



# Seeing LIGHT

**Normandale Lutheran Church**

**Epiphany Sunday  
January 4, 2026 | 9:30 am**

# Welcome to Normandale Lutheran Church



## We're Glad You're Here!

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 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation.

## Welcoming Statement



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.

We are 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.

**NEW  
HERE ?**



Use the QR Code to fill out our online connect Card.

## Connect with us today



952.929.1697



normluthchurch  
normluthyouth



Normandale Lutheran Church  
Normandale Lutheran Youth

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

# Sundays at Normandale

Join us as we gather weekly  
for worship and fellowship!

**9:30 Worship**  
in the sanctuary

**10:30 Coffee & Donuts**  
in the Fireside Room

**No Sunday School Today!**  
**See you next Sunday, December 7th**  
**10:40-11:30am | Ages 3 -3rd Grade**

**First Floor:**  
Preschool - Room 100

**2nd Floor:**  
Grades K & 1 - Room 212  
Grades 2 & 3 - Room 205

Not Registered? No problem!  
Contact Lily @ laskegaard@normluth.org

## Worship With Us

**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.

**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, dairy free bread, and grape juice are available.

**Livestream** of worship services are 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.

### 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 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.

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"  
(55436)



Congregational responses in **bold**  
\* Please stand as you are comfortable

## Gathering

### Gathering Music

*Partita on O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*  
Michael Burkhardt

### Words of Welcome

### Call to Worship

*As with Gladness Men of Old*

### \*Gathering Hymn

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

ELW 553

### \*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Creator of light and darkness, the Word who illumines our lives, the Spirit who reveals the brilliant spectrum of God's creation. **Amen.**

Drawn by God's revealing light, we come with truth—confessing what we have hidden and trusting the mercy that meets us as all is unveiled.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice, you call us to walk in the light of Christ, our light, where truth is clear and life is vivid, yet we confess that our vision has faded. We have preferred shadows that blur injustice and protect our own comfort. We have muted the colors of our common life by serving our own interests over our neighbors.

We have hidden the truth when honesty would have cost us. We speak faithful words, but our hearts drift far from you. Turn us toward your light. Restore our vision. Unveil what is unjust and wounded among us, and grant us vision that gives color and courage to our lives. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. **Amen.**

Hear the good news: What was hidden is brought to light. What lay in shadow is now revealed. The dawn is breaking among us. In Jesus Christ, the former things have passed away. God makes all things new. Your sins forgiven in Jesus' name. Walk now as children of the light. The Spirit strengthens you to live for others and blesses you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

### \*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.**

### \*Prayer of the Day

**Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you revealed the birth of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star, and brought to all nations the brightness of your rising. Illumine our world with the love of your Son, that in his light, we might all truly live. Now, accept our lives as the treasure we offer in praise for the gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

# Word

## Reading

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 72:1-7. 10-14

Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,  
and your righteousness to | the king's son;  
**that he may rule your | people righteously**  
**and the | poor with justice;**

that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,  
and the | hills, in righteousness.

**Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,**  
**rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.**

May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,  
from one generation | to another.

**Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,**  
**like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**

In his time may the | righteous flourish;  
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the | isles pay tribute,**  
**and the kings of Sheba and Seba | offer gifts.**

May all kings bow | down before him,  
and all the nations | do him service.

**For the king delivers the poor who cry out | in distress,**  
**the oppressed, and those who | have no helper.**

He has compassion on the low- | ly and poor,  
and preserves the lives | of the needy.

**From oppression and violence he re- | deems their lives,**  
**and precious is their blood | in his sight.**

## \*Gospel Acclamation

ELW page 151

## \*Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Pastor Rebecca Gamble

## \*Hymn of the Day

*When a Star Is Shining*

ACS #915

# Prayers and Offering

## Star Words Invitation

## Prayers of Intercession

Congregational response following each petition:

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

## \*Sharing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*Noisy Offery | Offetory 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.*

**\*Offering Prayer**

**God of light, no eye has seen, no ear has heard the wonders you prepare for those who love you. In this meal, you reveal the vividness of your mercy. Receive these gifts we bring, signs of lives uncovered and hearts renewed. Use all that we offer to shine light into places still in shadow, to unmask injustice, and to open us more fully to your reign. Amen.**

## Holy Communion

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

ELW Page 152

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*Preface**

**\*Sanctus**

ELW Page 153

**\*Words of Institution**

**\*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.**

**Lamb of God**

ELW Page 154

## Distribution Music

### Anthem

### Hymns

*The First Noel*  
*In the Bleak Midwinter*

ELW #300  
ELW #294

### Communion Blessing

### Prayer after Communion

## Sending

### \*Sending Hymn

*Arise, Your Light Has Come*

ELW #314

### \*Blessing and Sending

Go into the world, seeing light.  
Thanks be to God!

