GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship — November 1, 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 worshiping with us today.

ELDER ON DUTY: Melanie Townsend

HEAD USHERS: John & Mary Pat Gilbert

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: The Baker and Bontje families in the death of Johnnie Baker.

Surgeries/Hospitalizations/Illnesses

Cancer Treatment: Trooper Shaw

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: Second Presbyterian Church, Kansas City, MO; South-Broadland Presbyterian Church, Kansas City, MO; Zone 3 (Plantation Area) churches and congregations in the Maya Quiché Presbytery

(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

JOIN US ON THE GCPC CAMPUS FOR WORKDAYS on Saturday, November 14 and 21, 9am to noon. Come at 8:30 for donuts and coffee then help with leaf pickup, iris planting, and shrub trimming. On the 14th bring rakes, lawn bags, and shovels. On the 21st bring loppers, pruning shears, and saws. Youth and children are welcome. Don't forget your gloves. Follow this link to sign up: https://gcpc.org/calendar/fallcleanup.html

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY! Thank you to everyone who submitted a 2027 pledge during our stewardship campaign! We are grateful for the overwhelming response and the generosity that continues to sustain our church's ministries and mission. Our goal was 100% participation. Whether or not you were able to make a financial commitment at this time, we want to hear from everyone. If you haven't yet submitted your pledge, it's not too late! You may return a pledge card, contact Tara Hyder in the church office, or submit your pledge confidentially online at gcpc.org/2027pledge. Thank you for being part of the GCPC family. Your generosity, faith, and commitment to our shared ministry make a difference in the life of our church and in

the lives of those we serve. We are grateful to walk this journey together as we continue to be *Led by the Spirit. Growing in Grace.*

IT'S RED BAG SEASON! It's the season of shopping, giving, and bringing joy and love to toddlers, preschoolers, children, and teens! This is our communion offering and donation partner for November. Grace Covenant provides nine gifts and one Christmas stocking for each child, including clothing, shoes, toys, and books. The Christmas stockings are made by our PieceMakers Quilting Group. They use cloth remnants to create a beautiful stocking gift.

How You Can Participate

1. **Choose your gift in Heartland Hall TODAY!** Select the gifts you would like to purchase from the children's wish lists. Take the **VERY IMPORTANT YELLOW POST-IT NOTE** attached to each selected item. Write your name, phone number, and email address on the note. We highly recommend taking a picture of it for your records!
2. **Shop for the gifts:** Be a strategic shopper and look for the best prices. When a child has requested a specific item, it will be noted on the list. Otherwise, choose an item based on the child's interests.
3. **Wrap your gifts**. Please assemble the gift, if needed and put in batteries; also include a **gift receipt**, especially with clothing purchases. If you bought a **gift card, place it in a box and wrap the box** so every gift is a surprise!
4. **Label and return your gifts by Sunday, November 29.** Attach the **YELLOW POST-IT NOTE** to the outside of each wrapped gift and bring it to church. Look for the collection boxes in the foyer. The yellow Post-it note is essential! It tells our volunteers what each gift is and which child should receive it.
5. **Add your Red Bag child or youth to your prayer list.** We do not know each child's individual circumstances, but we do know that every one of them is a dearly beloved child of God. Remembering your Red Bag child or youth in prayer throughout 2027 is an ongoing gift of love that extends far beyond Christmas morning.

Volunteers Needed: Gift Transportation

We need 5–6 volunteers with large vehicles (vans or trucks) to transport the gifts to the Ball Conference Center, 21350 W. 153rd St., Olathe, on Saturday, December 5, at approximately 10:00 a.m. No heavy lifting is required—just room in your vehicle to help deliver the gifts! If you can help, please contact Sandy Adams by text at 757-582-5292 or e-mail at sanadamsabc@gmail.com.

THE BRUNCH BUNCH will meet at Veritas restaurant, 5621 W. 135th Street, November 15 at 12:15pm. The restaurant does take reservations, so please RSVP to Mike Mattix by e-mail (mattixopks@gmail.com) or by text (913-558-6167) to ensure we have room for all.

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!

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
Adult Education is a place to explore our faith, ask questions, share perspectives, and grow together in community. If you haven't joined us recently—or have never attended—we'd love to have you! There's no need to have attended previous classes. Each Sunday offers a fresh opportunity to learn, reflect, and connect with one another.

Today, Join George Bures for **Reformed—and Still Being Reformed: "The Communion of Saints."** On this All Saints' Sunday, we'll explore what it means to be connected through faith—not only with one another, but also with those who have gone before us. Come discover how this beautiful understanding of Christian community can enrich our lives today.

Upcoming:
- **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” — Harold Frye, continuing *Living Matthew 25*
- **November 29:** Beyond the Headlines: **"Stories of Healing and Hope from Ukraine"** — Rick Randolph

Come as you are, bring your curiosity, and join the conversation. There's always a place for you!

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, ATW, 3rd grade Bible presentation in Worship

- **10:45–11:45 — ALL MUSIC SUNDAY**
  - JOY! Singers (4yo–1st grade) Rm 26
  - CELEBRATION! Singers (2nd–5th grade) Rm 15

- **11:05–11:45**
  - Toddlers Sunday School (2yo–3yo) Rm 20

- **11:45–1pm THIRD Grade Bible Workshop**
  - 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 gifted from the 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**

- **10:45–11:05am**
  - MS Singers 19b

    - HS Hang in Youth Lounge

- **11:05–11:45am**
    - Youth Sunday school HS 19a, MS 19b

COMING UP NEXT WEEK:

- 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.

KAIROS

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!**

GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2026/2027
Upcoming Events and Services

(Save these dates)

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, 5:30pm

Lent Begins - Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, February 10

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 27, 10am

Easter Sunday
Sunday, March 28, 9am and 11am

Youth Sunday
April 4, 9:30am

Vacation Bible School
June 7-11, 9-Noon

Vacation Bible School Sunday
June 13, 9:30am

~ 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

Revised 11/1/26