



Sunday April 28, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of **BELLA VISTA**

1880 Forest Hills Blvd.
Bella Vista, Arkansas 72715

(479) 855-2390 www.pcbv.org
E-mail: pcbvoffice@pcbv.org

LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Judi McMillan

LITURGIST

Jean Nichols

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Bud Clark

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Gail Knudsen

CHANCEL CHOIR

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

CHANCEL BELL CHOIR

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

WELCOME DESK

Sharon Warner

HEAD USHER

Karen Schneider, Jerre Lender

USHERS/GREETERS

Sharon Judson, Dale Judson, Barb Francis, Maura Owens

COFFEE HOSTS

Shepherd Group #2
Barry & Maura Owen

AUDIO/VISUAL

Carolyn Cross, Tom Hackleman,
Steve Little, Jim Watson

Special thanks to Bruce Allen for his many years of service to the AV team.

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 *“It Was the Wind”* Marilyn Bliss
Arlene Biebesheimer, Soprano & Charles Whitford, Native American Flute

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,
for we are the church of Jesus Christ!
We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,
opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!

***HYMN #366** *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”* (1, 2, 4)

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we come before God, we remember and proclaim who God is: merciful, just, holy, and loving. We must also remember who we are, and we are a people who have not always been the people God has called us to be. We have not always been merciful, just, holy or loving.

So let us confess our sin, trusting in God’s goodness to forgive us and create us anew for our lives ahead.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it.

Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.

(Moment of silence for personal confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace. Thanks be to God! 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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 4:7–21

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

26 **The poor shall eat and be satisfied;**
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.
May your hearts live forever!

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

28 **For dominion belongs to the Lord,**
and he rules over the nations.

29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

30 **Posterity will serve him;**
future generations will be told about the Lord

31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

ANTHEM*“Eternal Life” (Prayer of St. Francis)*

Olive Duncan

Soloist: Arlene Biebesheimer

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1–8

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your words of love and grace this day. Amen.

SERMON *“Bendy, Twisty, Sky-ward Branches”* Rev. Dr. Judi McMillan

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

HYMN #403

“Open Now Thy Gates Of Beauty”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*)

We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord’s Supper. Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may serve God in love. We believe the good news that gives us comfort that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our sake, so that nothing will ever separate us from God’s love. We know this good news through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.

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

Having heard the good news and being assured of God's love and grace, our only response is one of gratitude. Let us give thanks with what we have and who we are. Let us give our offering.

OFFERTORY *"Offertory on Dundee"* Gordon Young

***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

Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have and for your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO MINISTER

INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***HYMN #438** *"Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me"* (1, 2, 4)

*CHARGE & BLESSING

***GOING FORTH #63** *"The Lord Is God"* (vs.1)

***POSTLUDE** *"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"* Franklin Ritter



Weekly Vista

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, 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 2pm
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 stating your need.

Deacons on Call
for April:
Susan Foster,
Gail Cowden

4/14/2024 Attendance:
Members: 101 Visitors: 17 Online 24



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

SPRING FLING:

PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ

Saturday June 1, 3pm-5:00pm
"Puttin' on the Ritz" is a style show fundraiser also featuring live music, silent auction and savories. Tickets \$10.

UCM BIKE-A-THON

Please support this year's United Campus Ministry Bike-A-Thon Spring Fundraiser! This spring UCM is focusing on creating sustainability for its critical work of engaging, equipping, and empowering leaders for the church and the world. You can pledge to UCM (in support of Pastor Judi's riding) by signing on the sheet provided in the connector hallway.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please submit your submissions to pcbvoffice@pcbv.org with "newsletter" in the subject line.

CALENDAR

Sunday, April 28

9:00am Christian Ed Class
10:00am Worship

Monday, April 29

No Events

Tuesday, April 30

10am Outreach (C)
5:30pm-6:30pm Men's AA (A)

Wednesday, May 1

9:30am Deacon's (A)
3pm Congregational Life (C)
5:00pm Chancel Bells
6:00pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 2

No Events

Friday, May 3

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
1:00pm Busy Hands (Lobby)

Saturday, May 4

9:30am Presbyterian Men's Group (F/H)

Sunday, May 5

9:00am Christian Ed Class
10am Worship/
Communion / Home
Communion

TURPENTINE CREEK GROUP ADVENTURE WEDNESDAY MAY 15, 2024



We will leave church at 8:30am. You can car pool or we can rent a van or a bus depending on the number of people wanting to go. The group cost to us is \$10.00 a person for tickets to the park. I suggest that you bring a picnic lunch. There are tables and benches to eat on and they were not sure if concessions would

be open for drinks. Rain checks given if it rains. This trip is open to the church. We will need to collect the admission fees by May 1st. *Sign-up sheet is in the Connector Hall.*

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

SoNA Singers, the 87 voice chorus for the Symphony of Northwest Arkansas will perform a free choral concert on Sunday, April 28 at 2:00 pm at the Fayetteville Public Library. The concert is free and parking is free at the library.

Andante Music Club is presenting a concert in honor of National Music Week at the Mildred Cooper Memorial Chapel in Bella Vista on May 7, at 6:30 pm. Church members who are performing include Charles Whitford and Jerry and Arlene Biebesheimer.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S GROUP
May 1 @ 9:00am (A)

STATED SESSION
May 11 @ 9:00am (A)

BIRTHDAYS
Apr 30 Doc Irwin
May 3 Harlan Freerks

Church Merch

We are now offering summer t-shirts & polos!



**Instructions: Mark your selections and bring the form to the office with cash or check!
Write any additional instructions on the back of your form.**

We will notify you when your order arrives. Please allow up to three weeks for delivery.



A



PCBV PET BLESSING T-SHIRT

Colors: **Gold, Pink, or White**

PCBV pet blessing printed on front.

Choose Size: **S M L XL XXL**

Price: \$35.00

Contact: _____



B



PCBV WATERCOLOR T-SHIRT

PCBV watercolor logo printed on front.

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Price: \$35.00

Contact: _____



C



PCBV COMPASS T-SHIRT

Shirt Color: **Ash**

PCBV compass logo printed on front.

Choose Size: **S M L XL XXL**

Price: \$35.00

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D



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