

NORTH OAK CHRISTIAN CHURCH-DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

December 10, 2023 – Second Sunday of Advent

Worship Leader- Susan Arnot, Elder- Susan Arnot, Elder- Jayne Bruno,

Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

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THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Prelude

Regina Kellogg

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Linda Daniels and Cindy Rose

Opening Songs

Congregation

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” TFWS #2088 (All)

“He Came Down” TFWS #2085 (All)

“Come, Let Us With Our Lord Arise” TFWS #2084 (All)

Children’s Church is provided for all children. Children may leave worship now and go to Early Childhood Education (first door on left down hall)

Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark Willis

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

Prayer Response

Congregation

“All I Need is You” TFWS #2080 v 1

Sermon Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Susan Arnot

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her

that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together,

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

A voice says, ‘Cry out!’ And I said, ‘What shall I cry?’

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;

surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!'
See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Message "Do You See What I See?" **Rev. Mark Willis**

Special Music "Celtic Noel" **NOCC Choir**

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**
"Come, Share the Lord" TFWS #2269 (All)

Communion Prayer **Elder-Susan Arnot**

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 **Congregation**
Elders will pass the offering plates. Place your tithe and/or offering in the plate or you can give online through nocckc.org.

Offering Prayer **Rev. Mark Willis**

Closing Hymn **Congregation**
"The King of Glory Comes" TFWS #2091 (All)

Benediction **Rev. Mark Willis**

Postlude **Regina Kellogg**

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 www.kcdisciples.org www.disciples.org
Contact Pastor Mark Willis at 816-616-9746 pastor@nocckc.org

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Our Life Together

Christmas Cantata

NOCC and North KC Christian Church are partnering for the Advent season again in a Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 17 during morning worship at 10:15 a.m. at NOCC. All are welcome and invited. Make plans to come celebrate the Christmas season with brothers and sisters in Christ!

Advent Devotions Available

Advent Devotions are available from the Society of St. Andrew. You can follow this link for daily Advent devotions:

https://endhunger.org/docs_church/advent/Advent-Booklet.pdf

We also have physical copies available in the sanctuary.

Social Justice Seekers

With the hectic holiday season fast approaching, North Oak's Social Justice Seekers will combine our November and December meetings into a single session on Thursday, December 14 at 6:30pm. We will resume our regular 4th Thursday schedule on January 25. All are invited to join us via Zoom using the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6361322700pwd=dmZ5ZGRic2dla3VHWXVSOEg2V1NqZz09>.

Backpack Ministry Updates

Aldi Gift Cards - For the Christmas break holidays we will again need 4 cards at \$25.00 each and 8 cards at \$30.00 each. Please write "Aldi gift card/Backpack Ministry" in the memo portion of your check.

Christmas Adoptions - NOCC will adopt 10 children from Belle Prairie Elementary school and provide 5 gifts for each child. The Christmas tree in the sanctuary has information on what the children want for Christmas.

Wrapped packages with the identification tag taped to the bottom of each gift should be returned to the church on Sunday, December 17. The gifts will be delivered on Monday, December 18.

Thank you to Jeannie Hawley and Marcia Malotte, NOCC's two elves heading up the Christmas adoptions!

Questions? Contact Jeannie at echoboy57@gmail.com or call 816-500-9316 or Marcia at marciasnaturalsoaps@gmail.com or call 816-718-2110.

Family Promise

Homelessness though becomes more difficult with colder weather and rainy days. Donations of winter coats, warm hats and gloves, socks, and blankets are vital for enduring the frigid temperatures. Family Promise (located at 4406 NE 45 Terrace, Kansas City, MO, 64117), provides temporary shelter, a hot meal, a hot shower, clothing, hygiene supplies and laundry services for transient and unhoused people in KC. The next NOCC volunteer day is Thursday, December 14. Contact Debbie Herrick (816.510.6859) or email (thompso5000@att.net) for info about meal preparation and volunteering on any Thursday! Check out

the NOCC website for more information about this ministry: <https://nocckc.org/community-outreach-ministries/>

Cherith Brook

Cherith Brook's Honey Jars are HERE! This honey was harvested at Cherith Brook by volunteers and is for sale after worship. Talk to Dale Herrick to get the good stuff. Donations for the honey are used to help provide guests' showers, a hot meal, laundry services and replacement clothing. Many unhoused guests find this program a safe harbor to rest and restore their bodies and spirits. To volunteer, contact Dale Herrick for more information at drherrick03@gmail.com

Sojourners Adult Sunday School Class

To "sojourn" is to "stay someplace for a short time." We invite you to bring your favorite cup of tea or coffee and join us for shared ideas and conversation. Bring an article, poem or other interesting writing to share and discuss. This class meets from 9:00-10:00 a.m. every Sunday and is open to all.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 9:45 a.m. We discuss scripture and relevant topics together via Zoom. We are currently reading and discussing the Narrative Lectionary's 2023-24 Readings for Year 2 (https://www.workingpreacher.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/WP-Narrative-Lectionary-2023-24-Mark_rev.pdf) that Pastor Mark will be using to shape worship each week. All those who identify as male are welcome. Email David Nelson at humanagenda@gmail.com for the Zoom link and join in!

Evening Women's Bible Study

The women's evening Bible study group meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 6:45-8 p.m. The group meets at the home of Terry Becker, 9430 N Bradford Ave, Kansas City, MO 64154