



# Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

**February 22, 2026**

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

# Order of Worship

## Gather

Welcome and Congregational Life

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymns

*The Glory of These Forty Days*

VT\* 305

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns, vs. 1-3*

VT 101

Gathering Prayer

## Listen

Children's Time

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

VT 306

Scripture

John 11:1-44

Sermon

*Vivid Despair*

## Respond

Silent Reflection

Confession & Assurance

Response Song

*Healer of Our Every Ill*

VT 644

Honoring God with Our Gifts

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

## Send

Sending Song

*My Jesus, I Love Thee*

VT 133

Sending Prayer

Dismissal Song

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns, vs. 4*

VT 101

*\*Voices Together Hymnal*

**Due to the intricate nature of the cross visual on the stage, we request that our children stay off the stage during Lent and Easter for safety reasons. Thanks!**

*The artwork in the Sanctuary is by Michelle Burkholder. It originally appeared in Prone to Wander, © 2025 by Joanna Harader. Distributed by Herald Press, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22803.*

## Assisting in Worship:

**Worship Leader:** Gail Fisher

**Children's Time:** Janet Wilson

**Worship Planner:** Joe Culpepper

**Scripture Reader:** Gerson Cobarrubia

**Prelude & Accompaniment:** Lydia Hedberg

**Sermon:** Kevin Chupp

**Song Leader:** Wayne Hochstetler

**Pastoral Prayer:** Kevin Chupp

**Tech:** Wyatt Fisher & Rick Harnish

## In Memoriam:

**Mary Ann King**, member of MCN: October 11, 1939 – January 5, 2026

**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

## Announcements from the Midweek:

- **Lloyd and Aldine Combs Scholarship:** Applications are due March 15 for the Lloyd and Aldine Combs Scholarship which supports students pursuing higher education, with a preference for those attending Mennonite-affiliated colleges, universities, and seminaries.
- **IL Mennonite Relief Sale:** The Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale begins with Trivia Night & booths Friday, March 20 and on Saturday, March 21, begin your day with the pancake and sausage breakfast, stay for the auction, shopping, and more! Pie crust orders will be due Friday, February 27th so please think now about how many crusts you would like to purchase. And save the date for Friday, March 20th from 8:30 am to 11:30 am to assemble strawberry pies!
- **Cultivating Generous Congregations:** The four of us attending the Cultivating Generous Congregations program through Everence met last week with a topic of Theology of Money. There was some discussion about various scriptures, both New and Old Testament. In shaping a theology of giving, what questions are we asking? Read the rest of the note in the Midweek.
- **Lent Choir:** Adult Choir begins this evening, February 22 at 7:00 pm! All adults (starting at 6th grade) are invited to attend. We will sing during Lent several times culminating in Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. This is a highly inclusive group – join us for an opportunity to sing together!
- **Singing Resistance:** Do you like to sing? Are you interested in using music to work for justice? If so, you are invited to join us 4-5:30 pm February 22 at Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington-Normal, 1613 E. Emerson in Bloomington. We'll share more information and begin to learn songs together.
- **CDC Mid-Year Gathering:** At this year's Central District Conference mid-year gathering we will be seeking input from congregations that will be used to draft a statement on our position of dissent with respect to Article 19 of the Confession of Faith from a Mennonite Perspective, which pertains to marriage and human sexuality. If you are able to attend, all are welcome. If you would like to share your answers with Pastor Lauren, she will relay them to this gathering. Thanks!
- **Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team:** The Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team, in consultation with the Worship Commission, has called Sheryl to serve on the Worship Commission. Please send any feedback to Janet by February 28, 2026. Thank you!
- **Spending Plan Status as of January 31, 2026**

### This Week:

Sunday 2/22	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
Tuesday 2/24	3:00 pm	Pastoral Team (Zoom)
Wednesday 2/25	9:30 am	Wednesday Morning Book Group
	1:00 pm	Quilting
Thursday 2/26	7:00 am	Next Man Bible Study
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study
	6:45 pm	Administration Commission (Zoom)
Sunday 3/1	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 | 574-315-2579

*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 | 309-830-6827