### Sending Music

*Toccata on O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*  
Michael Burkhardt

## Worship Leaders:

<b>Preaching:</b>	Pastor Rebecca Gamble
<b>Liturgist:</b>	Pastor Adam White
<b>Organist:</b>	Lorna Wolthoff
<b>Cantor:</b>	Amy James
<b>Special Music:</b>	The James family, Brad Beale
<b>Communion Crew:</b>	Jon Kuehl & Linda VanGuilder, Derek Camenga
<b>Communion Deacons:</b>	Matt Klein, Bert & Charlie Ledder, Pat Lindstrand, Kim Pinkham
<b>Greeters:</b>	Dave Myhre, Dot Olson
<b>Lector:</b>	Karen Hansen
<b>Ushers:</b>	Chin Team



# Stay in the loop @ NLC

## Community

### COMMUNITY MEALS

Wednesday evenings from 5:00-6:30PM  
in Fellowship Hall

Chef-created, healthy and delicious meals that focus on community! All are invited to build new and strengthen existing relationships over a rotating menu. Every week features a main dish, sides, salad, fresh fruit, and dessert. No Need to RSVP.

#### Pricing:

- \$10 - Ages 16+
  - \$6 - Ages 3-15
  - FREE - Ages 2 and under
- \*We are cashless; credit cards accepted at the door.

See what's on the menu!



### Information & New Member Session

Connect • Learn • Lunch

#### All About Normandale!

Sunday, January 18

Fellowship Hall | Following 9:30am Worship

Learn more about the community and mission of Normandale Lutheran Church. This event is geared for those thinking about joining the congregation in membership. Childcare and a light lunch are provided. **New members will be received during worship on Sunday, January 25.** Contact Kristi Shepherd for more information at [kshepherd@normluth.org](mailto:kshepherd@normluth.org).

## Church Game Day!

All ages welcome!  
Bring your favorite board game to share with others.  
Snacks provided!

Sunday, January 25  
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Fireside Room



# Adults



## Second Saturday Topic: When Grief Boils Over Saturday, January 10, 2026

9:00-10:30am: Education

10:30am-Noon:  
Caregiver Support Groups

Caring for a loved one through illness or loss can evoke guilt, fear, and grief. This workshop provides DBT-based calming techniques, tools for managing family relationships, and communication skills to ease tension and reduce potential conflict. **Respite is available** - register online at: [normandalecenter.org/events](http://normandalecenter.org/events). Presented by **Molly Darsov**, mediator and owner of *Still Waters Mediation*, with a background in counseling, group facilitation, and conflict resolution.



Returns January 9  
Pastor Led Bible Study  
Fridays in January  
7:00-8:00am  
Fireside Room

Join Pastor Adam for  
an engaging study of

the Book of Revelation; explore this powerful and hope-filled text through video, group discussion and Pastor Adam's commentary. Come be filled with community, the Word, coffee, fresh fruit and pastries! **Remaining dates in this series Jan. 9, 16, 23.**



January 14  
11:00am - 1:00pm  
Fireside Room

## January's Topic: Not a Trivial Pursuit: A Brief History of Board Games

Step into the fascinating world of board games with Normandale's Lead Pastor Adam White. Discover how tabletop play continues to foster community, spark strategy, and bring people together in an age dominated by screens. All are welcome. A suggested donation of \$10 includes lunch.



Friday, January 23

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Wine, cheese, and artwork  
by local artist Jessie DeCorsey

Saturday, January 24

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Brunch, fellowship, and activities  
email [khein@normluth.org](mailto:khein@normluth.org) for more info.



Returns January 7  
Every Wednesday

9:30-11:30am  
Fireside Room

Livestreamed on  
YouTube

All women are welcome to a thought-provoking study on the book of Revelation. Each week begins with a large group presentation, followed by small group discussions. No previous involvement or experience in Bible study is necessary!

## The New Normandale House January 25, 2026 | post-worship In the Fellowship Hall



For more than 25 years, we have been walking with families experiencing housing instability. Located in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis, Normandale House creates affordable safe space and personal relationships for encouragement on the journey toward a more stable future.

