



life rising

Normandale Lutheran Church

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 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.

Ways to Give

Online:
normluth.org/give

Text:
gift amount to: 952.260.5601

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



Connect with us

normluth.org



952.929.1697



normluthchurch
normluthyouth



Normandale Lutheran Church
Normandale Lutheran Youth

**NEW
HERE ?**



Scan
for our
Connect
Card

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

A FLAME 

Ages 3 -3rd Grade 10:40-11:30am

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.

Large Print copies of bulletins, hymns and ELW liturgical settings are available. Please ask an usher if you would like one.

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 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.

Sensory Headphones are hanging outside the main sanctuary doors.

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

Gathering

Gathering Music

*Prelude and Fugue in G Major,
Op. 37, No. 2*

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

We Shall Walk Through the Valley

arr. Undine Smith Moore

*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.

*Processional Hymn

O Christ, Our Hope (stanzas 1-4)

ELW 604

Promises of Baptism

Beau William Sima

son of Josh and Laura Sima

Ren Mary Onishi

daughter of Andrew and Sydney Onishi

In mercy and love, God gives new birth to all into a living hope through the promises of baptism. Recognizing our human need, we celebrate God's dependable goodness, infinite new starts, and continued claim on our lives. Today, we especially celebrate that God claims Beau and Ren as God's own, takes delight in them, and surrounds them with love.

Josh and Laura, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Beau baptized into Christ?

Andrew and Sydney, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Ren baptized into Christ?

As you bring Beau and Ren to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, to bring them to Jesus' sacred meal, to place in their hands the Holy Scriptures, nurturing them in faith and grounding them in prayer, so that they will learn to trust God, proclaim Christ, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help them grow in their Christian faith and life?

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Beau and Ren in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the promise of baptism and to live among God's faithful people?

Dear People of God, do you promise to surround Beau and Ren with love and grace, and pray for them in their new life in Christ? **Congregation responds: We do.**

***Profession of Faith**

Do you reject the falsehoods which deny God's love and promise?

I renounce them.

Do you reject the powers of this world that openly rebel against God's purposes?

I renounce them.

Do you reject the enticing ways of sin that pull us away from God's hopes for us?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Baptism and Placement of Baptismal Stole

Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you claim your children as your own. Sustain Beau and Ren with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the awe of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Anointment with Oil and Presentation of Baptismal Candle

Welcome

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: giving thanks, praising God, and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

***Hymn of Praise**

Glory to God in the Highest

ELW Page 148

***Prayer of the Day**

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name. Open our ears and guide us by your voice, that we might walk securely with you and find abundant life in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Reading

Acts 2:42-47

[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

**The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

*Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW 172

*Gospel

John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Maria Pederson

*Hymn of the Day

All Are Welcome (stanzas 1,2,4)

ELW 641

Welcome of New Members

Claudia Dungan

Adam, Kyleen, & Sully Engelstad

Carol Jackson

Maria Pederson

Chet Prashad

Soph White

Prayers and Offering

*Prayers of Intercession

Congregational response following each petition:

Merciful God,
receive 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.

*Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ is with you all.
And also with you.

Thanks for your Generosity

Middle School Ministry
Small Group Leaders

Abby Brula

Music at the Offering

O Blessed Spring

David Cherwien

*Noisy Offering | Offertory Response

Doxology (tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia (2)!
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia (5)!**

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

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. Nourish us with the whole life of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Sending

*Blessing

*Sending Hymn

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW 774

*Sending

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*Sending Music

Flourish for an Occasion

William H. Harris

Worship Leaders

Preaching:	Pastor Maria Pederson
Liturgist:	Pastor Adam White
Organist:	John Stender
Cantor:	John Sackrison
Choirs:	Normandale Choir, John Stender, director
Accompanist:	Lorna Wolthoff
Acolyte:	Addy Steuerwald
Baptism Deacon:	
Crucifer:	
Greeters:	Scott & Kelly Olson
Lector:	Marilyn Kemme
Sacristan:	Emily Steuerwald
Ushers:	Bruce & Maren Kleven, Doug & Ginny Nimmo, Chris Eide



WE ♥ LILY!

After nine years of faithful ministry, our Director of Children's Ministry & Music, Lily Askegaard Ahrendt, will be concluding her professional time at Normandale on May 13. She will be pursuing a full-time career in music education.

We are deeply grateful for Lily's ministry among us and invite all in the congregation outdoors to offer thanks and blessings to Lily at the Sunday School End-of-Year Celebration!



Stay in the loop @ NLC

Community

Wednesday Women's BIBLE STUDY

Celebration & End of Year Brunch

Wednesday May 6
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Fireside Room

WWBS Celebration and End of Year Brunch May 6 | 9:30am-11:30am | Fireside Room

Celebrate the close of our program year and honor the women in our community who have spent 20 years journeying through the entire Bible with WWBS, beginning with Genesis.

Enjoy a light brunch along with guest speakers, music, scripture readings, and special moments of recognition. All women who have participated in WWBS over the years—no matter the study—are warmly invited to attend.

Prayers for Peace

All are Welcome!

A simple morning service of prayer and reflection led by Pastor Adam.

Tuesdays in the Chapel | 9:00-9:20am



WEDNESDAY MAY 13 FROM 5:00 - 7:30 P.M.

A Special Normandale Table

Normandale Fiesta!

Gather outdoors in Trinity Commons for our Last Normandale Table meal of the year.

Taco Bar with all the fixings!

**No RSVP required!
Free For All!**

Come hungry.
Leave connected.

