



# Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

**March 1, 2026**

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

# Order of Worship

## Gather

Welcome and Congregational Life

Prelude

Call to Worship

Songs of Praise      *All Creatures, Worship God Most High*      VT\* 81  
   *In the Quiet Curve of Evening*      VT 587

Gathering Prayer

## Listen

Children's Time      *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me, vs. 1*      VT 306

Scripture      John 13:1-17

Sermon      *Mature Poets*

## Respond

Response in Song      *How Can I Say*      VT 388

Response in Word

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Stewardship Affirmation

## Send

Closing Hymn      *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*      VT 778

Benediction

Final Response      *There's A Wild Hope in the Wind*      VT 828

*\*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 & Planner:** Holly Zehr

**Prelude & Accompaniment:** Lydia Hedberg

**Song Leader:** Cindy Ropp

**Children's Time:** Shelly King

**Sermon:** Kevin Chupp

**Scripture Reader:** Holly Zehr

**Pastoral Prayer:** Kevin Chupp

**Tech:** Wyatt Fisher

## 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:

- **Changes to PreK-5th Grade Sunday School:** Beginning today, March 1, our PreK-1 and 2-5th grade classes will be combined into a single class. Our main reason for choosing to combine classes is to ensure that our children have a reliable opportunity for Sunday school every Sunday. Please bring your student to the PreK-1 Sunday school classroom today.
- **Adult CE:** A new Christian Education quarter begins on Sunday, March 8. The adult class will be using a Salt and Light study, "Sin, Salvation and New Life" by Leonard Beechy, a thought-provoking writer. Study books can be picked up on the shelves at the west end of the classroom. Please note: There will be no class held today, March 1.
- **Office & Building Closed:** The church office/building will be closed beginning at noon next Tuesday, March 3rd. Thank you for your understanding!
- **Presentation by Meghan:** On Sunday, March 8 at 5:00 pm at the MRC Community Building, come learn about the fight to save Oak Flat, the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, and fumbling toward an uncolonized God as a Mennonite!
- **CDC Annual Meeting:** In just a few months, the 2026 Central District Conference annual meeting will meet June 25-27, 2026 in Harrisonburg, Virginia at Eastern Mennonite University. The theme of *Rise Up! Take Courage!* We are looking for delegates to represent MCN at this meeting. Please let Lydia or Lauren know if you are interested by March 15.
- **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! The sign-ups are out on the north wall of the atrium for you to find a time and place to volunteer that works for you. Information is available there as well as you think about Friday night Trivia teams! Save the date for Friday, March 20th from 8:30 am to 11:30 am to assemble strawberry pies!
- **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.
- **Cultivating Generous Congregations:** This week, the four of us attended another session of the "Cultivating Generous Congregations" seminar sponsored by Everence. The focus was on clarifying our mission so that we can put generosity into practice. In clarifying our mission, we can use The Hedgehog Concept. Read the rest of the note in the Midweek.

### This Week:

Sunday 3/1	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
Tuesday 3/3	12:00 pm	Church Office/Building Closed
	3:00 pm	Pastoral Team (Zoom)
Wednesday 3/4	9:30 am	Wednesday Morning Book Group
	1:00 pm	Quilting
Thursday 3/5	7:00 am	Next Man Bible Study
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study
Sunday 3/8	5:00 pm	Presentation by Meghan
	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

**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