



Service of Worship — November 5, 2023

*"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.

FLOWERS TODAY are given in honor of Bridge Pastor Karen Wright's first Sunday at Grace Covenant.

ELDER ON DUTY: Mary Ann Weyforth

HEAD USHER: Dave Peck

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

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:

- Karen Wright (Bridge Pastor): karen.wright@gcpc.org
- Rebecca Prater (Music Dir.): 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

"Pray for one another" — James 5:15

We encourage you to remember the following in prayer:

All Grieving the Death of a Loved One: Amy Sweeten and family in the death of her mother.

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses: Wilma Haney

Cancer Treatment: Pam Kelly, Harold Farren, Katie Rickley

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

(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 WELCOME KAREN WRIGHT, our Bridge Pastor, to the pulpit. Rev. Karen Wright is an ordained minister in the PC(USA). She served as the Director of Christian Education at Westminster Presbyterian, Austin, TX, and became a Certified Christian Educator. Upon moving with her wife, Rev. Sally Wright, to the Kansas City area, Karen was ordained in 2014 and served as Associate Pastor at Southminster Presbyterian Church until the beginning of 2023. At the beginning of the year Karen embarked on a journey as a podcaster and author. Karen has a weekly podcast *Faith in the Cracks* and published a book *I Miss Grandma* this summer. Serving as a Bridge Pastor, Karen has found a space to use her ministerial gifts as well as continue to have time to write and seek opportunities to publish.

THE RED BAG CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS are in the hallway between the concourse and Heartland Hall. Sign up and help make Christmas brighter for a foster child. To help, simply select the gift(s) you will provide, fill in your name, phone number, and e-mail address beside it, and take the Post-it Note reminder. (Tip: Take a photo of your Post-it in case you lose it!) Then, **BEFORE Sunday, November 26**, bring the **wrapped** gift back to church **with the Post-it Note attached** and place it in the large boxes provided. Call Angela Krug (913-449-3916) for more information (or if you lost

your Post-it Note!). *Our sewers have again made stockings for all our Red Bag children! Please take one from the box under the table if you sign up to provide a stocking for one of the children.

THANK YOU!

Trunk or Treat: A big "Thank you!" from the Children's Team for helping make our Trunk or Treat event a ghouling success! We appreciate the donations given and ALL of our volunteers who helped set up, clean up, cook, serve, assist with games and trunk hosts. The event was a success thanks to all of you. Please look for photo highlights via our GCPC Facebook post and via the November newsletter.

Blood Drive: Thank you so much to the 24 people who came out to donate last week! Also, thank you to one of our newest members, Laura Johnson, for hosting so graciously. CBC is grateful to everyone who supported this drive and helped to "Save a Life. Right Here, Right Now." Mobile blood drives like ours account for more than 60% of the blood needed to keep our hospitals adequately supplied. Our March and June schedule will be available soon.

THE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING EVE CHILI SUPPER will take place in Heartland Hall on Wednesday, November 22, 5:30–6:45pm. Bring your out-of-town-guests, your next-door neighbors, your friend, or just yourself! As an Earth Care Congregation, we are asking everyone to bring their own tableware along with a pot of chili, a pan of cornbread, or a dessert. RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/GCPCchili>

2024 PLEDGE SUNDAY IS TODAY! Our theme for the pledge drive is *What the Future Holds*. We are basing our campaign on this scripture from Jeremiah 29:11 "I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." You can see our progress by stopping by the Generosity bulletin board. Please turn in your pledge to Tara Hyder, finance admin., or sign in on Realm: <https://onrealm.org/gcpc/-/form/pledge/2024pledgedoffering>. Please join us in creating an amazing future in 2024!



BELIEVE IT OR NOT, ADVENT IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER and Children's Team and Adult Team need some help planning our annual Advent Fair. Think "The Amazing Race", but instead "The Amazing Journey to Bethlehem" will be our theme. Joel Ilten, from the Adult Team, has some great ideas already, but we need a team to help us pull it off. Please let Angela Krug, angelakrug@yahoo.com or 913-449-3916, know if you would be interested in heading up this team or being a member of the team to help make this a success!

NEED ASSISTANCE FROM THE TECH CREW IN WORSHIP, A CLASS, OR AN EVENT? If you are wanting to project PowerPoint, a video, or anything else in worship, or if you need assistance for a Sunday school class or event related to media please get it to **Jason Turner, Audio Visual Technician**, no later than **Thursday by noon prior to the Sunday or three days prior to an event**. His e-mail address is: gcpc.media@gmail.com Thank you!

