



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — November 10, 2024

*“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that
Some have entertained angels without knowing it.” — Hebrews 13:2*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Thank you for worshiping with us today.

ELDER ON DUTY: Eileen Thomson

HEAD USHERS: Dave & Vicki Peck

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. Please ask at the sound booth.

NURSERY CARE is available during worship, located in Room 22 in the east wing.

RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE AT TODAY’S WORSHIP SERVICE WITH OUR VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE

PAD: Click this link: <https://bit.ly/GCPCattendance>, or scan the QR Code below, and it will take you to the link.



CONTACTING STAFF: The office is open 8am to 4pm, M–F. To reach a staff member by e-mail:

- **Rev. Karen Wright (Interim Pastor):** karen.wright@gcpc.org
- **Emily Dixon (Dir. of Christian Education):** emily.dixon@gcpc.org
- **Rebecca Prater (Dir. of Music Ministries)** rebecca.prater@gcpc.org
- **Lindsay Callender (Youth Coordinator):** lindsaymichelle0130@gmail.com
- **Patrick Bell (Office Admin.):** patrick.bell@gcpc.org
- **Tara Hyder (Finance Admin.):** finance@gcpc.org
- **Jason Turner (Audio/Technical Dir.):** Please e-mail both darktrainfilms@gmail.com & gcpc.media@gmail.com. If you need a video or audio played in worship, please send the link to Jason on the Wednesday prior to Sunday's worship.

“Pray for one another” — James 5:15

We encourage you to remember the following in prayer:

All Grieving the Death of a Loved One

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses: Nancy Kalesz, Jim Trast

Cancer Treatment: Harold Farren, Katie Rickley, David Schesser

Aging Challenges

Military Service: David Zak, C.J. Bradley, Seth Lorimer, Mary E. Johnson II, Alanna Funk, Shannon Lorimer, Clara Frye. **All veterans, deployed military, and reservists.**

Our Mission Co-Workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Leslie Vogel, PC (USA) Regional Liaison for Guatemala and Mexico.

Peace and Relief Workers; Unemployed and Underemployed; Families Struggling with Separation and Divorce; Individuals Struggling with Depression; Those Contemplating Suicide and Those Left Behind.

Heartland Presbytery Partnership of Prayer: Military Personnel, Military Chaplains, Those Serving Our Country, Those Retired from Military Service, The Families of All Who Have Lost Loved Ones Serving Their Country; Iglesia Gilgal, La Ceiba (MQP)

(If you have a prayer request you would like to include in the bulletin, please contact the church office at office@gcpc.org, or send to gcpc.prayers@gmail.com.)

SPOTLIGHT

TURN OUT YOUR POCKETS FOR NOISY OFFERING TODAY! The Noisy Offering will go to help pay down student lunch debt at Rosehill Elementary. During the pandemic, free school lunches were offered to all children nationwide regardless of income, but that program ended in 2022, and many families have struggled with transitioning back to paying for school lunches. While no student is ever denied a lunch, outstanding debt is eventually sent to collections agencies and school districts have to make up debt that is ultimately unpaid out of funds that would otherwise be used for education. The Shawnee Mission School District has one the highest lunch debt totals in the KC metro area, totaling over \$170,000. Our Noisy Offering funds will help ease this burden on families at our long-time partner, Rosehill Elementary.

RED BAG GIFT TAGS ARE AVAILABLE TODAY! The children range in age from 1 year to 16 years old. You select a gift by taking the *very important Post-It Note* and printing your name, phone number, and e-mail address on the page. The gift needs to be returned on or before December! Please wrap the gift and attach the *very important Post-It Note* to the gift!

Some helpful hints:

1. Consider getting a gift receipt to put in with clothes and shoes in case the size or style doesn't work for the child.
2. If your gift requires batteries, please include them with your gift.
3. Everyone likes getting a Christmas stocking — please remember to sew or pin the top of the stocking so the goodies stay inside.
4. PLEASE attach the *very important Post-It Note* to the gift when you bring the gift to church. The *very important Post-It Note* is how we know who gets the gift. We will remove the *very important Post-It Note* when we are packing the Red Bag for the child.

Thank you for your willingness to make a child's Christmas a time of love and celebration.

"AUTUMN LEAVES — JAZZ IN THE AFTERNOON" ENCOREKC! FOUNDATION INVITES YOU to the fall EncoreKC! Chorus and Act II concert on November 17, 3pm at Village on Antioch. Vocal jazz standards such as "Autumn Leaves," "Blue Skies," and "Fly Me to the Moon" will be presented by the EKC! choirs. The nationally acclaimed Kansas City Kansas Community College After Hours Vocal Jazz Ensemble will be the featured guest performers. They have won 60 DownBeat Magazine Student Music Awards and have shared the stage with artists Take 6, The New York Voices, m-pact, Carmen Bradford, Dianne Reeves and Marilyn Maye. All choirs will combine for their finale "I've Got Rhythm." Be sure to arrive at 2:30pm to get your seat for this incredible event.

