



Service of Worship — December 5, 2021

***“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 by Susan & Michael Fitzgerald in celebration of their 39th Anniversary.

ELDER ON DUTY: Jim Byrd **HEAD USHER:** Dave Peck

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

“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: Kathy Jonas

Ageing Challenges: Shirley Sisk

Military Service: David Zak, C.J. Bradley, Seth Lorimer, Mary E. Johnson II, Alanna Funk, Bryce Hearn, Shannon Lorimer. **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'd like to include in the bulletin, please contact the church office at office@gcpc.org, or send to gcpc_prayers@yahoo.com.)

SPOTLIGHT

SEASONAL CELEBRATIONS:

A CHRISTMAS EXCLAMATION!

TONIGHT, 6pm – Sanctuary

In Person, Facebook Live, or Zoom

Join us for this fun & festive Christmas program. You'll hear our children, youth, & adults singing & ringing some of our Christmas favorites. We'll also throw in some fun videos & YOU will get to sing some carols & songs! It's a "don't miss event!" You may also join in the fun via [Facebook Live](#) or Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85634826171?pwd=d3lNUWc1LzM5M3B3NWlNdVZhWkxudz09>

Passcode: GCPC2021

SONGS OF THE SEASON

will be presented this morning in worship

by Praise Team – Carrie DeVries, director *plus*

Vocals – Michelle Gailliez-Frye, Donna Goeckler, Jami Howe, Terri Monrad,
& Nelson Townsend

Keyboard – Melanie Townsend,

Hammered Dulcimer – Cal Sweeten,

Guitar – Christopher Callender,

Percussion – Daniel Cole,

& Tech Crew

and on

Sunday, December 19, 9:30am

by *Chancel Choir & Exaltation! Singers and Instrumentalists – Linda Dover, organist;
and Patrick O'Halloran and Rebecca Prater, directors

**A safety note about this choral presentation: Chancel Choir & Exaltation! Singers I, II, & III will combine to present their songs LIVE in the sanctuary from the choir loft. All singers are fully vaccinated, will be masked, and will be distanced from each other and the congregation. As always, this worship service will also be available online to view and participate in.*

POINSETTIA DONATIONS: Festive poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas season. If you would like to be a part of the tradition of purchasing a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one, you may do so by enclosing your donation in one of the poinsettia envelopes in the pews and place in the wooden offering box at the back of the Sanctuary. Please be sure to neatly print your name and who the memorial/honor recognizes in block letters. You may also make a donation through the [online giving portal](#) on our website, or by sending your

donation to the church office: GCPC, 11100 College Blvd., OPKS 66210, Attn: Patrick. *Deadline for names to be included in the bulletin insert is Wednesday, December 15.* Thank you!

CARE KITS: Our youth packed care kits that you are free to take and pass out to people on street corners or wherever you see someone who could use one. Look for baskets between the doors of the main entrance and Weekday Entrance with Zip-lock bags full of goodies. Take as many as you desire.

THIS YEAR'S STEWARDSHIP THEME IS, "GIFT — GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER." This year we ask each other to help one another out as we make plans for what we see as a wonderful opportunity to share in God's grace. This is necessary so we can have a timely and accurate budget for the year. **If we haven't heard from you by December 6, making any changes to your pledge, we will assume your pledge will remain the same for 2022.** This is necessary for the Session to create a budget, to move ahead and provide direction for our mission and education programs. Visit gcpc.org/gift2022.

CONTACTING STAFF: A reminder that the GCPC church building has returned to normal operations. The office is open from 8am to 4pm, but the best way to reach a staff member is by e-mail:

Rev. Sue: sue.trigger@gcpc.org

Rev. Mitch: mitch.trigger@gcpc.org

Rebecca Prater (music dir.): rebecca.prater@gcpc.org

Miles McDonald (youth dir.): miles.mcdonald@gcpc.org

Patrick Bell (office admin.): patrick.bell@gcpc.org

Tara Hyder (finance admin.): finance@gcpc.org

HOW TO PLEDGE DURING THIS TIME: Although we are now offering limited in-person worship, we encourage those who normally put their pledge in the offering plate each Sunday to mail their pledges to the church. The Finance Administrator will get them and see that they are deposited in a timely fashion. Of course, you may also make your pledge online by going to gcpc.org and clicking "Online Giving."

