



Service of Worship — August 24, 2025

***“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: Mikki Walker

HEAD USHERS: Mike & Susan Fitzgerald

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.



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 (Interim 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: Harold Farren, Tom Jennings, Mary Ann Weyforth

Aging Challenges: Lee Will, Stewart Nelson, Charlie Bogan

Military Service: David Zak, C.J. Bradley, Seth Lorimer, Mary E. Johnson II, Alanna Funk, Shannon Lorimer, Clara Frye, 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: First Presbyterian Church, Holden, MO; Iglesia Salem, La Cumbre (MQP); Heartland Presbytery Commission on Preparation for Ministry

(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

TODAY, WE WILL COLLECT A NOISY OFFERING for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, to aid recovery efforts related to the floods, fires, storms, and other disasters so far this year. Please toss your spare change into the buckets the children will carry around to make a joyful, faithful noise!

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING for the purpose of electing at-large members to the Nominating Committee will be held today, immediately follow worship.

THE QUILTS ON DISPLAY IN THE SANCTUARY TODAY are provided by the Piecemakers group. One of our projects is assembling quilts from donated fabrics. Larger quilts are hand-tied and go to Uplift. Smaller quilts are donated to Linus Project, a nonprofit that provides blankets for children 0 to 18 who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. If you would like to participate (no sewing skills required!) or donate fabric for any of our projects, please contact Donna Heer at taxdheer@gmail.com or 913-485-5812.

A JOYFUL MILESTONE IN THE LIFE OF GCPC — Heartland Presbytery and the members of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church warmly invite you to attend a special and sacred occasion, the **Service of Installation for Rev. Karen Wright, 3pm today at GCPC**. A reception will follow in Heartland Hall. Childcare will be provided This service of worship marks a significant moment in

the life of our church as we formally install Rev. Karen Wright as our pastor. We will gather to give thanks for God's call, rejoice in community, and look with hope toward the future of our shared ministry. All are welcome to attend this joyful celebration! Come be part of this meaningful day — we would love to see you there!

WORSHIP IN THE PARK: Join us for worship on Sunday, September 7, 9:30am, at the Meadowbrook Park Grand Pavilion, located at 91st and Nall (SE corner) in Prairie Village. Worship will be followed by a potluck picnic. Brats, beef & veggie burgers and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Come together with your church family to worship and savor the fellowship and beauty of the park! We are an Earth Care congregation, so remember to bring your own plates and silverware, and bring along camp chairs in case extra seating is required.

RSVP FOR "STEWARDSHIP STORIES & SCRAMBLED EGGS" Join us for a joyful and meaningful morning of fellowship, storytelling, and inspiration at our Generosity Town Hall on Sunday, September 14, following worship in Heartland Hall. We'll enjoy a delicious brunch together and explore how your giving supports the heart of our ministry: missions, staff, programs, outreach, in the place we call home. Through shared stories, scripture and prayer, we'll reflect on how generosity takes root and grows. This is more than a meal, it's a moment to celebrate how far we've come and dream faithfully about where God is calling us next. We need a headcount to order food — RSVP by September 7 at gcpc.org/eggs.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL FALL BBQ POTLUCK on Saturday, October 4, 5-7pm. We are giving our generous grillers a break this year, and we will be providing pulled BBQ pork (hot dogs for the kids). Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share. Please plan to bring your own reusable or compostable products for your tableware. The Dixieland Band will once again bless us with great music. A goodwill donation will be collected to support The Renewed Hope Food Pantry. Sign-ups will be available before and after church, starting on September 14! "Let the good times roll!"

WEEKEND CRAFTERS FALL WORKSHOP — GCPC Weekend Crafters will be hosting a Fall Workshop on October 3, 6–8pm in Heartland Hall. We welcome Katee Smith with The Barefoot Builder who will lead us through creating cute winter trees made of wood that measure 32" tall x 16" wide. Katee will assemble the trees for us ahead of time and we will be painting the trees at the workshop. Costs and registration can be found at gcpc.org/crafters. Registration ends Friday, September 23 at 10pm. *Invite a friend for a fun crafting evening out!*

RSVP FOR OUR INTERGENERATIONAL FRIENDSHIP BRACELET PARTY on **Saturday, November 15, 1–3:30pm** in Heartland Hall. Enjoy an afternoon of fun, creativity and fellowship hosted by the Weekend Crafters Group. Open to all friends and family of GCPC members! No experience necessary. You will need to bring your own supplies, and a plate of cookies to share. FULL DETAILS and RSVP link at gcpc.org/friendship.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN DINNERS FOR 7 OR 8. We have three groups sharing meals in restaurants and five groups sharing meals in homes. If you missed signing up for this session, another session will begin in January. Please contact Kathy in December when the groups will be assigned. Occasionally, we need a sub to fill in when someone needs to cancel. If you would like to be included on that list, please contact Kathy at 913-485-1776 or kathykaskewilliams@gmail.com.

