

# NORTH OAK CHRISTIAN CHURCH-DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

February 12th, 2023 - The Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany  
Worship Leader-Linda Daniels, Elder Linda Daniels, Elder Ramie Beck  
Music- Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

+++++

## CELEBRATION OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude Regina Kellogg

Invocation Linda Daniels

Call to Worship Linda Daniels

Leader: Called to be branches in Christ's body,

**People: We yearn to be connected to the vine.**

L: Called to be mustard bushes offering shade to God's creatures,

**P: We search for places to plant the seeds of faith.**

L: Called to be yeast, hidden in the loaf, causing change all around

**P: We search for ways to rise in opposition to this world's ideals**

L: Called to be growing with God in the midst of this world's painful questions,

**P: We seek God's nurturing presence to love and to guide us.**

(<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>)

Opening Hymn Congregation

**"All Creatures of Our God and King" pg 22 vs1,2,4**

**All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing  
alleluia, alleluia!**

**O burning sun with golden beam,  
O silver moon with softer gleam:  
O praise God, O praise God,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**O rushing wind with voice so strong,  
you clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
O praise God, alleluia!**

**O rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
you lights of evening find a voice:  
O praise God, O praise God,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**And all forgiven tender hearts,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
sing praises, alleluia!  
You who long pain and sorrow bear,**

praise God, who knows your ev'ry care.  
O praise God, O praise God,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Prayers of the People**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

(Please make your requests & praises known by sharing aloud or emailing [pastor@nocckc.org](mailto:pastor@nocckc.org))

**Sermon Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:24-35**

**Linda Daniels**

**(Please stand, in body or spirit as able, for the reading of the Gospel)**

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."'

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: 'I will open my mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world.'

**Message**

**"It Starts Small"**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Special Music**

**CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

**Welcome to the Table/The Words of Institution**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Communion Hymn:**

**Congregation**

**"Let Us Break Bread Together" pg425**

Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees)

Let us break bread together on our knees. (on our knees)

When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees)

Let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees)

When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees)

Let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees)

When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

**Communion Prayer**

**Elder Linda Daniels**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Congregation**

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.*

**Partaking of Communion**

Music During Communion

Regina Kellogg

**CELEBRATION OF THE PEOPLE'S RESPONSE**

**Offering Moment**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Closing Hymn**

**Congregation**

**"I've Got Peace Like a River" pg530  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.**

**I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.**

**I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.**

**Benediction**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Postlude**

**Regina Kellogg**

*As you depart you may place your tithes and offerings in the plate at the back of the sanctuary. Thank You helping equip North Oak Christian Church to love others as Christ first loved us.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Music used with permission through our CCLI Copyright License Number 21523835 and Streaming License Number 21523842.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**TO OUR GUESTS---WELCOME!**

**SHAPED BY GOD'S WORD AND GRACED AT CHRIST'S TABLE**

**WE WALK HUMBLY, LOVE DEEPLY, LIVE SIMPLY, AND SERVE JOYFULLY**

**More information about NOCC and the Disciples of Christ is available via Facebook & these websites:**

**[www.nocckc.org](http://www.nocckc.org) [www.kcdisciples.org](http://www.kcdisciples.org) [www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org)**

**Contact Pastor Mark Willis at 816-616-9746 [pastor@nocckc.org](mailto:pastor@nocckc.org)**

## **Our Life Together**

### **Social Justice Seekers – More2 Meeting**

More2, a Kansas City organization that works for social justice, is having an open, informational meeting **Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00PM** to learn more about their initiatives and how churches and individuals can participate. The meeting is at Overland Park Christian Church, 7600 W 75th St, Overland Park, KS 66204. ALL are welcome to attend.

### **Backpack Ministry Updates**

We need donations to keep the Backpack Ministry going. Our resources will be depleted this month. If you wish to help support this vital ministry, write "Backpacks" in the memo line of your check or on the envelope with your donation. Thank you for your continued support. Currently at Bell Prairie, we provide a meal each week for 42 children and 23 adults. At Gateway 6th Grade Center, we are helping 12 families by stocking a supervised pantry. Friends and members of NOCC continue to support this vital ministry for our neighbors through prayer, time, and finances. We are blessed. If you would like to help with this ministry, contact Terry Becker at [tennisterry40love@gmail.com](mailto:tennisterry40love@gmail.com)

### **Family Promise**

If you're interested in volunteering and/or assisting with meal preparation for lunch, laundry, sorting clothing, or serving the meal, contact Amy Hearst (773-882-2094) or email ([amyhearst@yahoo.com](mailto:amyhearst@yahoo.com)) for more information and to confirm your availability. The center location is: 4406 NE 45 Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64117.

Other ways to help include: Clothing donations (Men and Women) for warm winter seasonal wear, 2) Pantry items that are "easy to eat on the run", and/or 3) a financial donation to NOCC in support of the Family Promise ministry and our homeless community. Designate in the check memo line: Family Promise.

### **Cherith Brook**

Cherith Brook is pleased to announce that they have reached their goal for the Building Repair Fund. The campaign started in October 2022, to raise funds to make required safety repairs to the front of their 120-year-old building. Several repairs and upgrades are needed and planned now. They will continue the weekly services to their guests delivered by only volunteers.

NOCC's partnership is a wonderful blessing to the dozens of people in need of personal hygiene supplies, new or gently use clothing, tennis shoes and boots. The specific items needed are in the NOCC newsletter.

Other information is on the bulletin board at our church. Volunteers can call CB to schedule a time to volunteer at 816-241-8047. Information also available from Bob Lewis or Dale Herrick @Dale Herrick or 816-215-4369.

### **Jubilation Ringers**

The Jubilation Ringers handbell choir meet to practice on Sundays after church for an hour. Come learn how to ring! If you can count to 4, hold two bells, and find your notes on the music, then you are a good candidate for our musical team! For questions, please feel free to reach out to the current ringers or email or call Stacey at: 816-519-5132 or [confetti817@gmail.com](mailto:confetti817@gmail.com)

### **Sojourners Adult Sunday School Class**

Sojourners Adult Class for the next 8 weeks will be focused on "The Bible: A Biography" by Karen Armstrong and My personal understanding and use of The Bible. All are welcome.

### **Men's Bible Study**

The Men's Bible Study meets on Tuesday mornings at 9:45. We discuss scripture and relevant topics together via Zoom. We are currently reading and discussing the Narrative Lectionary ([narrative\\_lectionary\\_matthew\\_2022-23.pdf \(workingpreacher.org\)](#) which Pastor Mark will be using to shape worship each week. All men are welcome. Email David Nelson at [humanagenda@gmail.com](mailto:humanagenda@gmail.com) for the Zoom link and join in!

### **Daytime Women's Bible Study**

The women's daytime Bible study group is studying the book "Forgiving What You Can't Forget" by Lysa Terkeurst. The study meets at the Fillingham's home on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 12:30. Everyone is invited! If you are interested in joining this caring group, you can contact Carolyn Fillingham at [ccfillingham@gmail.com](mailto:ccfillingham@gmail.com) or 816-289-7858.

### **Evening Women's Bible Study**

The women's evening Bible study group **will resume** twice-monthly meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of the month **beginning April 4**. The group is studying "Following The Call, Living the Sermon on the Mount". All are welcome. For more info, contact Jayne Bruno at [jaynesuebruno@gmail.com](mailto:jaynesuebruno@gmail.com)