

# 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.*

December 28, 2025 – First Sunday After Christmas  
Worship Leader-Terry Becker, Elder-Ellen Lewis, Elder-Tom Hawley,  
Music-Regina Kellogg, Minister-Rev. Mark Willis

## Pajamas and Pastries!

## Songs of Praise

## Congregation

**“Come, O Long Expected Jesus” Chalice Hymnal #125 (All)**  
**“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” Chalice Hymnal #164 (All)**  
**“Joy to the World” Chalice Hymnal #143 (All)**

# Welcome

**Rev. Mark Willis**

## Call to Worship

**Terry Becker**

**One: May the love and light of the Christ Child be with you!**

**Many: And also with you!**

**One: Shout to the Lord your praises!**

**Many: Sing to the Lord the joy of this day!**

**One: For God's might and power are established in the universe!**

**Many: God's transforming love beckons us.**

**One: Come, let us worship God whose Light bursts forth into our darkness!**

**Many: Let us praise the God of salvation who brings us home.**

(Nancy C. Townley, [www.ministrymatters.com](http://www.ministrymatters.com))

## Invocation

## Terry Becker

## Songs of Christmas

## Congregation

**“O Come All Ye Faithful” Chalice Hymnal #148 vs 1,2,4**  
**“O Little Town of Bethlehem” Chalice Hymnal #144 vs 1,3,4**  
**“What Child is This” Chalice Hymnal #162**

## Children's Moment

**Rev. Mark Willis**

***Children's Church is provided for all children. Children may leave worship now and go to Early Childhood Education (first door on left down hall).***

## Prayers of the People

**Rev. Mark Willis**

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

## People's Response

## Congregation

*His name shall be, Wonderful, Counselor,*

*His name shall be, Everlasting Father,  
His name shall be, Prince of Peace, Mighty God,  
His name shall be Emmanuel.*

**Songs of Joy**

**Congregation**

**“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” Chalice Hymnal #153 vs 1,4  
“Angels, from the Realms of Glory” Chalice Hymnal #149 vs 1,2,4  
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Chalice Hymnal #150 (All)  
“Angels We Have Heard on High” Chalice Hymnal #155 (All)**

**Sermon Scripture Reading: John 1:19-28**

**Terry Becker**

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but he confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why, then, are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

**Message**

**“Faith Looks Like a Green Tractor”**

**Rev. Mark Willis**

**Special Music**

**Congregation**

**“There's a Song in the Air” Chalice Hymnal #159 (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**

**“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” Chalice Hymnal #163 (All)**

**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**

<b>Offering</b>	<b>Congregation</b> Elders will pass the offering plates. Place your tithe or offering in the plate, or you can give online through <a href="http://nocckc.org">nocckc.org</a> .
<b>Offering Prayer</b>	<b>Rev. Mark Willis</b>
<b>Closing Song</b>	<b>Congregation</b> "Go Tell It on the Mountain" Chalice Hymnal #167 (All)
<b>Benediction</b>	<b>Rev. Mark Willis</b>
<b>Postlude</b>	<b>Regina Kellogg</b>

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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**

### **Movies and Munchies**

Movies and Munchies will meet Thursday, January 8, 2026, at the home of Ann and David Nelson. It starts at 6:00 p.m. with appetizers and snacks. Bring a food dish to share and something to drink. At 7:00 p.m., we discuss the movie together. The movie this month is "All Saints" (2017). Based on the true story of salesman-turned-pastor, the tiny church he was ordered to shut down, and a group of refugees from Southeast Asia. Together, they risked everything to plant seeds for a future that might just save them all. Please email David at [humanagenda@gmail.com](mailto:humanagenda@gmail.com) to RSVP.

### **January Canned Soup Drive and Soup-Er Bowl Party**

During January we are collecting canned soup for local food pantries. Bring your donations of canned soup to worship each Sunday in January.

Then, on Sunday, February 1, 2026, after morning worship, bring a soup to share at our Annual Soup-Er Bowl Party. This potluck is open to everyone. Bring a soup, or a side that goes well with soup, and enjoy this time of fellowship and good food. Bring your soup recipe to share as well.

### **Cherith Brook**

As you go through your 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](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 7:30 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.