AT GRACE COVENANT, WE ARE BLESSED with many ways to share the life of our church — through weekly worship bulletins, Grace Notes e-mail updates, and our monthly newsletter. To help us keep everything organized and ensure your announcements make it into the right place, please take note of our submission deadlines:

- **Sunday Bulletin** — Submissions are due **every Wednesday at 12 noon**.
- **Grace Notes Weekly Email** — Submissions are due **every Wednesday at 10am**.
- **Monthly Newsletter** — Submissions are due on the **3rd Tuesday of each month**.

We encourage ministry leaders, volunteers, and members to share events, updates, programs, and other activities in the life of the church, so that our whole church family can stay connected. Meeting these deadlines helps us prepare accurate and timely communications. If you have an item to submit or any questions about where your announcement belongs, please contact the church office. Together, we can keep our community well-informed and engaged in all the wonderful things happening at Grace Covenant!

MUSIC

LEARN TO RING HANDBELLS! There will be a Handbell Workshop, TODAY, 10:45–11:45am in the bell room (next to the sanctuary). This is for anyone, age 10 and up, interested in learning to ring handbells (or refreshing old skills). All ages are welcome, and there is no obligation to join a handbell choir afterwards (but you can if you want!).

ADULT

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS: Join us in Room 3 at 10:45am today. Don Wilson will present a TheoED (a TED Talk–style video) titled “Changing Mission for Good” by Shawn Duncan. Together, we’ll explore the question: What does it look like to address poverty in ways that are both faithful and effective? Shawn Duncan, Director of The Lupton Center, offers a fresh reimagining of traditional approaches to charity and mission. Come ready to learn, reflect, and discuss!

THE AS THE PAGE TURNS BOOK GROUP will meet September 3 at 1:30pm in Room 3 at the church. Books will be discussed and selected for the year.

PAGETURNERS IS KICKING OFF A NEW YEAR with our annual salad supper on September 4, 6:30pm at Jan Cumming’s house (9815 Broadmoor St.). Please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to share, or just bring yourself! Our September book is *The Next Ship Home* by Heather Webb. Please RSVP to Jan at cjan1950@gmail.com, 913-269-4164 or GCPC PageTurners page on FB. All are welcome! Please come even if you haven't read the book.

CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Regular Sunday programming continues today.

MISSION

PIECEMAKERS: STITCHING LOVE INTO EVERY SEAM — On the second Saturday of each month, 10am–Noon, Room 4 is filled with fellowship, color, and creativity as the Piecemakers gather. This warm and welcoming group turns donated fabric into quilts for Uplift, children's blankets for the Linus Project, Christmas stockings for the Red Bag Project, and sensory lap quilts for memory care and schools. No sewing experience is needed — there's always something for everyone to do, from ironing and cutting to tying and assembling. Come with a heart to help and enjoy the joy of working together to make a difference. Contact Donna Heer for details, or just stop by!

KAIROS KLUES: *Be sure to take a look at the bulletin board outside Heartland Hall for more information.*

- **PEACE** — CALL TO ACTION — MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! "Lamenting Increased Militarism On Our City Streets" [#https://hubs.ly/Q03CXIzc0](https://hubs.ly/Q03CXIzc0) [#PCUSA](#) [#Advocacy](#) [#Peace](#)
- **JUSTICE** — October 12, Crop Walk: sign-ups coming soon! Hunger in our community is growing with the many funding changes. Check out more information on the ReNewed Hope Food Pantry and how YOU can make a difference (no matter how small) in alleviating hunger with other GCPC members. (Contact Knute Rosche for details)
- **ENVIRONMENT** — Last weeks of early registration pricing! PEC Conference, Ferncliff Conference Center (outside Little Rock), October 8–11, "Sacred Creation: Justice Flows Down Like Water." United Nations court rules countries have duty to limit greenhouse emissions: "The United Nations' highest judicial body ruled Wednesday that nations have a "duty" to prevent environmental harm and are obliged to limit planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions." Write your legislators TODAY! [#https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-your-representative-save-the-epa?clear_id=true](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-your-representative-save-the-epa?clear_id=true)

