

# 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 19, 2025 – Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
Worship Leader-Lee-Ann Semsch, Elder-Ellen Lewis, Elder-Tom Hawley,  
Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

## Gather to Worship

**Prelude**

**Regina Kellogg**

**Call to Worship: Psalm 51:10-14**

**Lee-Ann Semsch**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

**Invocation**

**Lee-Ann Semsch**

**Songs of Praise**

**Congregation**

**“How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely” TFWS #2042 (All)**

**“We Will Glorify the King of Kings” TFWS #2087 (All)**

**Scripture Reading: I Samuel 16:1-3**

**Lee-Ann Semsch**

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”

**Songs of Adoration**

**Congregation**

**“Thou Art Worthy” TFWS #2041 (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**

**“Great is Thy Faithfulness” TFWS #2152**

*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.*

**Scripture Reading: I Samuel 16:4-13****Lee-Ann Semsch**

Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

**Message****"Spiritual Stamina"****Rev. Mark Willis****Special Music****"Be the Light"****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****"You Who Are Thirsty" TFWS #2132 (All)****Congregation****Communion Prayer****Elder-Ellen Lewis****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                                             |
|                 | <b>"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" TFWS #2129 (All)</b> |
| 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](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)**

*Music used with permission through our CCLI Copyright License Number 21523835 and Streaming License  
Number 21523842.*

## **Our Life Together**

### **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 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!

### **Movie and Munchies**

Movie and Munchies will be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at the home of David and Ann Nelson. The movie for discussion is "The Candidate" starring Robert Redford. The film follows Bill McKay, a candidate for the U.S. Senate from California with no hope of winning, so he is willing to tweak the establishment. 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.

### **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](mailto:pastor@nocckc.org)

### **Backpack Ministry Updates**

The Backpack Ministry is serving weekly meals to seven families from Bell Prairie Elementary School, including 28 children and 19 adults. On behalf of these families, thank you to everyone who volunteered in September and October. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:markswillis@gmail.com) for the link.