



# Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

**December 7, 2025**

*Offering Christ's peace to hearts, homes, community and world*

# Order of Worship

## Gather

Welcome and Congregational Life

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymn                      *Oh Come, O Come, Immanuel*, vs. 1, 3, 5, & 7                      VT\* 210

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn                      *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*                      VT 218

Gathering Prayer

## Listen

Children's Time                      *Away in a Manger*, vs. 1 & 2                      VT 257

Scripture                      Ezekiel 37:1–14

Sermon                      *Dynamic Duo*

## Respond

Adult Choir                      *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Communion

Hymn                      *Put Peace into Each Other's Hands*                      VT 485

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Stewardship Affirmation

## Sent

Sending Song                      *The Lord Lift You Up*                      VT 832

Benediction

Final Response                      *Put Peace into Each Other's Hands*, vs. 1                      VT 485

*\*Voices Together Hymnal*

## Assisting in Worship:

**Worship Leader & Planner:** Janet Wilson

**Accompaniment & Prelude:** Lydia Hedberg

**Song Leader:** Cindy Ropp

**Children's Time:** Kevin Chupp

**Sermon:** Lynette Miller

**Adult Choir Director:** Cindy Ropp

**Communion:** Jane Roeschley

**Instrumentalist:** Glenn Wilson

**Pastoral Prayer:** Kevin Chupp

**Tech:** Wyatt Fisher

### **In Memoriam:**

**Joyce Thompson**, long-time MRC resident: March 9, 1927 – October 13, 2025

**Roberta Bortell**, wife of Jim Bortell: April 26, 1947 – October 12, 2025

**Doris Shoemaker**, member of MCN: April 13, 1926 – September 13, 2025

**Evelyn Benner**, mom of Steve Benner: January 30, 1944 – July 24, 2025

### **Announcements from the Midweek:**

- **Cookie Baking:** Today, MYF and JMYF-ers (6th through 12th grades) are invited to stay after church for devotions (during the SS hour), cookie baking, and lunch.
- **Adult CE:** The Adult Christian Education quarter will begin today with a study called, "In God's Good Image: How Jesus Dignifies, Shapes and Confronts Our Cultural Identities."
- **Cookies and Caroling:** You're invited to participate in a cookie decorating and Christmas caroling event on December 12th. We'll gather at MCN to decorate and package cookies that have been pre-baked for us by MYF / JMYF and then disperse to carol at MRC, the surrounding neighborhood, and Westminster Village. Afterward, we'll gather back at the church for hot drinks, cookies, and conversation. Please RSVP using the link in the Midweek. We look forward to singing, snipping, and snacking with you!
- **Meal Train:**
- **Call for Music:** The Christmas Eve service is just 3 weeks away! If you are interested in offering a solo or group song for our service, please reach out to Pastor Kevin ([kevin@normalmennonite.org](mailto:kevin@normalmennonite.org)). We will continue on our Advent theme (Be Amazed!) but your song doesn't necessarily need to relate to that theme.
- **Periodical Renewals – Last chance!** Each year the church organizes group subscriptions to three Mennonite publications. If you would like to renew, begin, or end a subscription to one or more of these publications, please contact the church office at 309-452-6622 or [church@normalmennonite.org](mailto:church@normalmennonite.org) **before tomorrow, December 8th.**
- **SMAP:** The Student Mutual Aid Program continues to support two students this year. MCN will make the next payment for the Spring semester by the end of December. If you pledged or would like to support this program please send your money to MCN with SMAP in the memo. Thanks for your continued support of this program!
- **AGF:** We would like to thank everyone for their enthusiastic support of our Alternative Gifts Fair! At a time when our congregation has been very actively supporting several other outstanding projects, you nevertheless very generously supported this year's Alternative Gifts Fair, raising more than last year's also very successful Fair! Thank you all!

### **This Week:**

Sunday 12/7	11:00 am Youth Cookies & Lunch
	7:00 pm Adult Choir
Monday 12/8	5:00 pm Outreach Commission
Tuesday 12/9	3:00 pm Pastoral Team (Zoom)
Wednesday 12/10	9:30 am Wednesday Morning Book Group
	1:00 pm HSHM Quilt Project
	7:00 pm Community Life Commission (Zoom)
	7:00 pm Fellowship Committee (Zoom)
Thursday 12/11	7:00 am Next Man Bible Study
	9:30 am Women's Bible Study
	2:00 pm Worship Commission (Zoom)
Sunday 12/14	11:00 am Youth Cookies & Lunch
	7:00 pm Adult Choir

### **Our Vision:**

*Mennonite Church of Normal is a nurturing, Christ-centered Anabaptist congregation that welcomes all people. As followers of Jesus, we aspire to transform our communities and world into places of peace, healing, and hope.*

### **Our Welcome:**

All people of any race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, sexual orientation, age, education, or ability who confess faith in Jesus Christ, are welcome to participate in the full life and ministry of the Mennonite Church of Normal. Furthermore, all people of any gender or sexual orientation who confess faith in Jesus Christ, may become members, be married, and are eligible for all volunteer, staff, and pastoral positions at MCN.

### **After Worship Christian Education:**

Pre-K – 1 <sup>st</sup> Grades	Room 9/12
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grades	Room 11
Junior High	Conference Room
High School	Room 8
Adults	Room 5/7

**Building Open Hours:** Monday – Friday 9am-11am & 1:30pm-3pm

**Office Administrator:** Lydia Hedberg | church@normalmennonite.org  
309-452-6622

**Custodian:** Rita Munkakusi

**Community Life Commission, Outreach Commission, Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team, & Worship Commission Pastor:**

Kevin Chupp | kevin@normalmennonite.org

*Pastor Kevin designated office hours:* Wednesdays, 8am-12pm (or call to plan a visit)

**Pastoral Team Leader and Administration Commission, Discipling Commission, and Vision Team Pastor:**

Lauren Satchwell | lauren@normalmennonite.org