



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — October 25, 2026

*“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 worshipping with us today.

ELDER ON DUTY: Bob Dover

HEAD USHER: Eric Burdette

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.



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

- **Rev. Karen Wright (Designated Pastor):** karen.wright@gcpc.org
- **Emily Nelson Dixon (Dir. of Christian Education):** emily.dixon@gcpc.org
- **Patrick O’Halloran (Dir. of Music Ministries):** patrick.ohalloran@gcpc.org
- **Patrick Bell (Office Admin.):** patrick.bell@gcpc.org
- **Tara Hyder (Finance Admin.):** finance@gcpc.org
- **Jason Turner (Audio/Technical Dir.):** E-mail both darktrainfilms@gmail.com & gcpc.media@gmail.com.

"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

Cancer Treatment: Trooper Shaw, Johnnie Baker

Aging Challenges

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

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: Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church, KCMO

(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

LED BY THE SPIRIT, GROWING IN GRACE: This week in our 2027 Stewardship Campaign, *Led by the Spirit, Growing in Grace*, we consider **The Spirit Grows Us**. Growth in faith is not simply about becoming bigger—it is about becoming more deeply rooted in God's love, more connected to one another, and more open to where the Spirit is leading us. Visit the **Generosity Table in Heartland Hall** after worship for a donut, a 2027 pledge card, and a chance to ask questions of a Generosity Team member. Pledges may be made **confidentially online at gcpc.org/2027pledge**. Details about the campaign are available at gcpc.org/growingingrace.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU to Jan Rosche who designed and thoughtfully arranged our Harvest Bounty display in the sanctuary and to Kathy Williams and Meredith Watson for their gracious assistance. Your time, creativity, and care have brought beauty to our worship space and created a lovely reminder of God's abundant blessings. We are grateful for the hands and hearts that made this special display possible!

MAKE PLANS TO DONATE BLOOD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, between 1–5pm, in Heartland Hall at GCPC! Sign up here: <https://donate.savealifenow.org/group> and use code IM. New donors

are always welcome! Contact Sarah Byrd, 913-909-1559 or swbyrdks@gmail.com, with questions.

ARE YOU READY FOR SPOOKY MUSIC? The EncoreKC! Brass, Woodwinds and Belle Voci will be performing Halloween favorites on **Friday, October 30, at 7pm** in the sanctuary. You won't want to miss it!

FAURÉ REQUIEM | ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1: On All Saints Sunday, November 1, at 9:30am, the Chancel Choir will be joined by orchestra and soloists Beth Lillian and Alexander Birch Elliot for Gabriel Fauré's beloved *Requiem*. This will be one of the major musical offerings of our fall and a beautiful opportunity to remember those who have gone before us through music filled with tenderness, hope, and peace. Please begin thinking about friends, family members, neighbors, or others you might invite to worship with us that morning.

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY REMEMBRANCE: The November 1 bulletin will contain an insert with the names of those who have passed since All Saints' Sunday 2025 (November 2, 2025). If you would like to include the name of a relative or friend who has passed this past year, please send that person's name to office@gcpc.org *no later than noon on Wednesday, October 28.*

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE IS CURRENTLY SEARCHING FOR DEACONS for the term beginning in January 2027. The Deacons play a vital role in caring for our members along with the Care and Connections Team and Pastor Karen. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested, please contact one of our committee members: Gay Lee Bonney, Jake Schmidt, Ginny Wirtz, Jim Kelly, Donna Heer, or Eileen Thomson.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH NEEDS: We have openings for Sunday school teachers, ATW leaders, shepherds, SMASH and YOUTH GROUP helpers, etc. It's a joyful, rewarding way to fulfill the promises we make to our GCPC children and youth at their baptism, and we'd love to have you join the fun! These openings are coming up soon and we need you. Thank you!

- **WAYS FOR YOU TO SERVE:**

- 11/8 — ATW leader and greeters, and K-5th grade shepherd, MS leader
- 11/15 — 3rd–5th grade Sunday school teacher, K–5th shepherd, toddler assistant, and preschool leader and assistant, MS leader

(Children's Volunteer Opportunities)

<https://gcpc.org/children-youth/youareinvited.html>



(Youth Group Volunteer Sign-up)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A45A4A722A4FC1-57367467-gcpc>



ADULT

ADULT EDUCATION — Meets Today in the Choir Room

Join us Sunday mornings at **10:45 a.m.** as we explore our faith, share our perspectives, and grow together in community. Whether you're a longtime participant or joining us for the first time, you're always welcome!

Join Pastor Karen Wright after service today for **Reformed—and Still Being Reformed: “Why Did the Church Need a Reformation?”** Note: We'll meet in the **choir room this morning**.

Coming in November:

- **November 1:** “The Communion of Saints” — George Bures, part of *Reformed—and Still Being Reformed*
 - **November 8:** “Keep Awake” — Stephen Wing, part of *Living Matthew 25: Envisioning a Different Kind of Kingdom*
 - **November 15:** “Faithful Risk” — Sarah Evans, continuing *Living Matthew 25*
 - **November 22:** “Meeting Christ Among Us” — Leader to be announced, continuing *Living Matthew 25*
 - **November 29:** “Ukraine Story – Global Care Force” — Rick Randolph
- All are welcome!

PAGE TURNERS WILL MEET Thursday, November 5, at 7pm in Anne Stroud's home. We will discuss *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. You can RSVP on the GCPC Page Turners' Facebook page, by e-mailing Anne at annestroud845@gmail.com or by calling her at 913-515-6084. Anne's address is 9821 Broadmoor St, Overland Park, KS 66212. All are welcome.