ADULT

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: IN ROOM 3 WE CONTINUE TO LOOK AT MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS, their history, evolution, conflicts and inter-relations, with each class presented by a different speaker. This Sunday's class, presented by Joel Ilten, covers the many tenets of the Hindu faith. Set your TV recorders to catch the early morning Chiefs game in Germany, and come join us! To attend via Zoom, please use the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83815237214?pwd=TVh4VWZldC9hbGJCL1k5dIVjWVlwUT09>

Meeting ID: 838 1523 7214 / Passcode: GCPC2022.

Future classes will conclude with Judaism and Buddhism. We hope to see you there!

CHILDREN

ATW (AWAKENING TO WORSHIP) IS AVAILABLE for our children age 4–2nd grade during worship today.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAMMING IS IN FULL SWING TOO. This week our children's music groups will meet for the duration of our Sunday school hour. They will be preparing for our December 3 Ring & Sing and Christmas Eve services.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, is a busy day for our children!

- We will continue our ATW and Sunday school programming.
- We offer a special Bible Workshop for our 3rd grade families. We recommend a parent attend with their child. The children will begin the workshop during the Sunday school hour and we expect the workshop to conclude around 12:30pm. A light lunch will be shared together.
- It's a SMASH Sunday too! From 4–6pm, our SMASH program will meet to discover more children of the Bible. This month we share the story of the boy with the loaves and fishes. RSVP via our GCPC Children Facebook event, or e-mail gpcchildren@gmail.com.

MISSION

OUR NOVEMBER IHN HOST WEEK is November 5–12. We are welcoming our second support church, Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church (SMUUCH) to this rotation. An orientation will be held 4–4:45pm, TODAY for our new volunteers and any of our current ones that wish to get an update. Please RSVP to Jane Knoche if you plan to attend. SMUUCH will cover Wednesdays including overnight and Saturday morning host and breakfast. Jane will be the lead primary coordinator on this rotation. Thank you in advance for supporting us with your hosting commitment and providing food and prayers this week!

THE GOOD FAITH NETWORK COMMUNITY PROBLEMS ASSEMBLY is November 12 at 3:30pm, Congregation Beth Torah, 6100 west 127th street, Overland Park. Carpooling is encouraged. Grace Covenant's Good Faith Network (GFN) Team Leaders thank the 35 people who have declared membership in GFN. Irrespective of "membership," everyone is welcome at the GFN Community Problems Assembly.

GENEROSITY

UPDATE FOR GOOD — LIVING IN GOD'S GRACE: Here is our pledging update as of October 3, 2023, which is 75% of the calendar year. There's been consistent progress with 75% of submitted pledges and 80% of rollover pledges received! As we draw closer to the end of the year, we really value your consistent giving. As always, we greatly **appreciate your generosity and commitment** to Grace Covenant. Please provide feedback to our team: Dave Sutherland, Ryan Hussey, Bill Brown, Rick Randolph and Jane Knoche.

Here is our giving progress shown by numbers of pledges:

Submitted Pledges (103)	April 12th	May 16th	June 19th	August 15th	Sept 19th	Oct 3 rd
0% fulfilled	32	24	22	15	14	14
1-25% fulfilled	33	12	10	4	5	3
26-50% fulfilled	29	52	50	18	10	8
51-75% fulfilled	0	3	8	44	49	38
76-100% fulfilled	7	11	13	22	25	40
\$527,258*	\$187,129	\$211,292	\$259,907	\$337,665	\$371,416	\$397,258

Rollover Pledges (27)	April 12th	May 16th	June 19th	August 15th	Sept 19th	Oct 3 rd
0% fulfilled	11	9	8	6	6	6
1-25% fulfilled	6	1	1	0	0	0
26-50% fulfilled	9	9	10	5	4	0
51-75% fulfilled	1	5	3	8	8	8
76-100% fulfilled	1	4	6	8	9	13
\$101,369	\$15,480	\$53,965	\$59,355	\$68,930	\$71,680	\$81,505

Five groupings are used to show giving progress and calendar relationship. They are 0%, 1–25%, 26–50%, 51–75%, 76–100%. Each pledge falls into one of these groups. *We are very grateful for the feedback on pledge amounts.

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church — 11100 College Blvd, OPKS 66210 gcpc.org