



Service of Worship — April 20, 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: Barbara Douglas (11am)

HEAD USHERS: Mike & Susan Fitzgerald (9am); Steve & Caroline Becher and Eric Burdette (11am)

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 (Transitional 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.):** Please e-mail both darktrainfilms@gmail.com & gcpc.media@gmail.com. If you need a video or audio played in worship, please send the link to Jason on the Wednesday prior to Sunday’s worship.

“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: Charlie Bogan, Jan Rosché

Cancer Treatment: Harold Farren, David Schesser, Cindy Schendel, Tom Jennings

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.**

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: Shawnee Presbyterian Church, Shawnee, KS; Iglesia Nain, Las Palmas, Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán, Sololá (MQP); Community Presbyterian Church, St. Joseph, MO

(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

REMINDER: The church offices will be closed Monday, April 21.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK: YOUTH SUNDAY! The middle and high schoolers of GCPC will be leading the worship service on April 27 — you won’t want to miss it! There won’t be ATW that day because our littles will want to stay and engage with the youth in worship. There will even be a fun worship snack! We hope everyone will come to worship next week to be inspired by our youth! A cookie reception will follow in Heartland Hall.

ENCOREKC! FOUNDATION PRESENTS ENSEMBLE MANIA! The EncoreKC! Foundation presents “Ensemble Mania” on Thursday, April 24, 7pm, at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. This exciting event will showcase a variety of talented ensembles, including EKC! Brass, EKC! SSA Chorus, EKC! Ukuleles, and EKC! Woodwinds. Come and enjoy an evening of uplifting music, performed by passionate musicians from our community. Bring your friends and family and celebrate the joy of ensemble music! For more details, visit encorekc.org.

ENCOREKC CHORUS AND EKC! ACT II WILL PRESENT A SPRING CONCERT, “Spring Forth Into Joy” Sunday, April 27, at Village Presbyterian Church on Antioch at 3pm. EKC! brass and other instrumentalists will also be performing. EncoreKC! Foundation is a 501(c)(3) comprised of musicians over the age of 50, all led by volunteers. Come enjoy an afternoon of uplifting music and entertainment. There will also be a silent auction, so come early. (Parking is limited, so be sure to carpool.) EncoreKC! Foundation is Artist in Residence at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.

MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU at Bell Fest: A Galactic Celebration of Music! In a sanctuary not so far, far away... the bells will ring, and the Force will sing! Join us for **Bell Fest on Sunday, May 4, at 6pm**, as we embark on an interstellar evening of music, harmony, and adventure. Experience the power of the bells as they echo through the galaxy, bringing balance to the Force and joy to all who listen. Jedi, Sith, and music lovers of all kinds are welcome — costumes encouraged! Don’t miss this force-filled night of fun and fellowship. The bells awaken ... will you answer the call?

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ON JUNE 22: On Sunday, June 22, 2025, we will gather at 9:30am for a special worship service, followed by brunch. Help us know how many people to plan for by submitting your RSVP at gcpc.org/40th-RSVP. Please share this link with friends, former members and others who have joined with us in ministry for these 40 years. Thank you!

VBS SIGNUPS AND VOLUNTEER INVITE: *Road Trip — On the Go with God* Vacation Bible School, June 2–6, 9am-Noon, Ages 4 yrs–5th Grade. Embark on a fun journey with God through the Bible! Pack your bags for an unforgettable adventure, where kiddos (Travelers) will set out on a fun-filled journey to exciting destinations. Guided by the Navigator and their trusty, adventurous pup Scout, kids will discover that God is always with them, no matter where the road leads. Head here to register and sign up to volunteer: <https://gcpc.org/vbs/roadtrip.html>

BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED, VOLUNTEERED, AND PARTICIPATED in our Easter Egg Hunt! It was a BLAST and we could not have done it without YOU! You are EGGScellent and that’s no YOKE!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS FOR OUR VBS SUPPLIES IN APRIL. With this generosity, we can provide VBS to our church community and neighbors at a very low cost. Throughout the month of May, we'll continue to have a donation board outside of the sanctuary and items on our amazon wish list: bit.ly/GCPCVBSDonations. Your donations can be returned to the bin just outside the sanctuary by May 20. Please, and thank you again! You make this awesome event possible with your donations.

VBS DECORATION: VBS planning is underway and that means many creative minds and hands are putting things together to bring our Road Trip theme to life for VBS. We've set up these working sessions and welcome anyone to join us. Please RSVP to Kristy Shaw or Christy Soule, it will help ensure we have supplies and plans ready for all the helping hands.

Decoration Prep:

Wed., May 14: 9–11:30am

Tues., May 20: 6–8pm

Decorating the week before VBS:

Tues., May 27: 9–11:30am & 6–8pm

Wed., May 28: 9–11:30am & 1–3pm

Thurs., May 29: 9–11:30am & 1–3 pm

Friday, May 30: 9–11:30am & 1–3pm

Sat., May 31: 9–11:30am and 1–3pm

Sunday, June 1: 12–2pm

ADULT

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES NEXT WEEK with Rick Randolph leading a discussion for Earth Day on Microplastics.