Celebrating the life of



Gary Bartz

Memorial Service May 18, 2026

10:00am - Visitation
11:00am - Service
12:00pm - Reception

Celebrating the life of



Anthony Knight

Memorial Service May 5, 2026

2:00pm - Visitation
3:00pm - Service
4:00pm - Reception

Adults

2nd Saturday for Caregivers



Normandale Center for Healing & Wholeness
May 9, 2026

9:00-10:30am: Education

10:30am-Noon: Caregiver Support Groups



Self-Acupressure for Stress Management

Learn how acupressure can be a powerful tool for self-healing in times of stress. Includes an opportunity to participate in a guided sequence of self-acupressure, breathing, and visualization. Presented by Dr. Kim Christensen, a Licensed Acupuncturist and Chinese medicine herbalist.

Respite is available - register online at: normandalecenter.org/events.



Wednesday
Women's
BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays through
May 6 | 9:30-11:30am
Fireside Room
Livestreamed
on YouTube

All women are welcome
to participate as we study

the book of Revelation. Each week begins with a large group presentation, followed by small group discussions. We will resume in September to begin our study of **Genesis**.

BOOK, BAGEL & BREW

Saturday, May 16

10am - Noon | Studio A

Book: *A Song to Drown Rivers*
by Ann Liang



EMAIL KATIE NIESSEN WITH QUESTIONS:
[KATIEJNANA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:katiejnana@gmail.com)

 *Second* —
WEDNESDAY

May 13
11:00am-1:00pm
Fireside Room

Moose is Loose

From the big-eyed white-tailed deer in our Minnesota yards, to the caribou of Alaska's tundra, to the big-limbed moose of the north woods, traveling **naturalist Melonie Shipman** has been engaged with the deer family for decades. We'll explore their special adaptations and lifestyles as vegetarians who must manage long, snowy winters and multiple predators just to survive another day. You'll look with new eyes at animals you may have seen many times in your life. Now you'll know the rest of the story!

All are welcome!

A suggested donation of \$10 includes lunch.

Adult Forum Series
Presented by RJET:

White Christian Nationalism (Emphasis on Theology over Politics)

following Worship at 10:45am
Sundays: May 17, May 31, June 7
Fellowship Hall



lecture and discussion with
Luther Seminary Professor
of Theology Amy Marga

Creation Care Team



To get involved or learn more about Creation Care Team contact Katie at khein@normluth.org

The Creation Care group at Normandale shares in the ELCA mission to be better stewards and co-creators of the Earth by identifying opportunities for our congregation to support, participate in, increase efficiencies and sustainability as we pursue wholeness for creation. In the last several months, the group applied for and received a generous grant from Hennepin County that supplied our church with organic and recycling bins, labels, training, etc. to help Normandale better manage our waste practices and reduce unnecessary costs of waste contamination. In addition to eliminating fees, the church has an opportunity to increase the amount we recycle and compost.

WE NEED YOU!

Volunteer at one of our CYF Summer Programs!

CYF Summer 2026 Programming:

Summer Stretch After Dark

June 9-11 | 4-9PM

Vacation Bible School

June 15-18 | 8AM-12PM

Colorado Overnight Urban Trek

June 21-28 | Denver, CO

Summer Stretch

July 7-9 | 9AM-2PM



Scan the QR Code for more info!



Kid's Day In

Sunday, 5/17
10:30am-2:30pm

Cost \$60

Ages 3-13 are invited to join us for 4 hours of fun and games. Meals and Snacks included.



All profits will benefit Normandale Youth Summer Travel

Normandale Table is our church's weekly effort to provide community time together and great food on Wednesday evenings. Did you know that it costs Normandale an average of **\$1,050 per week in food and labor costs** to supply the dinner? To cover these costs, the church depends on the meal prices paid but also with reliance on general donation support of the annual budget. If you haven't yet tried it, please come and say "Thanks" to all the volunteers that support this ministry effort. **"Come Hungry, Leave Connected!"**

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS & FUN FACTS ABOUT CHURCH FINANCES AND HOW YOUR GIVING SUPPORTS OUR COMMUNITY.

GENEROSITY CORNER

This Week at Normandale Lutheran Church

April 27 - May 3, 2026

Monday, April 27

No Events Planned

Tuesday, April 28

9:00am - 9:20am
10:00am - 12:00pm
4:00pm - 8:00pm
4:30pm - 5:30pm
6:30pm - 7:30pm
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Prayers for Peace
Giving Voice Chorus
REACH Youth Juggling Club
NLC Foundation - Finance Committee
Alcoholics Anonymous
NLC Council Meeting

Chapel
Rehearsal Room
Gym
Studio A
Room 207
Studio A

Wednesday, April 29

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

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

Fireside Room
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, April 30

9:00am - 10:00am
3:15pm - 4:30pm
4:00pm - 6:00pm
5:45pm - 6:45pm

Pilates with Jen
RJET Book Club
REACH Youth Juggling Club
Handbell Choir

Studio B
Virtual: on Zoom
Gym
Multi Purpose North

Friday, May 1

No Events Planned

Saturday, May 2

No Events Planned

Sunday, May 3

9:30am - 10:30am
10:40am - 11:30am
6:30pm - 9:30pm

Worship
End of Year Sunday School Celebration
and Lily Ahrendt's Send-Off
St. Louis Park Sunday Night AA Group

Sanctuary
Play Ground/
Trinity Commons
Fellowship Hall

For more information
and to view a full
calendar of events,
visit normluth.org.

