

# 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 31, 2025 – Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost  
Worship Leader-Ramie Beck, Elder-Linda Daniels, Elder-Tim Brooks,  
Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

## Gather to Worship

**Prelude**

**Regina Kellogg**

**Invocation**

**Ramie Beck**

**Call to Worship**

**Ramie Beck**

One: Come all who are weary

**Many: Of wealth, of poverty, of power, of struggle, of division**

One: Come all who are heavy-laden

**Many: With too much, with too little, with anxiety, with fear, with anger**

One: Come all who have hope

**Many: For liberation, for peace, for freedom, for kin-dom**

One: Hear these words:

**Many: "See, I am making all things new."**

([www.re-worship.com/revelation 21](http://www.re-worship.com/revelation%2021))

**Songs of Praise**

**Congregation**

**"Christians, We Have Met to Worship" Chalice Hymnal #277 (All)**

**"To God Be the Glory" Chalice Hymnal #72 (All)**

**Scripture Reading: Revelation 21:1-6**

**Ramie Beck**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

**Songs of Adoration**

**Congregation**

**"Blessed Assurance" Chalice Hymnal #543 (All)**

**Prayers of the People**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

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

**People's Response**

**Congregation**

**"Jesus, Remember Me" Chalice Hymnal #569**

*Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

*Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

**Scripture Reading: Revelation 22:1-6**

**Ramie Beck**

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

**Message**

**"Revelation: So? What's the Point?"**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Special Music**

**"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

**Ukelele Ensemble**

**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**

**"Let Us Break Bread Together" Chalice Hymnal #425 (All)**

**Communion Prayer**

**Elder-Linda Daniels**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Congregation**

*Our Creator, 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](http://nocckc.org).*

Offering Prayer

Rev. Mark Willis

Closing Song

Congregation

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” Chalice Hymnal #560 (All)

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](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**

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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, please contact Terry Becker at [tennisterry40love@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 [anncnelsonkc@gmail.com](mailto:anncnelsonkc@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](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](mailto:markswillis@gmail.com) for the link.