ADULT

FOLLOW ME — BIBLICAL PRACTICES FOR FAITHFUL LIVING: Come for a unit, come for a class, or come every Sunday! Take a look at what's coming up:

- **December 5–January 2:** Hope: Hope is Waiting in Faith

This adult class will meet in **Room 3 at 10:45am**. Or join via Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/yanmupj9>.

CHURCH (PCUSA) AND SOCIETY: Appropriately for the Advent Season the Church and Society adult education class will be **The Troubled Land of Jesus' Birth** (December 5, 12, 19). Pastor Mitch travelled to this area in 2014 and will share his perspectives along with discussion leader Dave Pack. Others who have travelled to this area are encouraged to share their experiences. The class will meet in **Room 4 at 10:45am**, or join via Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/krd5pz84>.

YOUTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Hope to see you today at 10:45 — breakfast snacks provided. As always, let Miles know ahead of time if you want to join via Zoom.

A CHRISTMAS EXCLAMATION! Today our Ex! singers will be having pizza at 5:15 before the concert and we encourage ALL our youth to come join us for pizza and hang out. Let us know if you plan to come so we order enough. We might also hangout afterwards.

ICE SKATING AND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS: Join us on **December 12** when we will go Ice Skating at Park Place in Town Center. Following skating, we will go looking at Christmas lights and then come back to church for hot chocolate and cookies. Bring a friend!

CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH KNOX PRESBYTERIAN DECEMBER 19: We will be joining Knox Presbyterian for a Christmas party! There will be a white elephant gift exchange (funny gifts only). Tune into next week's e-mail for more details!

SUMMER TRIP PLANNING: We need to get planning for our high school summer trips (graduated 8th–12th grade).

- **M&M:** Our high school 2022 Mission & Music trip for 8th through 12th grades is happening either the 2nd or 3rd full week of June 2022 (somewhere between June 10–25). We will be going to the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota.
- **Triennium:** Presbyterian Youth Triennium will be in Indianapolis this summer, July 24–27. It is an AMAZING event that happens every 3 years.

Are you interested in participating in either or both of these events? Please let us know if you haven't already.

MISSION

NEED A GIFT FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS EVERYTHING? Consider an Alternative Gift Certificate! This year you have a choice — buy your Alternative Gift Cards online or in person! Both options run through December 19. We have gift certificates ranging from \$1 to \$50, supporting causes

from clean water in South Sudan, to stocking Rosehill Elementary with art supplies and medicines for the nurse's office.

- Online: Look online at www.gcpc.org/gift to see your options. You can pay online through the GCPC giving portal or send a check to the church office. You'll get more instructions about payment options when you submit your order. You'll get your certificates by e-mail from Mikki Walker within a few days of submitting your order. You can then print them out or save them on your computer to e-mail on to the lucky recipient.
- In Person: Look for a table outside Heartland Hall between worship and Sunday school, and for 15 minutes after Sunday School ends. You can pay with cash or check, or online, and walk away with your certificates right away.

Send an e-mail to michala.walker@gmail.com with any questions!

KAIROS FAIR TRADE SALE EXTENDED! Thank you for your support last Sunday! We heard from many of you, sad that you had missed it, so we are holding one more sale TODAY. Stop by, and help us empty our stock and fill your pantry with products made by farmers and producers who have been FAIRLY paid. Mission Team will be selling Alternative Gift Certificates just at the entrance to Heartland Hall, and KAIROS FAIR TRADE will be located just inside Heartland Hall.

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

gee
hope

FYI

DECEMBER 5 IS THE BIRTHDAY OF POET CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, born in London in 1830. Perhaps her most famous poem became the lyrics for a well-known Christmas carol, which begins:

*In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago.*

DECEMBER 6 IS THE FEAST DAY OF ST. NICHOLAS, a fourth-century bishop from Myra, in what is now Turkey; he's the patron saint of children and sailors, renowned for his generosity. In many parts of the world, on the evening of December 5, children put their shoes just outside their houses' front doors — and during the night, it is said, St. Nicholas fills the shoes with presents such as sweets, chocolate coins, fruit, and nuts, to be enjoyed the next day. The figure of Santa Claus developed out of the tradition of St. Nicholas, and the custom of hanging stockings, perhaps, is a cozy homage to the placement of shoes outside.

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.

