary from 6:30-7PM and at 8:45 AM on Sunday, December 22.

**All are invited to experience Handel's Messiah at Oak Grove Mennonite Church, Smithville, on Sunday, December 15 at 2:30 pm.** Whether in the audience or as a choir member, this beautiful and reverent work will warm your heart this Christmas season. To share your voice in the mass choir, practices will be held at the church Friday, December 13, 7-9 pm and on Saturday, December 14, 3:15-5:15 pm.

**Salvation Army Kettle Bells:** There is still time to ring bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign, one of their annual fund raisers to provide food and housing for those in need. Call 330-683-3138 for the Orrville area or 330-264-4704 for Wooster.

**Green Schools Giving "Tree"** In the past, Oak Grove has purchased requested items for specific children through the Green Local Schools around Christmas time. The school has changed their program, and are asking for gift cards instead to be distributed throughout the year. There is a poster hanging on the bulletin board in the lobby with a gift card tree. There are placeholders for different gift cards that are needed - gas, groceries or retail stores. Please take one or more placeholder cards and purchase a corresponding gift card between \$10-\$50. Return the gift cards to the envelope hanging next to the posterboard. We will collect gift cards through the end of December.

**The "mitten tree" is back up again this year.** We will be collecting gloves, hats, socks, underwear, and any other donations to help keep people warm this winter. All items will be donated to People to People.

**2024 Ohio Relief Sale:** Thank you for making the 2024 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale a success! This year Ohio will be sending the second highest amount to MCC in the 59-year history of the sale. The Ohio MCC Board recommends sending \$414,000 to Mennonite Central Committee in Akron, PA. Overall, My Coins Count was a bit lower than last year. Oak Grove contributed \$10,701.16 to My Coins Count. The Oak Grove food stand contributed profits of \$1339.21. The Run 4 Relief contributed \$3656. There is a detailed 2024 Board report in the library on the table, if anyone would like more information. Thank you for all your work and contributions.