

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025 | 9:30am

Welcome, we're glad you're here!

We affirm that all people are created in the image of God, and as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome all people into full participation in the life and ministries of Normandale Lutheran Church.

We celebrate that there are differences among us, and believe that we can love one another, even though we may not think alike. We proclaim this statement of welcome to all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the church and society.

Normandale Lutheran Church is committed to a ministry of reconciliation. We welcome and affirm our human family's diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, faith, history, socioeconomic status, physical and mental ability. We embrace this diversity as a gift from God, and invite all into a faithful journey toward greater love, understanding, and reconciliation.

Congregational responses in **bold**

* Please stand as you are comfortable

Gathering Music

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
Lamb of God

arr. Sondra Tucker
arr. Tammy Waldrop

Words of Welcome

Bell Call to Worship

Carl Wiltse

*Confession and Forgiveness

God of all grace, be near in the midst of our brokenness, turning us from the things that keep us from right relationship with you, ourselves, and one another. Compel us toward compassion as we confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and are strengthened to serve in your name.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of mercy,

you delight in goodness and judge sin. Give us open and honest hearts to recognize the ways we have turned from you, from our own belovedness, and from one another. We see the world through the lens of scarcity instead of your lens of abundance. We see people as us and them instead of one body in you. We participate in the brokenness of the world, caught in webs beyond individual choices of right and wrong. Quiet our inner and outer strife, O God, and draw us into your forgiveness and wholeness. Through your divine love, transform all that threatens to destroy the good that you have created.

Beloved people of God: At a table that Jesus sets, God forgives us and feeds us with love eternal. In water and promise, God brings us to new life and breathes into us gifts to serve the world. You are forgiven, in the name of Christ who calls us into the coming of God's reign where all are supported, nourished, and loved.

Amen.

*Gathering Hymn

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty (Stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5)

ELW 777

*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.

*Kyrie

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***Prayer of the Day**

God of truth, you come to us through Christ to share in our sorrows and our joys, our suffering and our delight. Walk alongside us as we journey together, and remind us that even in our hopelessness, your love sustains us. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

Hey, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God; eager- | ly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there | is no water.

**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your | holy place,
that I might behold your power | and your glory.**

For your steadfast love is better than | life itself;
my lips shall | give you praise.

**So will I bless you as long | as I live
and lift up my hands | in your name.**

My spirit is content, as with the rich- | est of foods,
and my mouth praises you with | joyful lips,

**when I remember you up- | on my bed,
and meditate on you in | the night watches.**

For you have | been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I | will rejoice.

**My whole being | clings to you;
your right hand | holds me fast.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

Return to the Lord, Your God

ELW page 151

***Gospel**

Luke 13:1-9

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. [Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Maria Pederson

*Hymn of the Day

Restore in Us, O God

ELW 328

*Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanks for Generosity

Crosstown Meals on Wheels

Elisa Tvette, Program Manager

*Sharing of the Peace

Music at the Offering

Children of the God Who Made Us

arr. Hal Hopson

*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 Offertory Response.
This offering will help Every Meal in their fight to end child hunger.*

*Prayers of the People

Congregational response following each prayer petition:

God in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

*Lord's Prayer

Led by Sunday School Students in American Sign Language, please follow their pacing.

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

Jesus, Still Lead On

ELW 624

*Blessing and Sending

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

Sending Music

Grand Chorus, Op. 84

Alexandre Guilmant

WELCOME TO NORMANDALE



Led by the Holy Spirit and living in God's grace, 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.

Normandale Lutheran Church is a member of the ELCA, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation.



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Normandale Lutheran Youth

normluth.org

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 community. Visit normluth.org/livestream to watch from wherever you are.

Holy Communion is offered during worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. All are welcome at God's Table. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available.

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

Text:
gift amount to: 952.260.5601

Download the App:
ShelbyNEXT|Giving
select "Normandale Lutheran" (55436)



NLC Kids

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.

Extended PrayGround is located outside of the sanctuary next to the Fishbowl for children age 4 and up and their families. There are quiet activities and a screen to see and hear worship.

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

Bulletins & Coloring Sheets are located on a table by 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 Every Meal in their fight to end child hunger.

Sunday School
10:40-11:30am | Age 3 - 4th Grade

First Floor: Preschool - Room 100
3rd Floor: Grades K, 1 & 2 - Multi Purpose Room North
 Grades 3 & 4 - Multi Purpose Room South

Not Registered? No problem! Join today, all are welcome!

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Pastor Maria Pederson
Liturgists: Pastors Rebecca Gamble, Hans Lee
Organist: Gregory Peterson
Cantors: Harriet Dodington, Henry Piepho

Choir: Children's Choir, Lily Askegaard, director
Accompanist: Angela Anderson
Soloist: Alex Ouska
Instrumentalist: Madeline Didier, oboe

Instrumental: Normandale Bells - Lorna Wolthoff, director;
Angela Anderson, oboe; Debbie Henry, flute

Acolytes: Bella Carpenter and Duncan Kluis
Greeters: Michelle & Callie Monnot, Jack & Marilyn Kemme
Lector: Norm Teigen
Sacristan: Cindy Nelson
Ushers: Elenkiwich & Noble Teams