



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 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

Solemn Prelude on a Theme of Thomas Tallis

Gerald Near

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Lord, May Your Spirit Enter

Brett Epperson

*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

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

ELW 588

*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

ELW Page 147

*Prayer of the Day

God of grace, you compel your whole creation toward mercy. Help us embody your unconditional grace and love to all living things, participating in the coming of your reign, where all are supported, nourished, welcomed, and loved. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32

Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!

**Happy are they to whom the Lord im- | putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!**

While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,
because of my groaning | all day long.

**For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.**

You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.

**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;
I will guide you | with my eye.**

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you."

**Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the Lord.**

**Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.**

*Gospel Acclamation

Return to the Lord, Your God

ELW page 151

*Gospel

Luke 15:1-3,11b-32

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. Now his elder son was in the field; and when he

(Gospel continued on the next page)

came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Hans Lee

*Hymn of the Day

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound
Stanza 1-all, 2-bass voices, 3-treble voices, 4-all in harmony, 5-all

ELW 779

*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 to the dead. 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

Fred Shepherd, 75th Anniversary

*Sharing of the Peace

Music at the Offering

Come Home

Craig Courtney

*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

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

What Wondrous Love Is This

ELW 666

*Blessing and Sending

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

Sending Music

Amazing Grace

Arr. George Shearing

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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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
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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 Hans Lee
Liturgist: Pastor Rebecca Gamble
Organist: Gregory Peterson
Cantor: Mark Johns
Choir: Normandale Choir
Director: Gregory Peterson
Accompanist: Lorna Wolthoff

Greeters: Michelle & Callie Monnot, Jack & Marilyn Kemme
Lector: Norm Teigen
Sacristan: Cindy Nelson
Ushers: Elenkiwich & Noble Teams