

Epiphany 2023

# Listening TO GOD'S VOICE

February 12, 2023  
Worship | 9:30 am



\* Congregational responses in **bold**

## Gathering Music

*O Day of Peace*  
*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

arr. Lee J. Afdahl  
arr. Sondra Tucker

## Words of Welcome

## Call to Worship

*I Look to the Mountains*  
*No Mountain High Enough*

Joan A. Fyock  
Charles Kirby

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection*

Holy One, source of our renewal,  
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.**

Hear the voice of God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of Christ our Savior.

**Amen**

## Gathering Hymn

*God Bestows on Every Sense*  
(choir sings stanzas 1 and 2, all join on stanzas 3-5)

ACS 1069

## Greeting

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## Song of Praise

*Glory to God*

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## Prayer of the Day

**Most holy and present God, we come to you too often with a narrow vision of who you are and who we are. Expand our vision and understanding, so that as we hear your invitation to love and serve, our "yes" will be a clear and enthusiastic "yes!" Amen.**

## First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

[Moses said to the people:] See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 119: 1-8

Happy are they whose | way is blameless,  
who follow the teaching | of the Lord!

**Happy are they who observe | your decrees  
and seek you with | all their hearts,**

who never do | any wrong,  
but always walk | in your ways.

**You laid down | your commandments,  
that we should | fully keep them.**

Oh, that my ways were made | so direct  
that I might | keep your statutes!

**Then I should not be | put to shame,  
when I regard all | your commandments.**

I will thank you with | a true heart,  
when I have learned your | righteous judgments.

**I will | keep your statutes;  
do not utter- | ly forsake me.**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go*

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## Gospel

Matthew 5:17-37 (CEV)

The Holy Gospel reading in Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Don't suppose I came to do away with the Law and the Prophets. I did not come to do away with them, but to give them their full meaning. Heaven and earth may disappear. But I promise you not even a period or comma will ever disappear from the Law. Everything written in it must happen. If you reject even the least important command in the Law and teach others to do the same, you will be the least important person in the kingdom of heaven. But if you obey and teach others its commands, you will have an important place in the kingdom. You must obey God's commands better than the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law obey them. If you don't, I promise you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. You know our ancestors were told, "Do not murder" and "A murderer must be brought to trial." But I promise you if you are angry with someone, you will have to stand trial. If you call someone a fool, you will be taken to court. And if you say that someone is worthless, you will be in danger of the fires of hell. So if you are about to place your gift on the altar and remember that someone is angry with you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. Make peace with that person, then come back and offer your gift to God. Before you are dragged into court, make friends with the person who has accused you of doing wrong. If you don't, you will be handed over to the judge and then to the officer who will put you in jail. I promise you will not get out until you have paid the last cent you owe. You know the commandment which says, "Be faithful in marriage." But I tell you if you look at another woman and want her, you are already unfaithful in your thoughts. If your right eye causes you to sin, poke it out and throw it away. It is better to lose one part of your body, than for your whole body to end up in hell. If your right hand causes you to sin, chop it off and throw it away! It is better to lose one part of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

"Expansive Interpretation"

Pastor Ian McConnell

## Hymn of the Day

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love*

ELW 708

## Thanks for Your Generosity and Sharing of the Peace

## Music at the Offering

*Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day*

John Gardner

## Noisy Offering | Offertory Response

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(Children are invited to cheerfully bring their "Noisy Offering" to the front during the Doxology.)*

## Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Sending Hymn

*Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling*

ELW 582

## Blessing and Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Sending Music

*Toccata on the African-American Spiritual "Great Day"*  
Adolphus Hailstork

## WELCOME TO NORMANDALE



### WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Normandale Lutheran Church is a community of believers who love, learn, worship, and serve as we walk in relationship with Jesus Christ and others. We hope you find in us a place of welcome, a place of worship, a place for you. Please sign the "Connect" pad in the pew so we can reach out to you!

### LOOKING TO GET CONNECTED?



952.929.1697



[normluth.org](http://normluth.org)



Normandale Lutheran Church  
Normandale Lutheran Youth



[normluthchurch](https://www.instagram.com/normluthchurch)  
[normluthyouth](https://www.instagram.com/normluthyouth)

## SUNDAY AT NORMANDALE

Join us for **Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship** in the Fireside Room following worship.

**Livestream** of Sunday worship is available as a way to participate in the regular worship life of our congregation. Visit [normluth.org/livestream](http://normluth.org/livestream) to watch from wherever you are.

**Hymnals** are located in the pew backs. Both the ELW (red) and ACS (purple) hymnals are used in worship.

**Hearing Devices** are available to enhance your worship experience. Please ask an usher if you need assistance

### WAYS TO GIVE

**Online:** [normluth.org/give](http://normluth.org/give).

**Text:**  
gift amount to 952.260-5601

**Download the App:**  
ShelbyNEXT | Giving  
Select Normandale Lutheran



### NLC Kids

**Nursery Care** is available every Sunday morning for children between the ages of 6 months and 4 years from 9:20 - 11:30am. The Nursery is located on the first floor and is staffed by licensed preschool teachers. Please use this opportunity for your children to meet some new friends at Normandale!

**PrayGround** is located at the front of the worship space and is filled with quiet toys and comfy seating for the littlest in our midst and their caregivers.

**Busy Bags** filled with quiet activities are hanging outside the main entrance of the sanctuary.

**Bulletins & Coloring Sheets** are located on a table outside of the main sanctuary doors.

### Noisy Offering

Children are invited to cheerfully bring their "Noisy Offering" to the front during the Offertory Response. This offering will help support the Children's Ministry and be collected every Sunday.

### Sunday School | 10:40-11:20am

Pre K & K - Room 110  
Grades 1 & 2 - Multi Purpose Room South

## WORSHIP LEADERS

President:  
Liturgist:  
Organist/Choir Director:  
Cantor:  
Choirs:  
Handbell Choir Director:  
Cherub Choir Director:  
Cherub Choir Accompanist:  
Acolytes:  
Lector:  
Greeter:  
Ushers:

Pastor Ian McConnell  
Sumner Musolf  
Gregory Peterson  
Meghan McCabe  
Cherub, Handbells, Normandale  
Lorna Wolthoff  
Ruth Oliphant  
Angela Anderson  
Bergen Johnson  
Jean Wikoff  
Lucy Cocoran  
Laaksonen team

### We Need You

to help make Sunday happen! Our volunteers make worship possible. Interested in learning more about the ways you can serve or want to sign up? Contact Kim Sannerud at [ksannerud@normluth.org](mailto:ksannerud@normluth.org)