CHILDREN

TODAY:

- **9:30am** Worship and ATW
- **10:45–11:05am**
 - JOY! Singers (4yo–1st grade) Rm 26
 - CELEBRATION! Singers (2nd–5th grade) Rm 15
- **11:05–11:45am**
 - Toddlers (2yo–3yo) Rm 20
 - Preschool (4yo–5yo) Rm 25
 - K–2nd, DRAMA, Rm 14
 - 3rd–5th, GAMES, Rm 18
- **11:45am–1pm** TRUNK OR TREAT
 - Hot Dog lunch
 - Games in Heartland Hall and Garden
 - Trunk-or-Treat Parade to the cars in the west parking lot

COMING UP:

- **Next Week** — 3rd Grade Bible Sunday: Third graders will be presented with Bibles in worship. Following Sunday School, all third graders, with a beloved adult, are encouraged to come eat lunch and enjoy our 3rd grade Bible workshop until 1pm

where we'll learn all about the new Bible you are gifted from your church. Any GCPC kiddo who wasn't able to participate in the 3rd grade Bible Sunday previously, is also invited to attend.

YOU ARE INVITED to be involved in Children's Ministry! Learn more here:



YOUTH

TODAY:

- **9:30am** Worship — Youth help lead worship
- **10:45–11:45am**
 - Youth help set up games and get ready for Trunk-or-Treat
- **11:45am–1pm** TRUNK OR TREAT
 - Hot Dog lunch
 - Games in Heartland Hall and Garden
 - Trunk-or-Treat Parade to the cars in the west parking lot

COMING UP:

- Youth Presby Bonfire Night, November 8, 4–7pm

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HANG OUT WITH SOME COOL YOUTH? Please sign up to volunteer here:



MISSION

THANKSGIVING FOOD DONATIONS FOR RENEWED HOPE FOOD PANTRY: The Pantry is asking for these food items:

- mushroom soup
- French fried onions
- boxed mashed potatoes
- canned cranberry sauce
- boxed stuffing mix

Please place all donations in the Weekday Entrance ReNewed Hope food pantry bin. As always, thank you for your generosity for this holiday meal.

OCTOBER COMMUNION OFFERING — JOHNSON COUNTY CHRISTMAS BUREAU: For 65 years, the Johnson County Christmas Bureau (JCCB) has supported low-income families in our community during the holiday season. JCCB provides support for low-income families, raises awareness of poverty, and gives neighbors an opportunity to help neighbors. In 2025, JCCB

served more than 13,000 individuals. Your gift in any amount, can help bring hope, joy, and encouragement to families in Johnson County this Christmas.

OCTOBER DONATION PARTNER: This October, we are collecting **new or gently used books** for the Johnson County Christmas Bureau (JCCB) Christmas Store. Books are needed for all ages, including **adults, teens, youth, children, and toddlers**. **Spanish-language books** are also especially welcome. Please share the gift of a good book! Place your donations in the **collection bin by the Weekday Entrance**. Thank you for helping bring the joy of reading and the love of Christ to families in our community!

GCPC WILL PARTICIPATE IN A HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEER DAY on Friday, November 13, 8:30am–3pm. We have eight volunteer spots. Please use the link to register: build.habitatkc.org/reservations/24830?auth=1781016106. (All volunteers need to be registered with their online volunteer application complete by the registration deadline of 12pm on Friday, October 30. Contact Jim Byrd, jbyrdks@gmail.com, for more information.

PROJECT STARFISH IS AGAIN COLLECTING PLASTIC BAGS. These are used to make plastic sleeping mats and are given to unhoused individuals. (Only the type of bag given at Walmart is useful for their projects. They need to be that size and shape.) Bags can be left in the black tub marked “Starfish Project” in the Weekday Entrance.

KAIROS

TODAY: KAIROS Bread for the WORLD OFFERING of LETTERS. Join Rick Randolph at the Bread for the World table. Sample letters/notes, envelopes, and stamps will be available where you can share your thoughts on hunger with your government leaders.

CHECK OUT THE “I VOTED” POSTER on the KAIROS bulletin board outside Heartland Hall. If you have voted, post *your* sticker there. **GCPC — LET’S FILL IT UP!**



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2026 Upcoming Events and Services

(Save these dates)

Generosity Sunday

Sunday, October 25, 9:30am

Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 25, 11:45am - 1:00pm
Hot dog lunch, games for all ages
and a costume parade

Blood Drive

Thursday, October 29, 1-5pm

EncoreKC!s

Belle Voci Choir, Brass Ensemble and Ukulele Ensemble Concert

Friday, October 30, 7pm
Sanctuary

Fauré's Requiem

Presented by the Chancel Choir,
Orchestra, and featuring members
of GCPC and the community
Sunday, November 1, 9:30am

EncoreKC! Chorus Concert

"Voices Dance: Music That Moves Us"

Sunday, November 15, 3pm
Grace United Methodist Church, Olathe, KS

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 29

A Christmas Exclamation!

Sunday, December 6, 6pm

The Longest Night

Sunday, December 20, 7pm

Christmas Eve Worship

Thursday, December 24
5:30pm and 8pm

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 9

Lent Begins - Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 10

Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 28, 9am and 11am

~ Please be mindful of the following deadlines for our communications publications ~

Grace Notes Weekly email newsletter - articles due to the church office by 10am, each Wednesday

Weekly church bulletin - articles due to the church office by Noon, each Wednesday

Grace Notes Monthly Newsletter - articles are due to the church office on the 3rd Tuesday of the month

Please respect the timelines needed to produce these publications. Thank you!

Details on these events and services are shared in the midweek email, bulletin, newsletter,
and Facebook and Instagram. For an online church calendar, visit gcpc.org/calendar