

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.*

October 12, 2025 – Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Worship Leader-Amy Hearst, Elder-Tom Hawley, Elder-Ellen Lewis,
Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

Gather to Worship

Prelude

“Sing and Rejoice”

NOCC Choir

Call to Worship: John 10:24-28

Amy Hearst

So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me, but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.”

Invocation

Amy Hearst

Songs of Praise

Congregation

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Chalice Hymnal #16 (All)

“To God Be the Glory” Chalice Hymnal #72 (All)

Scripture Reading: I Samuel 3:1-10

Amy Hearst

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” and ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

Songs of Adoration

Congregation

“Here I Am, Lord” Chalice Hymnal #452 (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****"Great is Thy Faithfulness" Chalice Hymnal #86 (Chorus Only)***Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness, morning by morning new mercies I see.**All I have needed thy hand hast provided; Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.***Scripture Reading: I Samuel 3:11-21****Amy Hearst**

Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him." As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord. The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh, for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the Lord.

Message**"Shhhhhh! LISTEN!"****Rev. Mark Willis****Special Music****"Change My Heart, O God" TFWS #2152****Congregation***Change my heart, O God, make it ever true; change my heart O God, may I be like you.**You are the Potter, I am the clay; mold me and make me, this is what I pray.**Change my heart, O God, make it ever true; change my heart O God, may I be like you.***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-Tom Hawley****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.*

Offering Prayer

Rev. Mark Willis

Closing Song

Congregation

"They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love" Chalice Hymnal #494 vs 1,2,4

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

Nominating Committee

It is that time of year again when our Board Moderator forms a committee to reach out to church participants and ask them serve in different capacities at the church, including as an Elder, as a Board Member, or as a Board Officer. If you are contacted and asked about serving next year, please take time to prayerfully consider it. We are all called to service; find where you are being called.

Pop-Up Choir!

Come join in a one-day Pop-Up Choir on Sunday, October 19. A Pop-Up Choir is a one-time choral event. Anybody and everybody are welcome to come sing in the choir for this one Sunday morning. We will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary to rehearse! Regina will email music and rehearsal recordings in advance, so you are familiar with the piece. If you want to join in the fun for the 19th, email Regina at reginakaye1971@gmail.com

Fellowship Sunday Snacks

On the first Sunday of each month, we pause after worship to take some time to just be together.

These fellowship times work better with snacks! Volunteers provide simple snacks or treats for after worship on the first Sunday, so we can stay and see each other. If you would like to sign up to bring snacks for a First Sunday Fellowship, you can sign up below. Thanks!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4AA4A62AA0FC1-54977434-sunday/179400945#/>

Friday Night Lights

On Friday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m., our own Seth Bass will be leading his Princeton HS Tigers into battle against St. Joseph Christian School in St. Joseph, Missouri. If you would like to carpool up to St. Joe to see the game and cheer Seth on, let Pastor Mark know. We will leave around 5:30 p.m. and return after the game.

Northland Pride Network's Walk with Allies

On Saturday, October 25, 2025 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Lakewood Greenway (trail behind Penguin Park, 4124 NE Vivion Rd.) Northland Pride Network's Walk with Allies is a heartfelt gathering of LGBTQ+ individuals and allies in a visible stand of solidarity to raise awareness, demand equity and inclusion, and celebrate authenticity. In a world where transgender people face relentless attacks and growing marginalization, we walk to show they are not alone. Bring your family and friends—everyone is welcome! Wear your most colorful Pride & bring your family-friendly flags or signs to carry during the walk. Register @ <https://www.northlandpridenetwork.org/walk>

Trunk or Treat

NOCC is putting on a Trunk-or-Treat event for our Preschool families on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, from 3:30-5:00 p.m. We are looking for fun people to decorate their car trunk for Halloween and/or dress up in costume and bring candy or games for the kids. Let Pastor Mark know if you can come help!

Good Shepherd UMC Justice Ministry Event

The Justice Ministry Team at Good Shepherd UMC (96th and Oak Trafficway) is conducting their Fall event, "Grace Filled Conversations: Understanding and Supporting Our Transgender Neighbors," on Saturday, November 8, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The event will feature a panel of people who are transgender, parents of transgender teens, panelists who love and care for transgender folks, and others who champion the LGBTQ+ community. Together we'll share stories, bust myths, and celebrate the many ways God's grace shows up in the lives of all people. Come curious, leave inspired! Register here <https://goodshepherdkc.churchcenter.com/calendar/event/200224400>

REZOUND! Handbell Concert

The REZOUND! Handbell Choir will be in concert on December 12, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at St. James Lutheran Church, 1104 NE Vivion Rd., Kansas City, MO, 64118. There will be a love offering. We would love to get a group from NOCC to go, as REZOUND will be doing a concert HERE in December 2026! If interested, let Pastor Mark know at pastor@nocckc.org

Backpack Ministry Updates

The Backpack Ministry is serving weekly meals to seven families from Bell Prairie Elementary School, including 27 children and 19 adults. On behalf of these families, thank you to everyone who volunteered in September and October to:

--Pray for the Bell Prairie families: NOCC Congregation

--Order groceries: Ramie Beck

--Pick up and store food from Aldi AND pack for September: Jill and Larry Rodgers

--Deliver food in September and October: Linda Daniels

–Pack food in October: Laraine Walters and Terry Becker
–Help finance this ministry through generous donations: NOCC Congregation
We are part of the village that serves our community. Thanks be to God!
If you would like to help, please contact Terry Becker at tennisterry40love@gmail.com.

Cherith Brook

As you go through your fall and winter clothing, please consider sharing items that you no longer need. Warm jeans, pants, sweaters, sweatshirts, and jackets/coats are always appreciated. Long underwear is a luxury. Stocking caps, warm gloves, heavy socks and boots are needed. Ground tarps/tarpettes, sleeping bags and backpacks are always important.
Thanks to all for your consideration. Place your donations in the donation containers at NOCC.

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

If you would like to join in the daytime women’s Bible study next year starting in April, there is room for you here! The group meets on the first Tuesday of each month, April-December, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. at the home of Ann Nelson. The book chosen for next year’s study is “12 Daring Women of the Bible.” If you would like to explore the book, go to this Amazon link to see and read samples from the book:
<https://www.amazon.com/Daring-Women-Bible-Study-Streaming/dp/0310170699>
To join in next April, let Terry know NOW that you want to order a book. She will order all the books together by December 2025 and then be reimbursed by each person. For more information or to join, please contact tennisterry40love@gmail.com.

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/2025/02/WP-Narrative-Lectionary-2025-26-John.pdf>. All those who identify as male are welcome. Email Pastor Mark at markswillis@gmail.com for the link.