



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship October 27, 2024 9:30am
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

“Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)”

by Crocker, Houston,
& Lighthelm

All

**You call me out upon the waters, the great unknown where feet may fail.
And there I find you in the myst’ry, in oceans deep, my faith will stand.**

**And I will call upon your name ~ and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace for I am yours and you are mine.**

**Your grace abounds in deepest waters, your sov’rign hand will be my guide.
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me, you’ve never failed
and you won’t start now.**

**And I will call upon your name ~ and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace for I am yours and you are mine.**

**Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders,
let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me.
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander, and my faith will be made stronger
in the presence of my Savior. (2x)**

**I will call upon your name ~ and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace for I am yours and you are mine.**

WELCOME

Rev. Karen Wright

*SONG TO PRAISE

“God Is So Good”

GOD IS SO GOOD

(All Sing)

**God is so good; God is so good;
God is so good; God’s so good to me.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 136

ONE: Give thanks to the Lord who has done great wonders!

ALL: **Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.**

God’s steadfast love endures forever!

ONE: The God who brought Israel out of Egypt; who brought Israel through the waters; who fed the people with manna and made water flow from the rock.

ALL: **Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.**

God’s steadfast love endures forever!

ONE: To the God who has remembered us through the generations; who is with us always; and will love us forever.

ALL: **Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.**

God’s steadfast love endures forever!

SONG TO REFLECT

+“Call of the Water”

by Kathleen Wissinger

(“Living Water”)

Jubilation! Ringers – Kathy Bures, director

Trey Bures, assistant director

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children’s wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we do not always love our neighbor. We confess that we have despised others, even to the point of hatred. We confess that we have been hurt by others. We confess that forgiveness and reconciliation at times are just impossible for us. We know that nothing is impossible in you. We come to

you, seeking healing and wholeness for us. Help us, whenever possible, to live in peace with others, to seek reconciliation and healing and forgiveness. For your Son came and lived among us, was betrayed and denied, abused and put to death. He rose again, and came with the message of peace to those who had denied him and abandoned him. May we walk in his ways. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

For nothing is impossible with God. There is no place you can go, no end of the earth you can run, where God cannot find you. There is nothing on earth or beyond death that can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. You are forgiven. You are loved. You are reconciled to God. Go and live with the love of God. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you and all others!

***SONG OF PEACE**

“Because He Lives”

by William & Gloria Gaither

All

Because He Lives


(as published by Gaither Music Company)

Words by
William J. Gaither
and Gloria Gaither

Music by
William J. Gaither


VERSE

D/A A7 D D7/F# G D A7/E D/F# G D/A A#7



1. God sent His Son— They called Him Je - sus; He came to love, heal and for -
 2. How sweet to hold our new - born ba - by, and feel the pride and joy he
 3. And then one day I'll cross that riv - er; I'll fight life's fi - - nal - war with

7 Em7/B A7 F#m/A A7 D D/F# A/E D7 G Gm6 D/A



give. He lived and died to buy my par - don; An emp - ty grave is there to
 gives; But great - er still the calm as - sur - ance; This child can face un - cer - tain
 pain. And then, as death gives way to vic - t'ry, I'll see the lights of glo - ry

CHORUS

A7 D D/A D/F# A/E D D7/F# G



prove my Sav - ior lives. Be - cause He lives I can face to - mor - row; Be - cause He
 days be - cause Christ lives.
 and I'll know He lives.

21 D A7/E D/F# Bm7 Em7 A A/G D/F# A D A7/E D/F# D D7sus D7 G Gm6



lives, all fear is gone. Be - cause I know He holds the fu - ture, and life is

29 D/A D/C B7 E7 A7 D



worth the liv - ing just be - cause He lives.

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 8:26–39 (NRSVue)

Joy Slayton

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he

predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SONG TO REFLECT

"Wilderness"

by Byrd, Farren, & Lee

Praise Team

*I could pray for deliverance. I could beg you for greener pastures.
I could question why I'm still here, shake my fist and demand an answer.
But right here, right now is where I start to know you better.
So right here, I'll stay.*

*'Cause even in the wilderness, I know I'm not alone. Even in the desert place, your river overflows.
Even in the wasteland, through the darkest valley there is hope.
'Cause even in the wilderness, you won't let go.*

*I could settle for what I want. I could ask for the easy way out.
But you've proven that you're still good in the midst of the valley of doubt.
Right here, right now is where I start to know you better.
So right here, I'll stay.*

*'Cause even in the wilderness I know I'm not alone. Even in the desert place, your river overflows.
Even in the wasteland, through the darkest valley there is hope.
'Cause even in the wilderness, you won't let go.*

*You will lead me. You will keep me. You will never let me go.
You will lead me. You will keep me. You will never let me go.*

*Even in the wilderness I know I'm not alone. Even in the desert place, your river overflows.
Even in the wasteland, through the darkest valley there is hope.
'Cause even in the wilderness, you won't let go.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Chronicles 16:23–6 (NRSVue)

Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Generosity Through the Generations:
God’s Love Endures Forever”

Rev. Karen Wright

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Nelson Townsend

SONG FOR GIVING

“Trust in You”

by Lauren Daigle

Praise Team/**All**

Letting go of ev’ry single dream. I lay each one down at your feet.
Ev’ry moment of my wondering never changes what you see.
I’ve tried to win this war, I confess. My hands are weary; I need your rest.
Mighty warrior, King of the fight, no matter what I face, you’re by my side.

**When you don’t move the mountains I’m needing you to move,
When you don’t part the waters I wish I could walk through,
When you don’t give the answers as I cry out to you
I will trust, I will trust, I will trust in you.**

Truth is you know what tomorrow brings. There’s not a day ahead you have not seen.
So in all things be my life and breath; I want what you want, Lord, and nothing less.

When you don’t move the mountains I’m needing you to move,

**When you don't part the waters I wish I could walk through
When you don't give the answers as I cry out to you
I will trust, I will trust, I will trust in you.**

You are my strength and comfort; you are my steady hand.
You are my firm foundation, the rock on which I stand.
Your ways are always higher; your plans are always good.
There's not a place where I'll go you've not already stood.

**When you don't move the mountains I'm needing you to move,
When you don't part the waters I wish I could walk through
When you don't give the answers as I cry out to you
I will trust, I will trust, I will trust in you.**

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Karen Wright

*SONG TO SEND

"Forever"

by Chris Tomlin

All

**Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King, his love endures forever.
For he is good, he is above all things, his love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise!**

**With a mighty hand and outstretched arm, his love endures forever.
For the life that's been reborn, his love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise!**

**Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong,
Forever God is with us, forever.**

**From the rising to the setting sun, his love endures forever.
By the grace of God we will carry on, his love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise!**

**Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong,
Forever God is with us, forever, forever. (2x)**

**Stand in body or spirit*

+Today's handbell piece, "Call of the Water"
by Kathleen Wissinger was donated by Kathy Bures,
Katie Hearn, Cheryl Johnson, Angela & Chris Krug,
and Celia Nicholas in memory of Kipp Willnauer (1949-2023)
who was an integral part of Heartland Presbyterian Intergenerational
Handbell Camp, a director of handbells at GCPC for a time, and a dear friend.

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

Music and/or lyrics are reprinted by permission of CCLI 1154643 and OneLicense A-705105.
Our Church Streaming & Podcast Licenses are CSPL 048834 through CCLI & included in OneLicense A-705105.
Any videos are shown by permission of CVLI #504397326.

RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE WITH OUR VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE PAD:

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



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Boulevard ♦ Overland Park, KS 66210
Phone (913) 345-1256 ♦ www.gcpc.org