

NORTH OAK CHRISTIAN CHURCH-DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

*In the grace of God, we embrace unity, we celebrate diversity
and demonstrate Christ's love as an open and affirming faith community.*

December 8, 2024 – Second Sunday of Advent

Worship Leader-David Nelson, Elder-Mel Adams, Elder-Ellen Lewis,

Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

Season of Advent

Prelude

Regina Kellogg

Welcome

Rev. Mark Willis

Advent Candlelight Carol (*Pat-a-pan*)

Congregation

Advent candle burning bright through the night,
Shine your light of hope, telling people everywhere
Soon the Savior comes, soon He will be here!
People gather and prepare in the night with the light of peace.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

**Lee-Ann and Jerry Semsch
and Mia Semsch**

Call to Worship

David Nelson

One: We dream God's dream, of a world at peace where enemies are reconciled, and children play in safety;

Many: Where the poor and powerless find justice.

One: We remember God's promise of a Ruler of Peace, filled with the Spirit of God, of wisdom and understanding,

Many: Of counsel and might, of justice and faithfulness.

One: We light the Advent candle, and we pray:

Many: Come Lord Jesus! Open our lives to the Peace which you bring; let us turn to you, and get ready! Amen.

Invocation

David Nelson

Songs of Praise

Congregation

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

"We Will Glorify the King of Kings" TFWS #2087 (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).

First Scripture Reading: Luke 1:46-55

David Nelson

And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Songs of Adoration

Congregation

“The King of Glory Comes” TFWS #2091 (All)

“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice” TFWS #2089 (All)

Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark Willis

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

People’s Response

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

Congregation

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

Sermon Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38

David Nelson

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Message

“Advent: Call and Response”

Rev. Mark Willis

Special Music

“The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

Pop-Up 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 Song **Congregation**
“Come to the Table” TFWS #2264 (All)

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 Regina Kellogg

CELEBRATION OF THE PEOPLE’S RESPONSE

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

Offering Prayer **Rev. Mark Willis**

Closing Song **Congregation**
“The Family Prayer Song” TFWS #2188(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 "Adopt-A-Family"

We have seven Bell Prairie Elementary School children that need presents for Christmas. Pick a "paper Christmas tree" off of the tree in the sanctuary and purchase the gift. Bring it **WRAPPED WITH THE PAPER TREE TAPED TO THE BOTTOM OF THE PACKAGE**. All packages need to be returned to church by Sunday December 15. Thank you to Santa's helpers, Marcia Malotte and Jan Brooks, for organizing this process and delivering the presents! HO-HO-HO!

NOCC 50th Anniversary Party Planning

Planning is starting now in anticipation of NOCC's landmark 50th Anniversary on June 8, 2025! If you are interested in participating in the planning and execution of this momentous occasion, please contact Corrie Tice at corriegravestice@gmail.com.

NOCC Choir!

Come make a joyful noise! The choir rehearses on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. If you enjoy good music during worship, if you want to bellow out praise to God, or even if you are a just a virtuoso in the shower each morning, there is place in the choir for you. The only requirement for singing in the choir is a desire to praise God and a willingness to make a joyful noise. Questions? Email Regina at reginakaye1971@gmail.com

Prayer Requests

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

Monthly Men's Breakfast at Kate's Kitchen

On the first Saturday of every month, all those who identify as male, are invited to a men's breakfast at Kate's Kitchen, 8002 North Oak Trafficway, at 7:45 a.m. This gathering is for fellowship and connection as we begin our Saturday together with some good food and good friends.

Backpack Ministry Updates

Nine Bell Prairie Elementary School families received gift cards and a meal for the Thanksgiving holiday! A big thank you to Ellen and Bob Lewis for packing and delivering food during November. Another note of thanks goes to our community partner, Culver's, who donated gift cards for meals to each family member. We are still needing donations for gift cards for our families at Christmas. If you would like to volunteer for the Backpack Ministry, times are flexible and can meet your schedule. Contact Terry Becker for questions and more information: tennisterry40love@gmail.com

Family Promise

Give the gift of time by volunteering to serve at Family Promise. Family Promise of the Northland, located at 4406 NE 45th Terrace, Kansas City, MO, 64117, provides temporary shelter and services for transient and unhoused people in the Northland and Kansas City area. The ability to provide guests with basic human needs such as food and clothing is vital for their survival. Whether it's kitchen duties, serving meals, assisting in clothes donations, sorting food, laundry and cleaning, the promise to you is this: your gift of time and loving aid will have a significant impact on the lives of others. The Center is open on Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Contact Debbie Herrick (816.510.6859) or email (thompsod5000@att.net) for more information.

Cherith Brook

Cherith Brook provides its guests with 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. NOCC

provides donations of clothing and other items, as well as volunteering. Items in need now: sleeping bags, summer sausages, bike locks, nice gloves, hand warmers, winter coats, winter socks, tarps, bike toolkits, and men's pants (especially size 30-34). Items donated before December 10th will be given out as Christmas gifts to Cherith guests. To help, contact Dale Herrick for more information at drherrick03@gmail.com

Sojourners Adult Sunday School Class

To “sojourn” is to stay someplace a short time. We meet every Sunday from 9-10 a.m. to have moral and spiritual discourse. We invite you to bring your favorite cup of tea or coffee and join us for shared ideas and conversation. At North Oak Christian Church we are welcoming to all members of the human family and celebrate the delightful diversity of God’s creation. You are invited to join in and to suggest a current topic or issue for discussion.

Women’s Daytime Bible Study

The Daytime Women’s Bible Study group is on hiatus until April. We will meet from 2:00-3:30 on the first Tuesdays, April-December 2025, at Ann Nelson’s home. If you are interested in joining, please contact Jayne Bruno (jaynesuebruno@gmail.com) now to learn about our study, “Awakened: A 52-Week Progressive Christian Devotional” by Caleb J. Lines (Chalice Press). See you in April!

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 following the Narrative Lectionary which can be found at: <https://www.workingpreacher.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/WP-Narrative-Lectionary-2024-25-Luke.pdf>. All those who identify as male are welcome. Email David Nelson at humanagenda@gmail.com for the Zoom link and join in!