THE GCPC BRUNCH BUNCH will convene on November 17 at 12:15pm at Home Grown, 11705 Roe Avenue, Suite A. If you plan to attend, please e-mail Mike Mattix at: mattixopks@gmail.com.

GCPC WEEKEND CRAFTERS ARE HOSTING AN OPEN CRAFT NIGHT on Friday, November 15, 6–9pm. Join us in Heartland Hall for fellowship and crafting fun. Contact Christy Soule, Kim Krueger or Kristy Shaw to RSVP.

RECYCLED MATS AT FRIDAY NIGHT CRAFT EVENT: Sarah Stolberg from Bed of Bags will be coming to our Friday Night Craft Event and will demo again how to prepare plarn (plastic yarn) to make sleeping mats for unhoused friends. She is also available to teach individuals how to make them. The Friday Night Craft Event is Friday, November 15, 6–9pm, in Heartland Hall. She has an excellent tutorial on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9PZYe3Goc7s>. You can also make them in your spare time and donate to us or Sarah. We still have plenty of bags. Contact Christine Caseres at 913-908-8819 or crcaseres032@gmail.com for more information.

THE DINNERS FOR 7 OR 8 will be finished in the month of November. A new session will begin in January and meet monthly to finish in April. If you would like to join and/or continue, please contact Kathy Williams by December 15. You may choose to dine in homes or dine out with a group. Groups will be notified by e-mail their new dinner group in late December. If you have questions, please contact Kathy Williams at kathykaskewilliams@gmail.com or 913-485-1776.

WORSHIP IS THE CENTRAL, SHARED EXPERIENCE where we praise God and are transformed and renewed to serve. In worship, Grace Covenant has welcomed 21 new members in the last year and a half. If you would like more information or if you are thinking about joining GCPC, come to “This is Grace” class on Sunday, January 12. Please contact Kathy Williams at kathykaskewilliams@gmail.com or call 913-485-1776 if you plan to attend.

BEING PART OF A CONNECTIONAL CHURCH, Grace Covenant pledges to support the operations of our General Assembly, Synod of Mid-America, and Heartland Presbytery. **The 2024 per capita is \$43.94 per member.** The Session has pledged to give that full amount. We invite each member to prayerfully consider giving his or her \$43.94 to offset this expense in GCPC’s budget. We hope to have all who are able to provide our part in supporting the work of our leaders and officers within The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Checks may be made out to GCPC with “per capita” in the memo line. Thank you.

ADULT

ADULT EDUCATION TODAY: We will gather in Heartland Hall for a conversation around questions for the GCPC transition team. What is God calling us to do next? What are the things we celebrate? What is this launching us forward to do? Join us for this important discussion as we gather information to prepare for the next steps in our journey to establish a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

CHILDREN

ATW, MUSIC & SUNDAY SCHOOL: All are welcome to join our Sunday school programming today. If you need further information, please check the Children's Bookcase outside the sanctuary for details.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ALL-AGES ADVENT FAIR coming up on November 24 at 10:30am. ALL are invited to jump into the Christmas spirit while we prepare ourselves to prepare for the first Sunday of Advent!

MUSIC

EXALTATION! REUNION CHOIR (1994–2024) will sing at the Thanksgiving Eve worship service on November 27. We'll rehearse at 6pm and sing some Ex! favorites in the 7pm worship service. *If you ever sang in Exaltation! you are invited!* Please contact Rebecca Prater ASAP at rebecca.prater@gcpc.org to let her know you'll be participating. Friends & Family: Help spread the word to your Exaltation! friends or family members! We'll have an optional social gathering at Johnny's Tavern (95th & Antioch) following the service.

GENEROSITY

GENEROSITY THROUGH THE GENERATIONS — PLEDGE UPDATE! For 40 years, GCPC has been blessed by God's steadfast love and the faithful generosity of our community. Your pledges make it possible for us to continue our ministries, maintain our beautiful worship space, and serve both our congregation and the wider community. **As of Monday, November 4, we have received pledges from 103 giving units, totaling \$543,243.23.** Thank you for your support.

You will receive a confirmation e-mail from Tara Hyder, our Finance Administrator, to acknowledge receipt of your pledge. If you have not received this e-mail, please contact her at finance@gcpc.org, as we did receive a pledge card with no name on it. The Generosity Team will be reaching out to those from whom we have not yet heard. Our goal is to have a response from each giving unit. To make your 2025 pledge, please do so online at gcpc.org/pledge, or contact Tara Hyder. If you're unable to pledge this year, please let us know — your support in all forms is deeply appreciated. Together, we embody the spirit of Psalm 100:5: *For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.* Thank you for your commitment and faithfulness over the years.

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