

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.*

August 24, 2025 – Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Worship Leader-Rev. Linda Miller, Elder-Tim Brooks, Elder-Linda Daniels,

Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

Gather to Worship

Prelude

Regina Kellogg

Invocation

Rev. Linda Miller

Call to Worship

Rev. Linda Miller

One: Out of the depths I cry to you, O God:

Many: We hunger for the bread of life, and we thirst for you, O God.

One: O God, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Many: We hunger for the bread of life, and we thirst for you, O God.

One: There is forgiveness with you, and I wait for you, O God. My soul waits for You.

Many: We hunger for the bread of life, and we thirst for you, O God.

One: In your words, I hope. My soul waits for you, God, more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning:

Many: We hunger for the bread of life, and we thirst for you, O God.

(www.re-worship.com/)

Songs of Praise

Congregation

“Great is the Lord” TFWS #2022 (All)

“How Majestic is Your Name” TFWS #2023 (All)

Scripture Reading: Revelation 13:1-10

Rev. Linda Miller

And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, and on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads were blasphemous names. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave it his power and his throne and great authority. One of its heads seemed to have received a death blow, but its fatal wound had been healed. In amazement the whole earth followed the beast. They worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?”

The beast was given a mouth speaking arrogant and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. It opened its mouth to speak blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. Also, it was allowed to wage war on the saints and to conquer them. It was given authority over every tribe and people and language and nation, and all the inhabitants of the earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slaughtered.

Let anyone who has an ear listen: If you are to be taken captive, into captivity you go; if you kill with the sword, with the sword you must be killed.
Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

Songs of Adoration

Congregation

“Christ Beside Me” TFWS #2166 (All)

Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark Willis

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

People’s Response

Congregation

“Bless the Lord” TFWS #2013

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God’s holy name.

Bless the Lord my soul who leads me into life.

Scripture Reading: Revelation 13:11-18

Rev. Linda Miller

Then I saw another beast that rose out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb, and it spoke like a dragon. It exercises all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and it makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in the sight of all, and by the signs that it is allowed to perform on behalf of the beast it deceives the inhabitants of earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that had been wounded by the sword and yet lived, and it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast so that the image of the beast could even speak and cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. Also, it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be given a brand on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell who does not have the brand, that is, the name of the beast or the number for its name. This calls for wisdom: let anyone with understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number for a person. Its number is six hundred sixty-six.

Message “Revelation: There are Monsters at the End of This Book!” **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

Congregation

“Come to the Table” TFWS #2264 (All)

Communion Prayer

Elder-Tim Brooks

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**

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" TFWS #2153 (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 HUMBLLY, 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

Let's Do Lunch!

After the worship service today, all are invited to gather at Hawaiian Brothers on Barry Road for lunch. They serve Hawaiian food, rice and vegetables and teriyaki chicken, with delicious Pineapple Dole Whips for dessert. Come join in for good food and good fellowship after church. See you there!

Book Discussion with Pastor Mark

Pastor Mark is offering a zoom Book Discussion this fall on Richard Rohr's "The Tears of Things: Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage." The discussions will be on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom from September 8-November 10. If you would like to participate, acquire the book and read the Introduction and first chapter prior to the first discussion. Email pastor@nocckc.org for the Zoom link.

Movie and Munchies

Movie and Munchies will be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2025, at the home of David and Ann Nelson. The movie for discussion is "White Bird" starring Helen Mirren, a story of loss and love set during the Holocaust. The movie is available on streaming services and from the library. Please watch the film PRIOR to attending. Please RSVP to humanagenda@gmail.com to participate. All are welcome! Bring an appetizer/snack food to share and whatever you wish to drink.

NOCC Choir and Jubilation Ringers

At North Oak, we love making a joyful noise unto God. Both the choir and bell choir provide beautiful, uplifting music for worship throughout the year and you can join in! NOCC Choir rehearsals will start up on Wednesday, September 3, at 6:00 p.m. The Jubilation Ringers begin bell rehearsals on Sunday, September 8, immediately following morning worship. All are welcome to come make that joyful noise!

Backpack Ministry Updates

The Backpack Ministry is gearing up for the new school year providing meals to families in need from Bell Prairie Elementary School. We provide a full meal each week to each family. If you would like to help serve by packing and delivering the meals, there is a meeting after worship today to learn more, or you can contact Terry Becker at tennisterry40love@gmail.com

Cherith Brook

Cherith Brook is a Catholic Worker House in Kansas City that helps and supports unhoused and transient peoples. They provide a place to get a good meal, do laundry, take showers, and just sit for a minute. NOCC takes donations of clothing and other supplies to support this ministry. 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. 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.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study meets monthly at Ann Nelson's home on the first Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. All those who identify as female are welcome to participate. Email Ann at annnelsonkc@gmail.com for the address.

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. All those who identify as male are welcome to participate. 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/2025/01/narrative_lectionary_summer_2025.pdf. All those who identify as male are welcome. Email Pastor Mark at markswillis@gmail.com for the link.