



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship February 2, 2025 9:30am
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

“Grace Flows Down”

by Sixsteps Music

Praise Team

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound;
amazing love, now flowing down from hands and feet that were nailed to the tree
As grace flows down and covers me.
It covers me, and covers me.*

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Karen Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: God alone is our refuge and hope, our shelter and protection.

ALL: From our very first breath to our last, God’s love and compassion never fails.

ONE: So come, lift your voices in praise to God.

ALL: Bear witness to God’s acts of mercy and love. Proclaim God’s glory to all who will listen.

*SONG TO PRAISE

“10,000 Reasons”

by Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman

All

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, o my soul; worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, o my soul; I’ll worship your holy name.
The sun comes up, it’s a new day dawning, it’s time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, o my soul; worship his holy name.**

Sing like never before, o my soul; I'll worship your holy name.

**You're rich in love and you're slow to anger. Your name is great
and your heart is kind.**

For all your goodness, I will keep on singing;

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, o my soul; worship his holy name.

Sing like never before, o my soul; I'll worship your holy name.

**And on that day, when my strength is failing, the end draws near,
and my time has come;**

Still, my soul will sing your praise unending

Ten thousand years, and then forevermore!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, o my soul; worship his holy name.

Sing like never before, o my soul; I'll worship your holy name.

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

Emily Nelson Dixon

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

written by Randall Wilkens

Lord, Your word says love is patient and kind. But we confess the times when we have been impatient and unkind. Your word tells us that love does not envy, that it does not boast, and that it is not proud.

But we confess that sometimes we have been envious, boastful, and proud. Your word says that love is not rude, and that it is not self-seeking, But we confess that in many ways we have been inconsiderate of those around us, thinking only of ourselves.

Your word tells us that love is not easily angered, and that it keeps no record of wrongs. But we confess how quickly we fly off the handle, and how carefully

keep score when we have been wronged. Your word says that love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth, that it always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Help us, Lord, not to take pleasure in what is evil, but to always rejoice in the truth of Your love.

Protect us with Your love, Lord, and help us to choose the way of trusting You, putting our hope in You, and persevering in Your ways, knowing that love never fails, and that You never fail. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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**

“Joy of the Lord”

by The Rend Collective

All

**Though the tears may fall, my song will rise, my song will rise to you.
Though my heart may fail, my song will rise, my song will rise to you.
While there's breath in my lungs I will praise you, Lord.**

**In the dead of night, I'll lift my eyes, I'll lift my eyes to you.
When the waters rise, I'll lift my eyes, I'll lift my eyes to you.
While there's hope in this heart I will praise you, Lord.**

**The joy of the Lord is my strength! The joy of the Lord is my strength!
In the darkness I'll dance, in the shadows I'll sing,
The joy of the Lord is my strength!**

**When I cannot see you with my eyes, let faith arise to you.
When I cannot feel your hand in mine, let faith arise to you.
God of mercy and love, I will praise you, Lord.**

**Oh you shine with glory, lord of light, I feel alive with you.
In your presence now, I come alive; I am alive with you.
There is strength when I say: “I will praise you, Lord!”**

**The joy of the Lord is my strength! The joy of the Lord is my strength!
In the darkness I'll dance, in the shadows I'll sing,
The joy of the Lord is my strength!**

**When sorry comes my way, you are the shield around me.
Always, you remain, my courage in the fight.
I hear you call my name. Jesus, I am coming,
Walking on the waves, reaching for your light!**

**The joy of the Lord is my strength! The joy of the Lord is my strength!
In the darkness I'll dance, in the shadows I'll sing,
The joy of the Lord is my strength!**

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 4:21–30 (NRSVUE)

Harold Frye

Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is this not Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' " And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

SONG TO REFLECT

"I'm Listening"

by Cowart, McClarney & Bronleewe

Praise Team

When you speak, confusion fades. Just a word, and suddenly I'm not afraid.

'Cause you speak and freedom reigns.

There is hope in ev'ry single word you say.

I don't wanna miss one word you speak, 'cause ev'rything you say is life to me.

I don't wanna miss one word you speak. Quiet my heart, I'm listening.

When sorrows roll and troubles rage, you whisper peace when I don't have the words to say.
I won't lose hope when storms won't break.
You keep your word and your promises will keep me safe.

I don't wanna miss one word you speak, 'cause ev'rything you say is life to me.
I don't wanna miss one word you speak. Quiet my heart, I'm listening.

Your ways are higher, you know just what I need.
I trust you, Jesus; you see what I cannot see.

Quiet my heart, I'm listening.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 13:1–13 (NRSVUE)

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“And the Greatest of These Is Love”

Rev. Karen Wright

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

All

**I have days I lose the fight, try my best but just don't get it right,
Where I talk a talk that I don't walk and miss the moments right before my eyes.
Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped, somebody with a hand that I could
have held,
When I just can't see past myself, Lord, help me be.**

**A little more like mercy, a little more like grace.
A little more like kindness, goodness, love and faith,
A little more like patience, a little more like peace
A little more like Jesus, a little less like me.**

**There's no denying I have changed. I've been saved from who I used to be.
But even at my best, I must confess, I still need help to see the way you see.
Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped, somebody with a hand that I could
have held,
When I just can't see past myself, Lord, help me be.**

**A little more like mercy, a little more like grace.
A little more like kindness, goodness, love and faith,
A little more like patience, a little more like peace
A little more like Jesus, a little less like me.**

**To feed the beggar on the street, love to be your hands and feet,
freely give what I receive, Lord, help me be.
I want to put you first above all else, love my neighbor as myself.
In the moments no one sees, Lord, help me be.**

**A little more like mercy, a little more like grace.
A little more like kindness, goodness, love and faith,
A little more like patience, a little more like peace
A little more like Jesus, a little less like me.**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving 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.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup – *approach from the center aisle, you will be given bread which will be dipped in the cup. Return to seat by the side aisles.*

Music During Communion “The Commission” by CAIN

*See my hands, and look at my feet. It's okay if it's hard to believe.
I have faith that you will do greater things. It's my time to go, but before I leave.
Go tell the world about me. I was dead, but now I live.
I've gotta go now for a little while, but goodbye is not the end.*

*Don't forget the things that I taught you. I conquered death and I hold the keys.
Where I go, you will go too, someday. But there's much to do here before you leave.
Go tell the world about me. I was dead, but now I live.
I've gotta go now for a little while,*

*but goodbye is not the end of the journey, the end of the road.
My spirit is with you wherever you go.
You have a purpose and I have a plan.
I'll make you this promise, I'll come back again, but until then:
Go tell the world about me. I was dead, but now I live.
I've gotta go now for a little while, but goodbye is not the end.*

Prayer After Communion

Sending

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Karen Wright

*SONG TO SEND

“Sing Wherever I Go”

by We the Kingdom

All

**All my life, all I know, God's been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I'm gonna sing wherever I go. (2X)**

God is for me, he's not against me. I will hold to the plans he has for me.

When I'm broken, he will fix me. I will call on the name of the Lord!

**All my life, all I know, God's been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I'm gonna sing wherever I go.**

**He's my heart-song in my sorrow. He's my hope and my strength for tomorrow.
When the storms rise all around me, I will call on the name of the Lord!**

**All my life, all I know, God's been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I'm gonna sing wherever I go. (2X)**

**I got joy, joy, joy deep in my soul!
I will sing, sing, sing wherever I go!**

**All my life, all I know, God's been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I'm gonna sing wherever I go. (2X)**

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.



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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.

