



Sunday July 14th, 2024

8TH 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

Jean Nichols

## MUSIC DIRECTOR

Bud Clark

## ORGANIST/PIANIST

Sandy Andrews

## Special Musicians

Sandy Andrews and Charles Whitford

## WELCOME DESK

Vicki Erickson

## HEAD USHER

Karen Schneider, Jerre Lender

## USHERS/GREETERS

Delores Jennings, Jan Grim, Karen Watson, Mary Nimis-Tysk

## COFFEE HOSTS

Shepherd Group #3

Nancy Ortman & Buddy Needham

## AUDIO/VISUAL

Carolyn Cross, Tom Hackleman,  
Steve Little, Jim Watson

# 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      *“Sonate VII, Largo*      Jean Baptiste Loeillet, op. 1 Nr. 7

### CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls      God gathers      God challenges      God moves  
God liberates      God saves

**Guide us and our lives, O Holy One, so all creation might flourish.**

\*HYMN #724      *“O Jesus, I Have Promised” (vs 1,2,4)*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

The truth is liberating. Let us honestly examine our hearts and confess our sins before God.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we belittle ourselves in the face of overwhelming problems. We tell ourselves we are powerless to create positive change. We tell ourselves peace is impossible as we invest billions in weapons of war. We refuse new ideas, new solutions, new voices. We are stuck – trapped! – in our comfortable ways. Forgive our reluctance, God. Forgive our ignorance. Forgive our excuse-making. Turn us to all that is possible through you. Amen.

*(Moment of silence for personal confession)*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Christ has set us free. Claim your forgiveness. Rejoice in God's grace. Respond with bold, courageous love. 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

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 85:1-7

- <sup>1</sup> LORD, you were favorable to your land;  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- <sup>2</sup> You forgave the iniquity of your people;  
you pardoned all their sin. *Selah*
- <sup>3</sup> You withdrew all your wrath;  
you turned from your hot anger.
- <sup>4</sup> Restore us again, O God of our salvation,  
and put away your indignation toward us.
- <sup>5</sup> Will you be angry with us forever?  
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- <sup>6</sup> Will you not revive us again,  
so that your people may rejoice in you?
- <sup>7</sup> Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

## RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 85:8-13

- <sup>8</sup> Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people,  
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
- <sup>9</sup> **Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,  
that his glory may dwell in our land.**
- <sup>10</sup> Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
- <sup>11</sup> **Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**
- <sup>12</sup> The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- <sup>13</sup> **Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps.**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*"The Church Triumphant "*

Fred Brock

Duet—Sandy Andrews and Charles Whitford

## Gospel Reading

Mark 6:14-29

<sup>14</sup> King Herod heard of it, for Jesus's name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead, and for this reason these powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup> But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." <sup>16</sup> But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

<sup>17</sup> For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. <sup>18</sup> For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." <sup>19</sup> And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not, <sup>20</sup> for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he liked to listen to him. <sup>21</sup> But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. <sup>22</sup> When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests, and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." <sup>23</sup> And he swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." <sup>24</sup> She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." <sup>25</sup> Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

<sup>26</sup> The king was deeply grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. <sup>27</sup> Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, <sup>28</sup> brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. <sup>29</sup> When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Prepare our hearts and minds for the hearing of your Word, Holy God.  
Open us to your truth. Humble us to your way. Amen

SERMON      *"Interpreting Difficult Texts"*

Rev. Dr. Judi McMillan

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

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

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.  
In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(fill out a prayer card or speak directly into microphone)

### 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

In gratitude to God for all our blessings, let us bless others with a portion of all we have been given. Let us present our offerings to God.

### OFFERTORY

*"Give Me Jesus"*

Mark Hayes

### \*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

Most generous God, you have blessed us with gifts to serve and share. May the offerings we present today be used to promote the peace, justice and healing you desire for us and your world. Amen.

## WE GO FORTH TO MINISTER

### INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*HYMN #729**                    *“Lord, I Want To Be A Christian” (vs1,2,4)*

**\*CHARGE & BLESSING**

**\*GOING FORTH #834**    *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” (vs1)*

**\*POSTLUDE**            *“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”*  
Hugh S Livingston Jr.





# 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](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  
closed for lunch 12-12:30  
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 July:**  
Terry Woods,  
Sharon Judson,

**7/7/2024 Attendance:**  
Members: 94 Visitors: 12, Online: 14



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



There is a sign-up sheet in Connector Hallway to "Check" your 3 Favorite Hymns for our August 25th Hymn Sing. Add your favorite to the list if you don't see it!

## BIRTHDAYS

**July 14** Cathy Rew

**July 15** Sandy August

**July 15** Bill Bennett

**July 16** Vicki Erickson

**July 17** Martha Wettersten

**July 19** Janet Hall

**July 21** Becky Morgan

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

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

## CALENDAR

**Sunday, July 14**  
10am Worship

**Monday, July 15**  
9:30am-3:30pm—  
Bentonville Presbyterian  
Staff Retreat (A)  
11:00am-3:00pm PEO  
Chapter CD (F/H)  
4:00-5:00pm Book Study  
(Ch 7-8)

**Tuesday, July 16**  
5:30pm -6:30pm Men's AA  
(A)

**Wednesday, July 17**  
No Events

**Thursday, July 18**  
1:00-3:00pm Ozark Hikers (C)  
2:00-3:00pm Book Study  
(Ch 11-13)

**Friday, July 19**  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
1:00pm Busy Hands (Lobby)

**Saturday, July 20**  
No Events

**Sunday, July 21**  
10am Worship

# Martha Wettersten



**Everyone, please join us in  
Fellowship Hall to celebrate  
Martha's birthday with her!**

## Mission Corner

In support of our missions contributions , PCBV has received thank you letters for our contributions from University of the Ozarks, United Camus Ministry, Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center, Care &18 Share of Gravette, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

During the months of June, July and August you may also contribute to the Kids Snack Pac Mission through Helping Hands. Contribute with your contribution in the connector hallway.

You can also contribute to a mission for school supplies to the Gravette School system in the tubs provided on the stage in fellowship hall.

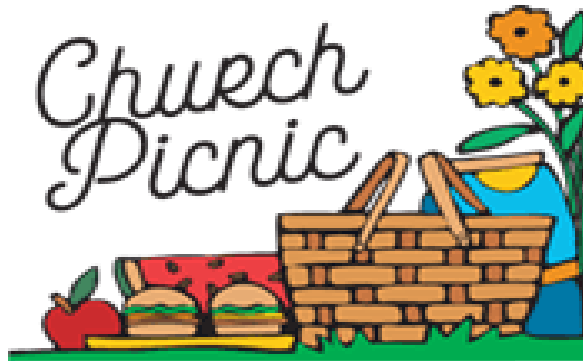
The Blessing Box is being emptied frequently, please continue to bring in donations. Remember on these hot summer days canned goods cannot be placed in the Blessing Box if the daytime temperatures are forecasted over 80 degrees temperatures

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Time to start collecting school supplies for Gravette Schools. A list of supplies will be in the connector hall. There are tubs marked for school supplies in the connector hall. Boxes are on the stage in Fellowship hall. If you prefer you can make a check to PCBV; memo line school supplies and we will purchase them. Thank you! - *Missions*



The Birthday Lunch Bunch will not meet in July - we're taking the month off. We will celebrate the July and August birthdays together on Friday, August 23. Watch for a notice in August for location of lunch. Thank you.



*Be watching for more details  
about the church picnic in  
August*