

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.*

November 16, 2025 – Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost
Worship Leader-David Nelson, Elder-Linda Daniels, Elder-Laraine Walters,
Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

Gather to Worship

Prelude

“Swing Down Chariot”

NOCC Choir

Call to Worship: I John 1:5-7

David Nelson

This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with God while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Invocation

David Nelson

Songs of Praise

Congregation

“My Life Is in You, Lord” TFWs #2032 (All)
“Lord of All Hopefulness” TFWs #2197 (All)

Special Presentation to North Oak Christian Church

Mary Pat Corder

Song of Adoration

Congregation

“God is So Good” TFWs #2056 (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

Only a Holy God”

*Come and behold him, the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God; come and worship the Holy God.*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7

David Nelson

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all

the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Message **“Light for Now, Not Just Later”** **Rev. Mark Willis**

Special Music **Congregation**
“O Lord, Your Tenderness” TFWS #2143 (All)

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**
“Stay With Us” TFWS #2199 (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.

Offering Prayer **Rev. Mark Willis**

Closing Song **Congregation**
“Song of Hope” TFWS #2186 (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 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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The Journey Together

NPN Legislator and Candidate Forum

The Northland Pride Network is hosting a candidate forum on Sunday, November 16, 2025, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Mid-Continent Public Library (Green Hills Library Center) in the community room. There will be eight speakers, including five local lawmakers and three candidates running for office. Refreshments and conversation begin at 1:30. This community forum brings together local elected officials and political candidates to engage directly with residents of Kansas City's Northland aiming to foster transparency, civic engagement, and meaningful dialogue between the community and its representatives. There is NO fee to attend.

Culver's Concrete's for a Cause

This week, Monday, November 17th through Friday, November 21st, the Culver's next to North Oak CC is supporting the Calvary Chapel of Liberty's "Out of the Darkness" ministry which helps unhoused and transient people with "blessing bags" full of needed items. To join in this cause is super-simple! Go get a concrete at our Culver's restaurant any time Monday through Friday this week. One dollar from every concrete mixer sold will go to this vital outreach.

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

Our congregation's Backpack Ministry provides weekly meals for nine families at Bell Prairie Elementary School. This month, with funds already available to purchase them, NOCC will provide Aldi gift cards for these families to use for the Thanksgiving break.

In October, Ramie Beck, Linda Daniels, Laraine Walters, and Terry Becker shopped for food, packed it, and/or delivered bags to Bell Prairie. On behalf of the neighbors we help, thank you! Gratitude as well to those who pray for this outreach ministry and support it financially. NOCC is devoted in multiple ways to serving others. Praise God!

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.

MICAH Ministry

The MICAH Ministry at Independence Boulevard CC is in dire need of children's shoes and children's clothing, new or gently used, all ages and sizes. If you have kid's shoes, clothing, and especially boy's coats(!) you can donate, bring them to Marcia Malotte on Sunday.

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.