AUGUST DONATION PARTNER — CROSS-LINES: The mission of Cross-Lines is to provide people in the Kansas City area affected by poverty with services and opportunities that encourage self-confidence, meet the needs of today, and provide tools for future self-sufficiency. You can help Cross-Lines by donating one of the items from their basic needs list below. Please leave your donation in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime during August.

diapers (especially sizes 4, 5, and 6)
shampoo
deodorant
toothpaste

razors
laundry detergent
dish soap

AUGUST COMMUNION OFFERING RECIPIENT — HABITAT FOR HUMANITY KC: Due to unforeseen changes in the Mission Co-Worker program by PCUSA, we are re-directing the August Communion Offering to Habitat for Humanity KC. Habitat KC is focused on affordable housing,

because safe and stable homes free families and individuals from instability, stress, and fear — encouraging self-reliance and confidence. If you'd like to support Habitat KC, just use the "Communion" option in the online portal or write "Communion Offering" on your check or envelope and turn in your donation by August 30.

GENEROSITY

GENEROSITY FULFILLMENT AUGUST UPDATE — GENEROSITY THROUGH THE GENERATIONS:

Here is our Generosity fulfillment for Grace Covenant's pledges through July 2025. The Generosity Team is delighted to share our 2025 fulfillment numbers as of August 5. We have received 61% of our total pledges and 58% of this 2025 year has gone by us. Often our summer giving drops due to travel, vacation and absences; so, it very refreshing to see everyone's summer commitment so strong. There is a slight revision in our pledge total due to some members having to decrease their pledge amount. We certainly understand and recognize the value of their update. **We continue to appreciate everyone who has contributed to Grace Covenant.** Here is our progress shown by numbers of pledges:

<i>Submitted Pledges (135)</i>	<i>March 31st</i>	<i>June 6th</i>	<i>August 5th</i>
<i>0-25% fulfilled</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>26-50% fulfilled</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>51-75% fulfilled</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>76-100% fulfilled</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>\$722,179</i>	<i>\$226,719</i>	<i>\$324,383</i>	<i>\$442,532</i>

Four groupings are used to show giving progress and calendar relationship. They are 0–25%, 26–50%, 51–75%, 76–100%. Each pledge falls into one of these groups.

Our Generosity team meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:30pm, in person or by Zoom. We are always glad to have new team members. The current team: Eileen Thomson, Jane Knoche, Rev. Karen Wright, Keith Langabee, and Kim Krueger. We are planning our Stewardship Stories and Scrambled Eggs on Sunday September 14. Mark this date on your calendar! Please contact Eileen if you are interested — we have room for *you*!

Upcoming Events and Services

(Save these dates)

Noisy Offering

Supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
Sunday, August 24, 9:30am

Congregational Meeting

Elect Nominating Committee Members
Sunday, August 24, 9:30am

Rev. Karen Wright Installation

Sunday, August 24, 3pm

Labor Day - Office Closed

Monday, September 1

Worship in the Park

Meadowbrook Park (91st & Nall)
Grand Pavilion (SE Corner) Prairie Village
(Lunch following)
Sunday, September 7, 9:30am

Generosity Town Hall

Stewardship Stories & Scrambled Eggs

"Sharing a meal, sharing our mission"

(Brunch following worship)

Sunday, September 14, 10:30am

RSVP by September 7 at gcpc.org/eggs

Weekend Crafters Mini-Retreat

Friday, October 3, 6-8pm

Details and Registration

at gcpc.org/crafters

Fall BBQ w/Dixieland Band

Saturday, October 4, 5pm

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 5, 9:30am

CROP Walk

October 12, 2pm

Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 26, 11:45am-1pm

Intergenerational

Friendship Bracelet Making Party

Saturday, November 15, 1-3:30pm
Heartland Hall

RSVP at gcpc.org/friendship

A Christmas Exclamation!

Sunday, December 7, 6pm

The Longest Night

Sunday, December 21, 7pm

Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 24, 5pm and
8pm

Bingo Night

Friday, January 23, Time TBA

Trivia Night

Saturday, April 18, Time TBA



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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