

# 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.*

March 30, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Worship Leader-Wes Tyree, Elder-Ellen Lewis, Elder-Susan Arnot,

Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

## The Journey of Lent

**Prelude**

**Regina Kellogg**

**Invocation**

**Wes Tyree**

**Call to Worship**

**Wes Tyree**

One: Happy are those who consider the poor; the Lord delivers them in the day of trouble.

**Many: The Lord protects them and keeps them alive; they are called happy in the land.**

One: You do not give them up to the will of their enemies, O Lord.

**Many: The Lord sustains them on their sickbed; in their illness you heal all their infirmities.**

One: As for me, I said, "O Lord, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against you."

**Many: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen.**

*(Based on Psalm 41)*

**Songs of Praise**

**Congregation**

**"Honor and Praise" TFWS #2018 (All)**

**"He is Exalted" TFWS #2070 (All)**

**First Scripture Reading: Psalm 41:1-3**

**Wes Tyree**

Happy are those who consider the poor; the Lord delivers them in the day of trouble.

The Lord protects them and keeps them alive; they are called happy in the land.

You do not give them up to the will of their enemies.

The Lord sustains them on their sickbed; in their illness you heal all their infirmities.

**Songs of Adoration**

**Congregation**

**"Christ Beside Me" TFWS #2166 (All)**

**"Stay with Us" TFWS #2199 (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](mailto:pastor@nocckc.org))*

**People's Response**

**Congregation**

**"O Lord, Hear My Prayer" TFWS #2200**

**Scripture Reading: Luke 16:19-31**

**Wes Tyree**

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

**Message**

**"Consider the Poor"**

**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 Song**

**"Broken for Me" TFWS #2263 (All)**

**Congregation**

**Communion Prayer**

**Elder- Ellen Lewis**

**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**

<b>Mission Moment</b>	<b>Cherith Brook: Who are the rich?</b>	<b>Mark Willis</b>
<b>Offering</b>		<b>Congregation</b>
Elders will pass the offering plates. Place your tithe or offering in the plate, or you can give online through nocckc.org.		
<b>Offering Prayer</b>		<b>Rev. Mark Willis</b>
<b>Closing Song</b>		<b>Congregation</b>
<b>“Change My Heart, O God” TFWS #2152 (All)</b>		
<b>Benediction</b>		<b>Rev. Mark Willis</b>
<b>Postlude</b>		<b>Regina Kellogg</b>

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**TO OUR GUESTS---WELCOME!**  
**SHAPED BY GOD’S WORD AND GRACED AT CHRIST’S TABLE**  
**WE WALK HUMBL Y, 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)

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## **Our Life Together**

### **Lenten Soup Dinners**

Join in during Lent for a soup-supper-and-devotion every Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m.. All are welcome. Please bring a soup or a soup side (bread, crackers, veggies or fruit) to share. Additionally, we will have a sign-up for the devotion each week. Consider signing up to bring a good word on our journey of Lent.

### **Lenten Missional Offering**

During the season of Lent, NOCC will be taking a special offering for Cherith Brook, a missional partner and organization that assists the transient and unhoused community in Kansas City. For the next six weeks we will be collecting donations of money as well as toilet paper and hand sanitizer. **Donations are made out to NOCC, but please indicate on your donation “Cherith.”** You can bring toilet paper and hand sanitizer to worship, and we will collect on a back table.

### **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). To help, contact Dale Herrick for more information at [drherrick03@gmail.com](mailto:drherrick03@gmail.com)

### **Labyrinth Spring Clean-Up**

On Saturday, April 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon, we will gather in the Labyrinth to clean up the space and plan new plantings and improvements. If you love the Labyrinth, if you are gifted in the art of “green-thumbery”, if you like working outside on a beautiful spring day, or if you just need something to do, make plans to join us in fixing up and sprucing up this beautiful ministry resource. Bring gloves and gardening tools if you have them. I have enlisted some of our resident gardeners to join us that day to offer suggestions and guidance on preparing this space for ministry this year.

### **Mowers Needed**

We need your help! To help keep costs down, we need volunteers to sign up to mow the church lawn this summer. We have the equipment and will teach you how to use it. Sign up today to spend some beautiful summer days keeping the grass shorn. Question? See Bob Lewis for questions.

### **Movie and Munchies**

Movies and Munchies will meet on **Thursday, MAY 1**, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Email David Nelson at [humanagenda@gmail.com](mailto:humanagenda@gmail.com) to RSVP. The group gathers at 6:00 p.m. for good food; bring a dish to share and a favorite drink of your choice! Then at 7:00 p.m. we engage in a directed discussion about a movie. This month we are discussing the 1992 Steve Martin movie, “Leap of Faith.” Please watch the movie prior to attending.

### **NOCC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party Planning**

Planning has begun for NOCC’s landmark 50th Anniversary on June 8, 2025! If you are interested in helping with this momentous occasion, please contact Corrie Tice at [corriegravestice@gmail.com](mailto:corriegravestice@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](mailto:prayers@nocckc.org), and it will then go out to the congregation (unless privacy is requested).

### **Backpack Ministry Updates**

Thank you to Lee-Ann and Jerry Semsch for packing and delivering food during the month of March! Neither snow nor heat nor gloomy days kept these couriers from transporting food to the Bell Prairie Elementary School families! North Oak provided nine Aldi gift cards for the families for Spring Break, and again, Culver’s provided meal coupons for every adult and child. Generosity of the heart abounds at North Oak and in our neighborhood for people in our community!  
As of March 15, the balance in the Backpack Ministry account is \$2,858.02.

### **Family Promise**

Give the gift of time by volunteering to serve at Family Promise of the Northland, located at 4406 NE 45th Terrace, Kansas City, MO, 64117. Family Promise provides temporary shelter and services for transient and unhoused people in the Northland and Kansas City area. Whether it’s kitchen duties, serving meals, assisting in clothes donations, sorting food, laundry and cleaning, 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](mailto:thompsod5000@att.net)) for more information.

### **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. Bring your favorite cup of tea or coffee and join us for shared ideas and conversation. The first Sunday each month is led by Pastor Linda Miller and the last Sunday each month is led by Pastor Mark Willis. 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.

### **Monthly Men’s Breakfast at Kate’s Kitchen**

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

### **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](mailto:humanagenda@gmail.com) for the Zoom link and join in!