**Come learn with us: new house, new services, and what the new model means for those we serve.**

**Conversations in Community:  
Seeing Light  
January 11, 2026 | post-worship  
In the Fellowship Hall**

What causes you concern these days? And where are you seeing (& seeking) the "light"? Join us for supportive table conversations, resource-sharing, and prayer.

# Prayers for Peace

All are Welcome!

Come weekly for a simple morning service of prayer and reflection.  
Tuesdays in the Chapel | 9:00-9:20am  
Resumes January 6.

## Children, Youth & Family (CYF)



### Normandale Preschool Blessing Place

A place for all children to feel safe, loved, and accepted  
Inspiring children 16 months to 5 years

**Register for 2026-2027 school year!**

**Early registration** for Normandale Lutheran Church members opens **January 5, 2026.**

For more information visit our website  
[www.normandalepreschool.com](http://www.normandalepreschool.com)

Questions?  
Contact our director,  
Kari Warnke at  
[Kari@normluth.org](mailto:Kari@normluth.org)  
952-977-9371



**Scan to Register**

# 2026

## SUMMER ADVENTURE

**Summer Stretch After Dark: June 9-11**  
Current 6th Graders to 8th Graders

**Vacation Bible School: June 15-18**  
Current 3-year olds to 4th Graders

**Vacation Bible School After Care: June 15-18**  
Current 3-year olds to 4th Graders

**Colorado Urban Trek: June 21-26**  
Current 8th Graders to 12th Graders

**Summer Stretch: July 7-9**  
Current 3rd Graders to 5th Graders

**Camp Vermilion: August 2-7**  
Current 3rd Graders to 8th Graders

**Guatemala 2026: July 11-21**  
Current 8th Graders to 12th Graders

**REGISTER  
NOW!**



[normluth.org](http://normluth.org) | [cyf@normluth.org](mailto:cyf@normluth.org) | Normandale Lutheran Church

# This Week at Normandale Lutheran Church

## January 5 - 11, 2026

### Monday, January 5

No Events Planned.

### Tuesday, January 6

9:00am - 9:20am  
4:00pm - 8:00pm  
6:30pm - 7:30pm  
**7:00pm - 9:00pm**

Prayers for Peace  
REACH Youth Juggling Club  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Stephen Ministry

Chapel  
Gym  
Room 207  
Studio A

### Wednesday, January 7

9:30am - 11:30am  
12:00pm - 1:00pm  
5:00pm - 6:30pm  
5:00pm - 5:45pm  
5:30pm - 7:30pm  
5:45pm - 6:30pm  
6:30pm - 8:00pm  
6:30pm - 7:30pm  
6:30pm - 7:30pm  
7:30pm - 9:00pm  
7:30pm - 8:30pm  
8:30pm - 9:30pm

Wednesday Women's Bible Study  
Al-Anon  
Community Meals  
Cherub Choir  
Spanish Class  
Children's Choir  
Normandale Choir Rehearsal  
SPARK  
IGNITE  
Wooddale Ave AA Meeting  
Life Out Loud  
ABLAZE

Fire  
Multi Purpose North  
Fellowship Hall  
Multi Purpose South  
Studio B  
Multi Purpose South  
Rehearsal Room  
Multi Purpose South  
Fireside Room  
Studio A  
Fish Bowl  
Fish Bowl

### Thursday, January 8

3:15pm - 4:30pm  
4:00pm - 6:00pm  
5:45pm - 6:45pm

RJET Book Club  
REACH Youth Juggling Club  
Handbell Choir

Virtual; on Zoom  
Gym  
Multi Purpose North

### Friday, January 9

7:00am - 8:00am

Revelation Bible Study

Fireside Room

### Saturday, January 10

**9:00am - 10:30am**  
**10:30am - 12:00pm**

Saturday Caregiver Education  
Caregiver Support Group

Room 209  
Room 209

### Sunday, January 11

9:30am - 10:30am  
10:40am - 11:30am  
10:40am - 12:00pm  
10:40am - 11:30am  
11:30am - 1:00pm

Worship  
Sunday School  
Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship  
Conversations in Community  
Virtual Coffee Hour

Sanctuary  
Classrooms  
Fireside Room  
Fellowship Hall  
Zoom (Virtual)



## Happy 76<sup>th</sup> Year, Normandale!

*"Like Always, Like Never Before"*

Thank you to all who gave their time and talent in creating our 75th Anniversary Podcast Series.

This entire collection can be listened to on Normandale's YouTube page.

Presenting **75**  
**Stories**

