



Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

March 8, 2026

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

Order of Worship

Gather

Welcome and Congregational Life

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymns	<i>Jesus Calls Us</i>	VT* 30
	<i>Lord, I am Fondly, Earnestly Longing</i>	VT 555

Gathering Prayer

Listen

Children's Time	<i>I Want Jesus to Walk with Me, vs. 1</i>	VT 306
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Hymn	<i>Seeking Warmth from Charcoal Blazing, vs. 1</i>	VT 344
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Scripture	John 18:12-27
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Sermon	<i>Cassandra and the Rooster</i>
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Respond

Silent Reflection

Confession and Assurance of Grace

Hymn	<i>Seeking Warmth from Charcoal Blazing, vs. 1-3</i>	VT 344
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Offering Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Send

Sending Song	<i>As a Deer in Want of Water</i>	VT 552
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Benediction

Final Response	<i>Don't Be Afraid</i>	VT 596
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**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: Melika Hershberger

Sermon: Kevin Chupp

Prelude & Accompaniment: Bill West

Scripture Reader: Rita Munkakusi

Song Leader: Wayne Hochstetler

Pastoral Prayer: Kevin Chupp

Children's Time: Joe Culpepper

Tech: Glenn Wilson

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:

- **Adult CE:** A new Christian Education quarter begins today, 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.
- **POSTPONED Presentation by Meghan Reha:** This presentation has been postponed due to Meghan's health. A rescheduled date TBD.
- **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 on March 20 & 21:** Where is your favorite place to volunteer at the sale? It's a great time to invite friends, family, and coworkers to visit the sale. Brochures are now available as well as posters and yard signs to help get the word out. Have you signed up for trivia night yet? This year you don't need a team, you can be added to one by the organizers or buy the whole table for yourself! Please consider signing up on the forms by the north wall of the atrium for a time and place to volunteer that works for you. There is still time to donate auction items and grab some supplies for baked goods!
- **Bel Canto Choir:** We are delighted the Hesston College (KS) Bel Canto choir will lead our worship service on Sunday, March 22. We will share lunch with them (provided by the Fellowship Committee) before they leave to return to Hesston yet that day. WHAT WE NEED: Overnight hosts for the 22 students and 2 faculty on Saturday night, March 21. They will arrive at the church at 9pm and will need a place to rest their heads and eat breakfast before returning to MCN by 8:45am Sunday. If you'd like to host, please contact Jill with how many you can accommodate. If you have room for only one, that works too! They ask that each faculty member not be housed with students. Thank you for offering hospitality to these folks as they offer their gifts to us!
- **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.

This Week:

Sunday 3/8	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
Tuesday 3/10	3:00 pm	Pastoral Team (Zoom)
Wednesday 3/11	9:30 am	Wednesday Morning Book Group
	1:00 pm	Quilting
	7:00 pm	Fellowship Committee (Zoom)
Thursday 3/12	7:00 am	Next Man Bible Study
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study
	6:45 pm	Administration Commission (Zoom)
Sunday 3/15	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 st Grades	Room 9/12
2 nd – 5 th 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