PAGE TURNERS BOOK GROUP invites you to a discussion of their May book selection *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys on Thursday, May 1, 7pm. We will meet at the home of Eileen Thomson, 14223 Eby, Overland Park, KS 66221. RSVP to esthompson@gmail.com or text to 913-461-3430. Everyone is welcome!

ALL WOMEN OF GRACE COVENANT ARE INVITED. Plan to attend the Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering; Saturday, May 3, 9:30am–Noon; Southminster Presbyterian Church, 6306 Roe Ave., Prairie Village, KS 66208. The PW Bible study this year focused on creation care and climate. Our own Grace Covenant member Brandon Hearn, Environmental Health Specialist with Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, is the keynote speaker. He will help us understand the program theme, "What Can I Really Do for the Earth?" Contact Ginny Wirtz, 913-851-8797, about carpooling or other information.

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT IS LOOKING FOR HELP FROM THE WHOLE CHURCH

to pull off our summer VBS program! Would you like to help lead kiddos, organize, serve snacks, decorate, donate funds, or something else? Any help at all will be greatly appreciated! It takes a village to pull an event like this off! You can be an important part of this life-changing event at our church! Sign up to help here: <https://gcpc.org/vbs/volunteer.html>, or check with Emily—she will find a spot for you to help out: (emily.dixon@gcpc.org)



CHILDREN

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL do not meet today but will resume next week!

AWAKENING TO WORSHIP will take a break this morning and next week.

BIBLE WORKSHOP: We had a lovely time getting into our NEW Bibles at the Bible workshop last month. Thank you to all who participated and to GCPC for our wonderful Bible gifts!

YOUTH

YOUTH SUNDAY: The middle and high schoolers of GCPC will be leading the worship service *next Sunday*, April 27. We will have a rehearsal on Saturday, April 26, 10am–1pm (including lunch). Contact Emily with questions.

MISSION

APRIL DONATION PARTNER: A Gathering of Friends: A Gathering of Friends is a grassroots organization serving those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity in Johnson and Wyandotte counties. A Gathering of Friends relies on donations and volunteers for everything needed to make sure those they serve have a good, home cooked meal each week, along with sandwiches, snacks, and fresh fruits to eat later, as well as supplies to ensure their safety, health, and comfort. Please see the list below for what you can donate to support their mission. Donations can go in the Weekday Entrance bin anytime in April.

AA and AAA batteries

backpacks*

reusable shopping bags*

flashlights

lighters

men's large/XL T-shirts*

hoodies*

men's jeans/sweats/cargo*

tents*

sleeping bags*

insect repellent

*gently used items are ok!

APRIL COMMUNION OFFERING PARTNER — One Great Hour of Sharing. The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering benefits: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. See your bulletin insert for more information.

THE GOOD FAITH NETWORK INVITES EVERYONE to join us at the Nehemiah Action Event on Tuesday May 6, 6pm at Resurrection United Methodist Church 13720 Roe Ave., Leawood. The event is part of the Good Faith Network's efforts to ask for commitments from local decision-makers who have the power to implement our requests for specific actions. Each request supports issues addressing mental health, homelessness, affordable housing and elder care. We are aiming for 75 participants from GCPC to contribute to a Network goal of 1650 participants. For any questions or for more information please contact one of the following:

Dave Pack: dipack.12645@gmail.com; Don or Joy Wilson: donjoywilson@gmail.com;

Eileen Thomson: esthompson@gmail.com

Upcoming Events and Services

(Save these dates)

Church Office Closed

Easter Monday, April 21

Spring Clean-Up Day

Saturday, April 26, 9am-3pm

Youth Sunday

Sunday, April 27, 9:30pm

Bell Fest XXXV

"May The Fourth Be With You"

Featuring all Bell Choirs

Sunday, May 4, 6-8pm

Church Office Closed

Memorial Day

Monday, May 26

Vacation Bible School

"Road Trip - On the Go with God!"

June 2 - June 6, 9am-Noon

Children Ages 4 yrs – 5th Grade

Volunteers can also register at link below

****Register children at gcpc.org/vbs**

Church Office Closed

Juneteenth

Thursday, June 19

GCPC 40th Anniversary

Celebration with Brunch

Following Worship

Sunday, June 22, 9:30am

(Please RSVP your attendance)

****RSVP at gcpc.org/40th-rsvp**

"Embellish Handbell Choir"

of Grand Rapids, Michigan

Concert

Tuesday, July 8

GCPC 40th Anniversary

Friendship Bracelet Making Party

Saturday, July 12, 1-3pm

Heartland Hall

****RSVP at gcpc.org/friendship**

Ministry Fair

Sunday, August 10, 10:30am

Worship in the Park

(Lunch following)

Sunday, September 7, 9:30am

Meadowbrook Park

Fall BBQ

Saturday, October 4, 5pm

A Christmas Exclamation!

Sunday, December 7, 6pm



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**](http://gcpc.org/calendar)