



Sunday, January 26, 2025

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THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPHIPANY

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**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

Karen Watson

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Bud Clark

### ORGANIST/PIANIST

Gail Knudsen

### Chancel Choir

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

### Bell Choir

Arlene Beibesheimer, Elaine Crane, Gail Cowdin, Jan Grim, Gail Knudsen  
Florence Riter, Cathie Whittenberger, Sharon Warner, Karen Watson, Fran Zimmerman

### WELCOME DESK

Sharon Warner

### HEAD USHER

Buddy Needham

### USHERS/GREETERS

Barb Francis, , Nancy Ortman, Frank Taylor, Ken Zornes, Pat Zornes

### COFFEE HOSTS

Shepherd Group 1  
Ron and Kay Burroughs

### AUDIO/VISUAL

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.*

**As we gather, please listen to Let's Talk with Burnis Leavens**

( <https://pcbv.org/good-news-2/letstalk/>)(approximately 8 minutes long)

## **WE GATHER AND PREPARE OUR HEARTS**

### **CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

### **WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**                    *“Just a Closer Walk With Thee”*            James Denton

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus comes to proclaim good news to us all!

**Jesus releases those who are captive, gives sight to the blind, helps the oppressed, and declares the year of the Lord's favor!**

May we go and do likewise, offering hope to a hurting world.

**And may it all begin with our worship of God.**

**\*HYMN #327**                    *“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”*

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

In our day-to-day lives, we sin in a multitude of ways — by what we have done and what we have left undone. Confession allows us to unburden ourselves and lay before God our stark humanity. Let us offer our prayer, knowing that God is merciful and offers forgiveness to all who turn to God.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we are far from the people you have called us to be. We are mired in self-centeredness, seeing things only in terms of how they relate to us and our happiness. Turn our hearts, bent as they are towards ourselves, out to the world around us. Make us more concerned with others, with their welfare and happiness, leaving our own concerns to you, O God. Forgive us for our many mistakes and make us anew we pray. Amen.

*(Moment of silence for personal confession)*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! God's promise to forgive is sure and everlasting. Know you are forgiven and be at peace. 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

Loving God, may your Spirit be with us each, showing us your Word and your Way. Amen.

### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

*Nehemiah 8:1-3; 5-6*

<sup>1</sup> When the seventh month came—the people of Israel being settled in their towns - all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand, and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

<sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup> Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

## RESPONSIVE READING

*Psalm 19*

- <sup>1</sup>The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup>**Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**
- <sup>3</sup>There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
- <sup>4</sup>**yet their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the  
end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,**
- <sup>5</sup>which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,  
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
- <sup>6</sup>**Its rising is from the end of the heavens and its circuit to the end of  
them, and nothing is hid from its heat.**
- <sup>7</sup>The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are  
sure, making wise the simple;
- <sup>8</sup>**the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;**
- <sup>9</sup>the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;  
the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.**
- <sup>11</sup>Moreover, by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup>**But who can detect one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults.**
- <sup>13</sup>Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion  
over me. Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression.
- <sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer**

**ANTHEM**

*"Be Thou My Vision"*  
4

Skip Stradtman

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

*Luke 4:14-21*

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. <sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to set free those who are oppressed,

<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

## SERMON

*“Good Trouble”*

Rev. Dr. Judi McMillan

## \*HYMN #401

*“Here in This Place”*

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: Jesus was revealed in flesh, vindicated in spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among Gentiles, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory. This is the story of our faith, and it fills us with hope. Thanks be to God! Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please fill out a prayer card or speak directly into the 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

All that we have, all that we are, is a gift from God. Let us in turn offer our gifts to God's work in the world. Let us give our offering.

**OFFERTORY**      *"Woodland Pensi"*      Edward Grieg/David Paxton

**\*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, whose love is so extravagant, we dedicate these gifts to you. May they go to share your love and care with the world. Amen.



# WE GO FORTH TO MINISTER

## INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*HYMN #365

*“God Reigns! Let Earth Rejoice!”*

\*CHARGE & BLESSING

\*GOING FORTH #366

*“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (v1)*

\*POSTLUDE

*“Once to Every Man and Nation”*

Lani Smith



# 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- THURS:  
9 am to 3 pm  
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 January:  
Susan Foster  
Sharon Judson

01/19/2025 Attendance:  
Members: 85 Guests: 2 Online: 15



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

Sugar-free cookies will no longer be supplied, unless the Shepherd group chooses to that week.

Think of our neighbor friends who may be lacking food supplies. The Blessing Box supplies are getting low. Contributions are greatly appreciated. Thanks, Missions.

Memorial Services scheduled:

John Foss' is March 22 at 2 PM

Gene McKay's is June 7th at 1 PM

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, January 26

9am Christian Ed Class  
10am Worship

### Monday, January 27

3pm-5pm—Shepherd Group  
Games Night (F/H)

### Tuesday, January 28

5:30pm -6:30pm Men's AA (A)

### Wednesday, January 29

5:00pm Bell Choir  
6:00pm Chancel Choir

### Thursday, January 30

NO EVENTS

### Friday, January 31

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

### Saturday, February 1

9:30-10:30am Presbyterian Men's  
Group (F/H)

### Sunday, February 2

9am Christian Ed Class  
10am Worship

## BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 28

Burnis Leavens

Jan. 30

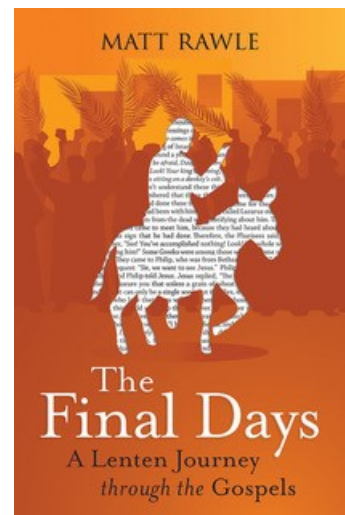
Doni Perkins

"This Lent, ponder the themes of justice, poverty, freedom, and love.

The four New Testament Gospels aren't the same story, but they offer the same Resurrection hope. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John devote most of their story detailing Jesus' last week in Jerusalem, all highlighting Jesus' triumphant entry into the city, the suffering and humiliation of the cross, and the empty tomb come Sunday morning, but the stories they tell aren't quite the same.

Each Gospel offers a different lens through which we understand Jesus' Passion. One portrait reveals Jesus to be in control, while another emphasizes his suffering. In one story Jesus offers hope to the thief on the cross, and in another Jesus only receives derision. These different perspectives aren't a reason to dismiss the Gospels; rather they reveal an abundant, diverse, and complementary picture of God's work in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The book is "The Final Days" by Matt Rawle. Time and Date to begin TBD. Please sign up in Connector Hallway. Books are \$10 each and we will let you know when they arrive for pickup." March 5th is Ash Wednesday. We will begin around that time.



Tomorrow afternoon is the first Games Night from 3-5pm in Fellowship Hall—Hosted by Shepherd Group 1 (Ron & Kay Burroughs) . Please plan on joining us.

