

# NORTH OAK CHRISTIAN CHURCH-DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

January 7, 2024 – Baptism of the Lord

Worship Leader- Terry Becker, Elder- Amy Hearst, Elder- Jayne Bruno,

Music- Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

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## WORSHIP THE LORD

**Prelude**

Regina Kellogg

**Invocation**

Terry Becker

**Call to Worship**

Terry Becker

One: Arise! Shine!

**Many: God's light has come to reveal The Way in this New Year.**

One: Arise! Shine!

**Many: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

One: Arise! Shine!

**Many: God's light penetrates the darkness that covers the world.**

One: Arise! Shine!

**Many: Nations shall come to God's light and kings to the brightness of God's dawn.**

One: Arise! Shine!

**Many: For the Glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

**Opening Songs**

Congregation

**“O, How I Love Jesus” Chalice Hymnal #99 (All)**

There is a name I love to hear,  
I love to speak its worth;  
it sounds like music in my ear,  
the sweetest name on earth.

O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
because he first loved me!

It tells me of a Savior's love,  
who died to set me free;  
it tells me of his precious blood,  
the sinner's perfect plea.

O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
because he first loved me!

It tells of one whose loving heart

can feel my deepest woe,  
who in my sorrow bears a part  
that none can bear below.

O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
O, how I love Jesus,  
because he first loved me!

**“Fairest Lord Jesus” Chalice Hymnal #97 (All)**

Fairest Lord Jesus,  
ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God to earth come down;  
thee will I cherish,  
thee will I honor,  
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows,  
fairer still the woodlands,  
robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine,  
fairer still the moonlight,  
and all the twinkling, starry hosts:  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer,  
than all the angels heaven can boast

**“Jesu, Jesu” Chalice Hymnal #600 (All)**

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them.  
Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.

Neighbors are rich and poor,  
varied in color and race,  
neighbors are near and far away.

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.

These are the ones we should serve,  
these are the ones we should love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you.

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.

Loving puts us on our knees,  
Serving as though we are slaves,  
this is the way we should live with you.

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.

Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
silently washing their feet,  
this is the way we should live with you.

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.

*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**

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

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Prayer Response**

**Congregation**

**“Holy, Holy, Holy” Chalice Hymnal #111**

Holy, holy, holy! My heart, my heart adores you!

My heart knows how to say to you; Holy are you, Lord!

**Sermon Scripture Reading: Mark 2:1-22**

**Terry Becker**

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven.’ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ‘Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?’ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit

that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, ‘Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, “Your sins are forgiven”, or to say, “Stand up and take your mat and walk”? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’—he said to the paralytic— ‘I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.’ And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this!’

Jesus went out again beside the lake; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, ‘Follow me.’ And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in Levi’s house, many tax-collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax-collectors, they said to his disciples, ‘Why does he eat with tax-collectors and sinners?’ When Jesus heard this, he said to them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.’

**Message**

**“How Far Will Your Faith Go?”**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Special Music**

**Regina Kellogg**

#### ***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**

**“In Remembrance of Me” Chalice Hymnal #403 (All)**

**In remembrance of Me, eat this bread  
In remembrance of Me, drink this wine  
In remembrance of Me, pray for the time  
When God's own will is done**

**In remembrance of me, heal the sick  
In remembrance of me, feed the poor  
In remembrance of me, open the door  
And let your neighbor in, let them in**

**Take eat and be comforted  
Drink and remember too  
That this is my body and precious blood  
Shed for you, shed for you**

**In remembrance of me, search for truth  
In remembrance of me, always love**

**In remembrance of me, don't look above  
But in your heart, look for God.  
Do this in remembrance of Me**

**Communion Prayer**

**Elder-Amy Hearst**

**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

Nanette Kraus

**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](http://nocckc.org).

**Offering Prayer**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Closing Hymn**

**Congregation**

**"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" Chalice Hymnal #585 (All)**

**What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,  
oh, what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer.**

**Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;  
take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
take it to the Lord in prayer!**

**Are we weak and heavy laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge,**

take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.

Benediction

Rev. Mark Willis

Postlude

Regina Kellogg

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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

### Preschool Reading Time

Many of you have seen the pictures and stories of Pastor Mark reading to the Preschool children on Wednesdays. It is quite literally the best part of his week. Cindy O'Hara has set up an additional reading time with the Preschool for YOU to come read a book or two on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. The sign-up sheet is on the office window. Sign up for a Monday and come see what the excitement is all about!

### Social Justice Seekers

On behalf of the Lead Team of NOCC Social Justice Seekers, we wish you the very best in 2024. May our work together become part of "a movement toward wholeness in a fragmented world." The SJS will not meet for the monthly Zoom meeting in January. SJS leadership will be using this time for planning and preparation. Watch for more information about when the next meeting will occur. In case you missed it, here is the new link to the Zoom meeting room for Social Justice Seekers: Meetings are now accessed at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6361322700?pwd=dmZ5ZGRic2dla3VHWXVSOEg2V1NqZz09&omn=87071570030> and all are welcome.

### Backpack Ministry Updates

A big thank you to the Lewis team of Ellen and Bob for packing and delivering food to Bell Prairie for the month of December! All gifts for 10 Bell Prairie children were delivered, along with Aldi gift cards for 12 families. Again, thank you to Marcia Malotte for her leadership and organization for the 10 adoptions, and to Jeannie Hawley for helping. As of December 28, the balance in the Backpack Ministry account is \$2977.21.

### 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. Contact Debbie Herrick (816.510.6859) or email (thomsod5000@att.net) for info about meal preparation and volunteering on any Thursday!

#### **Cherith Brook**

Cherith Brook provides guests' showers, a hot meal, laundry services and replacement clothing to transient, un-housed people in Kansas City. Many unhoused guests find this program a safe harbor to rest and restore their bodies and spirits. NOCC provides donations of clothing and other items, as well as volunteering. To help, 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](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!