



Sunday November 19, 2023

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
*of* **BELLA VISTA**

1880 Forest Hills Blvd.  
Bella Vista, Arkansas 72715

(479) 855-2390 [www.pcbv.org](http://www.pcbv.org)  
E-mail: [pcbvoffice@pcbv.org](mailto:pcbvoffice@pcbv.org)

# LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

## MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Judi McMillan

## LITURGIST

Bud Clark

## MUSIC DIRECTOR

Bud Clark

## ORGANIST/PIANIST

Gail Knudsen

## CHANCEL CHOIR

Betty Bennett, Arlene Biebesheimer, Jerry Biebesheimer, Bud Clark, Christy Clark, Lon Cross,  
Dick Francis, Gail Knudsen, Sharry McGuire, Peggy McMenus, Jean Nichols,  
Mary Nimis-Tysk, Nancy Ortman, David Riter, Florence Riter, Gary Harris,  
Edie Harris, Nancy Shriner, Karen Watson, & Lynn Zemlicka

## CHANCEL BELL CHOIR

Cathie Whittenberger, Karen Watson, Gail Knudsen, Barb Tropansky, Sharon Warner, Arlene  
Biebesheimer, Florence Riter, Gail Cowdin, Jan Grim

## WELCOME DESK

Gayle Winsor

## HEAD USHER

Karen Schneider

## USHERS/GREETERS

Sharon Judson, Maureen Lynch,  
Frank Taylor, Eddie Lou Taylor

## COFFEE HOSTS

Shepherd Group #4  
David & Sharon Warner

# A SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

*An asterisk (\*) indicates that those who are able may stand;  
**Bold type** — please respond in unison.*

## WE GATHER AND PREPARE OUR HEARTS

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME

PRELUDE      *“All Things Bright and Beautiful”*      Patricia Harris

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, you have been our dwelling place;

**we come today to rest in you.**

You have been the voice that guides us;

**we come today to listen.**

You have been the host who feeds us;

**we come today to be filled.**

You have been our joy and crown;

**we come today to sing your praise!**

\*HYMN #804      *“Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart”*      (1, 2, 5)

### CALL TO CONFESSION

We know that our sins are too heavy for us to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. But we also know that you can lift that weight from us and transform our lives. So we lift our prayer of confession to you.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that once again, we have done what is evil in your sight. We've made mistakes. We've made missteps. We have hurt people, by action and inaction. We have wounded creation, by action and inaction. We have chosen our ways over yours, by action and inaction. And if the sum total of what we have done and what we have not done adds up to evil in your sight, then in your sight we ask you to turn us towards goodness. Forgive our past, and shape our future that we might build your kingdom here. In the strong name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

*(Moment of silence for personal confession)*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! Who is our God?  
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.  
We are forgiven, rescued and redeemed. Alleluia! Amen.

## THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**All: And also with you.**

*(Please take this opportunity to "pass the peace" to those around you.)*

## \*GLORIA PATRI #581

# WE ENCOUNTER THE WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, your wisdom guides us deep into the mystery of your truth. Speak to us today, that we might understand your will and walk in your ways. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

## FIRST READING (RESPONSIVE)

Psalm 90:1-8

- 1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
in all generations.
- 2 **Before the mountains were brought forth  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**
- 3 You turn us back to dust  
and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
- 4 **For a thousand years in your sight  
are like yesterday when it is past  
or like a watch in the night.**
- 5 You sweep them away; they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
- 6 **in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
in the evening it fades and withers.**
- 7 For we are consumed by your anger;  
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.
- 8 **You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

## SECOND READING

Matthew 25:14-30

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers,

and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

**SERMON** *"When We Grow What's Entrusted To Us"* Rev. Dr. Judi McMillan

**\*HYMN #735** *"I Need Thee Every Hour"* (vs. 1, 2, 4)

## **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (adapted from the Confession of 1967)

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of our life. It is the will of God that God's purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## 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.

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING & DEDICATION OF PLEDGES

When we give, we combat the lie  
that we do not matter in this world.  
So as we enter a time of giving,  
I invite you to reflect  
on how your life, your skills,  
your time, and your money  
matters to this congregation  
and to God's mission in the world.

## OFFERTORY

*"Peaceful Interlude"*

Lani Smith

## \*DOXOLOGY #606

*"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.



## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God,  
with Thanksgiving quickly approaching,  
we are reminded to give you thanks  
for the ministries of this congregation  
which you have entrusted us with.  
We are honored by the opportunity  
to be your holy body here.  
Bless these offerings, however they are given  
that our efforts may be ever more worthy of your  
name. Amen.

## WE GO FORTH TO MINISTER

### INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*HYMN #829                      *“My Faith Looks Up To Thee”*    (vs. 1, 2, 4)

### \*CHARGE & BLESSING

\*GOING FORTH #836                      *“Abide With Me”*                      (vs. 1)

\*POSTLUDE                      *“We Gather Together”*                      T. Baker



# Weekly News

## WELCOME!

*We hope you will find your time of worship with us to be very meaningful. We are an open faith community.*

Please visit [www.pcbv.org](http://www.pcbv.org), or call the Church Office at 855-2390 if you would like to learn more about us and inquire about membership.

## OFFICE HOURS

MON- WEDS:  
9 am to 4 pm  
THURS: 9am to 3pm  
FRIDAY: CLOSED

For pastoral emergencies, please call or text Pastor Judi at 248-688-8736. Pastor's day off is Friday, she will return calls later. To schedule an in-person appointment, please email her at [jmcmillan@pcbv.org](mailto:jmcmillan@pcbv.org) stating your need.

**Deacons on Call for November:**  
Gail Knudsen  
Gene McKay

**11/12/2023 Attendance:**  
Members: 98, Visitors: 4, Online 20

**This week's flowers are in honor of**  
*The Anderson's 63rd Wedding Anniversary.*



**You are invited to refreshments and a time of fellowship after the service.**

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

P.W. is receiving the Thank Offering during the month of November.

Checks can be made out to P.W. with Thank Offering in the memo line and left in the church office for the P.W. Treasurer.

**OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**  
**11/23 for Thanksgiving**

## HELPING HANDS FOOD CONTRIBUTIONS

September through the middle of November will be food supplies for Thanksgiving boxes. Place items on Helping Hands table in the Connector Hall. *Thank you!*

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please submit your submissions to [pcbvoffice@pcbv.org](mailto:pcbvoffice@pcbv.org) with "newsletter" in the subject line.

## CALENDAR

**Sunday, November 19**  
9:00am Christian Ed Class  
10:00am Worship  
(Dedication Stewardship Pledges)

**Monday, November 20**  
7:45am Exercise (F/H)  
9:00am P & P Manual (A)  
12:00pm PEO meeting (F/H)

**Tuesday, November 21**  
10:30am Fun w Writing (P)

**Wednesday, November 22**  
7:45am Exercise (F/H)  
5:00pm Chancel Bells  
6:00pm Chancel Choir

**Thursday, November 23**  
OFFICE CLOSED  
8:00am Exercise (F/H)  
12:00pm Thanksgiving Dinner

**Friday, November 24**  
OFFICE CLOSED  
1:00pm Busy Hands (Lobby)

**Saturday, November 25**  
No Events

**Sunday, November 26**  
9:00am Christian Ed Class  
10:00am Worship / Communion/UCM Minute for Mission





The Tuesday afternoon Samba group celebrating Peggy McMenus' 94th birthday!

## CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Please mark your calendars to help us beautify our church for the ADVENT Season on Thursday, Nov. 30th at 9:30 AM. It will be fun. Please come and help. The more help, the sooner the job is done. Please sign up in Connector Hallway or just come. Thank you, Shirley Olson



Attendees enjoying the recent Stewardship Luncheon.

## ADVENT EXPERIENCES

Our Advent Workshops begin November 28th with card-making. Come and make a Christmas card, or two. Sign up in Connector Hallway.

If you have extra glitter at home, please let Pastor Judi know. Perhaps you've decorated with glitter in the past, Judi promises to be very careful with it. *Angels will be watching!*

## THANKSGIVING DINNER SIGN-UP

On Thursday the 23rd we will be having our annual Thanksgiving dinner. Sign-up sheet is at the information center!

## CHURCH KEY RETURN

If you have been given a key to the church, please return to the office. We will be assigning keypad codes soon.

## PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S ROADSIDE PICKUP

Presbyterian Men's Roadside Pickup is scheduled for **Saturday, Dec. 2** at 9:00 am. Please sign up in the Information Center.

## BIRTHDAYS

**Nov 23 Bernie Hietbrink**

**Nov 24 Robert Saxton**

**Nov 25 Tony Francis**



*Happy Thanksgiving!*