

NORTH OAK CHRISTIAN CHURCH-DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

March 3, 2024 – Third Sunday of Lent

Worship Leader- Seth Bass, Elder- Mel Adams, Elder- Susan Arnot,
Music- Nanette Krause, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

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GATHER IN WORSHIP

Prelude

Nanette Krause

Lenten Candle Liturgy

Seth Bass

Call to Worship

Seth Bass

One: The season of Lent can be barren and lonely,

Many: But God goes with us through the wild wilderness.

One: Our lives are lived in seasons of transitions and transformations.

Many: Lent is a time to ponder God's providence and persistence.

One: Together, we seek fruitfulness, for it has been promised to us;

Many: The barrenness of Lent will give way to the fruitfulness of Easter.

One: In this season of penitence and pondering,

Many: Let us gather before God.

One: We come, as church, to wait for the Lord with strength and courage.

Many: Come, let us worship God!

Opening Songs

Congregation

“Holy, Holy, Holy” Chalice Hymnal #4

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:

holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee;
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
God ever-living, through eternity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see;
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

“How Blest Are They Who Trust in Christ” Chalice Hymnal #646

How blest are they who trust in Christ
when we and those we love must part:
we yield them up, for go they must,
but do not lose them from our heart.

In ripened age, their harvest reaped,
or gone from us in youth or prime,
in Christ they have eternal life,
released from all the bonds of time.

In Christ, who tasted death for us,
we rise above our natural grief,
and witness to a stricken world
the strength and splendor of belief.

“Abide with Me” Chalice Hymnal #636 vs1,2,3

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens, God, with me abide:
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

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)

Rev. Mark Willis

Prayer Response

“Sing Hallelujah” Chalice Hymnal #32

Sing hallelujah to the Lord.
Sing hallelujah to the Lord.
Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah.
Sing hallelujah to the Lord.

Congregation

Sermon Scripture Reading: Mark 12:1-17

Seth Bass

Then he began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watch-tower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But those tenants said to one another, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours." So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this scripture:

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"?"

When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said. And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality, but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?" But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why are you putting me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it." And they brought one. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Jesus said to them, "Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." And they were utterly amazed at him.

Message

"You Can Grow Bananas in Missouri"

Rev. Mark Willis

Special Music

"Cry No More"

Ramie Beck

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

"Take Our Bread" Chalice Hymnal #413

**Take our bread,
We ask You, take our hearts,
We love You, take our lives,
Oh Father, we are Yours,
We are Yours.**

**Yours as we stand at the table you set,
Yours as we eat the bread our hearts can't forget.**

We are the sign of Your life with us yet,
We are Yours,
We are Yours.

Take our bread,
We ask You, take our hearts,
We love You, take our lives,
Oh Father, we are Yours,
We are Yours.

Your holy people standing washed in Your blood,
Spirit filled, yet hungry, we await Your food.
We are poor, but we've brought ourselves the best that we could;
We are Yours,
We are Yours.

Take our bread,
We ask You, take our hearts,
We love You, take our lives,
Oh Father, we are Yours,
We are Yours.

Communion Prayer

Elder-Mel Adams

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 Krause

CELEBRATION OF THE PEOPLE'S RESPONSE

Offering Moment

Spotlight on Cherith Brook

Cherith Trustees

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 Song

"Open My Eyes" Chalice Hymnal #586

Congregation

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;

place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Benediction

Rev. Mark Willis

Postlude

Nanette Krause

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

Lenten Soup Suppers

Thursday Soup Suppers - 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays during Lent, February 15 through March 21 -

Thursday night soup suppers are back! Bring a soup to share and join in this time of devotion, fellowship, and warm eats. We will gather in the fellowship room each Thursday, take a moment for devotion and prayer, and then sit together and sup. All are invited.

Easter Egg Hunts

We need Easter Eggs! Bring plastic eggs with candy inside Sunday, March 10 and Sunday, March 18 OR take some of our eggs and fill them and bring them back. We will have an Easter Egg Hunt for our preschool on Friday, March 22. We will also have eggs hidden on Easter, March 31 for any children in worship that day to hunt when worship is over. We estimate we need 300 candy-filled eggs. Talk to Mark if you have questions.

Easter Lilies

You can order an Easter Lily for Easter morning. The cost is \$13 per lily. Make your donation to NOCC and put "Easter Lily" on the memo line or envelope. Please let Pastor Mark know if it is in honor of or in memory of a loved one(s). **ALL ORDERS NEED TO BE IN BY SUNDAY. MARCH 10.**

Prayer Requests

Jayne Bruno is coordinating and disseminating prayer requests via email. If you would like to make a prayer request, send it to her at prayers@nocckc.org and it will then go out to the congregation (unless you ask for privacy).

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. The church 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!

Backpack Ministry Updates

Appreciation in February goes to the Backpack Ministry team of Corky Sandusky and Linda Daniels, packers, and Linda Daniels, who also delivered the food to Bell Prairie!

For Spring Break, as is the custom at NOCC, we will purchase Aldi gift cards totaling \$255.00 for the Bell Prairie families. If you would like to donate money toward the gift cards, please write checks to NOCC and in the memo, write "Backpack Ministry, Gift Cards". As of February 9, the balance in the Backpack Ministry account is \$2496.42; this amount does not reflect outstanding grocery bills.

Family Promise

Homelessness 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 (thompso5000@att.net) for info about meal preparation, collecting and delivering clothing/food donations and volunteering on any Thursday! Choose a day in the center or take a van ride to multiple locations to serve meals! Pick which Thursday to help!

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) 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!