



Sunday August 17th, 2025

**TENTH 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

Susan Foster

## MUSIC DIRECTOR

Bud Clark

## ORGANIST/PIANIST

Gail Knudsen

## SPECIAL MUSICIANS

Southern Strings

## WELCOME DESK

Eddie Lou Taylor

## HEAD USHER

Buddy Needham

## USHERS/GREETERS

Dan Dovell, Nancy Ortman, Buddy Needham, Pat Slatton, Frank Taylor

## COFFEE HOSTS

Shepherd Group #5

Delores Jennings, Dan Dovell

## 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.*

## WE GATHER AND PREPARE OUR HEARTS

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME

PRELUDE                      *“Simple Blessings”*                      Charity Broyles

### CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 80)

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

**Stir up your might and come to save us!**

You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and  
planted it.

**You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.**

The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with  
its branches;

**It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the river.**

Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see.

**Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we  
may be saved.**

\*HYMN #307                      *“God of Grace and God of Glory”*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Try as we might to follow Jesus, at some point we always fail. But our  
failure does not have the power to separate us from God. Trusting  
Christ’s grace, let us confess our sin together:

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-loving God, we confess that we are not always ready to trust your love. You call us to step forward in radical faith, but we cling to what is familiar, comfortable and non-controversial. You are eternally at work in the world, but we struggle to discern your presence in the signs of the times. Forgive us, O God. By your grace, give us courage to stand for what is right and good and to risk love and justice even when it is unpopular. Teach us faithfulness and perseverance for the journey ahead. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

*(Moment of silence for personal confession)*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, look around! We are indeed surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. We are the body of Christ, the family of faith, all of us both saints and sinners. The grace we receive in baptism washes away our shame and brokenness and unites us with one another in bonds of love and kinship. Proclaim the good news with me:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

## 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 share the sign of "peace".)*

**\*GLORIA PATRI #581**

**WE ENCOUNTER THE WORD**

- <sup>1</sup> God has taken his place in the divine council;  
in the midst of the gods he holds judgement:  
<sup>2</sup> **“How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked?**  
<sup>3</sup> Give justice to the weak and the orphan;  
maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.  
<sup>4</sup> **Rescue the weak and the needy;**  
**deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”**  
<sup>5</sup> They have neither knowledge nor understanding;  
they walk around in darkness;  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.  
<sup>6</sup> I say, **“You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you;**  
<sup>7</sup> nevertheless, you shall die like mortals and fall like any prince.  
<sup>8</sup> **Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations belong to you!**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*“Come Thou Fount”*

Michael Shull

played by the Southern Strings

## SCRIPTURE READING

*Jeremiah 23:23-29*

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed! I have dreamed!” <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord Jesus, who brought the fire of the Holy Spirit, may that fire burn within our hearts as we read the Scriptures today. Teach us to choose your Way. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

SERMON

*“Three Acts”*

Dr. Rev. Judi McMillan

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

\*HYMN #318

*“In Christ There is no East or West”*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ,  
the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please fill out a prayer card and give to the pastor or an usher*

### 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

God is the giver of every good gift. Let us return our thanks to God as we receive the morning offering.

### OFFERTORY

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

*Arr. Ron Zuckerman,*

*"Simple Gifts"*

*Larry Conger*

### \*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, receive these gifts as investments in your kingdom of love, justice and peace. Use this money and use our lives to bring about the world as you intend it. With gratitude we pray, Amen.

# WE GO FORTH TO MINISTER

## INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Special Recognition of Bill Wellner

**SPECIAL MUSIC**      *"I'll Fly Away"*

## *“Will The Circle Be Unbroken”*

A.P. Carter

## \*CHARGE & BLESSING

With one voice, we go.

**With one Spirit, we are called.**

Let us, with one God, be encouraged in faith.

## \*GOING FORTH

## “Go Now In Peace”

## \*POSTLUDE

*“O Worship the King”*

F. 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](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 SUMMER HOURS

MON- THURS:  
9 am to 1 pm  
FRIDAY: CLOSED

For pastoral emergencies, please call or text Pastor Judi at 479-403-9082. 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 August:**  
Butch Cowdin  
Susan Foster

**8/10/2025 Attendance:**  
**Members & Friends: 87 Visitors: 4**  
**Online: 25**



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

Flowers are given today by Peggy McMenus in loving memory of her husband, Blake and son, John

Pastor Judi is leading a 6-week course for a small group of 8 on Spiritual Practices and Journaling. All you need is a journal or sketchbook and pen. There is a sign-up in connector hallway. Should more people want to sign up, she will host the course again. Some of the things we will do together as a small group: meditation, journaling prompts, sharing of our spiritual writing, silence, coloring, sharing prayers, with some fun spiritual "seeing" in the world. Time and date TBD based upon the group."



**All women of the Congregation are invited to the Ladies Birthday Lunch Bunch on Friday, Aug. 22nd, 11:30am, at Abuelo's, 4005 W. Walnut. Rogers , 479-621-0428.**

**It doesn't have to be your birthday month, just come and enjoy good food, friends and fellowship. Sign up in Connector Hallway so we know how many going. Thank you.**

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, August 17

9:00am Christian Ed Class  
10:00am Worship  
11am-12pm Fellowship Time (F/H)

### Monday, August 18

11am-2pm Peo Meeting Chpt CD (F/H)

### Tuesday, August 19

10:30am -1pm Writing Group (P)  
5:30pm Men's AA (A)

### Wednesday, August 20

6:00pm Chancel Choir

### Thursday, August 21

1-3pm Ozark Hill Hikers (C)

### Friday, August 22

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

### Saturday, August 23

NO EVENTS

### Sunday, August 24

9:00am Christian Ed Class  
10:00am Worship  
11am-12pm Fellowship Time (F/H)

## BIRTHDAYS

**Aug 17 Ed Shelton**

**Aug 18 Tristan Francis**

Our Special Musicians today are the  
**Southern Strings**

They are a group of musicians that play gospel, folk, traditional and mountain music. While their musical choices are not always mainstream, what makes the group unique is the instruments on which they play their music. Southern Strings is made up of dulcimers, harps and psaltery.

We want to thank them for coming and sharing their talents with us today.



# CHURCH PICNIC & PET BLESSING

Join us on September 7th after church, for a church picnic and then a blessing of the pets.  
Brats and Hot Dogs will be provided. Sign-up Sheet in Connector Hallway for Salad, Sides and Dessert.  
Need to bring your own plates and utensils.  
Please go home after church to get your pet before the picnic starts.



**Public Notice:** We have come to learn that the request for money made on August 3rd, was a scam. The money collected was used to buy gift cards and they were sent overseas. This was an unfortunate incident, where someone believed what they were doing was true, and then expanded it to include our congregation. If you feel you were scammed and want to file a complaint with the Bella Vista Police Department, please contact Officer Boullain - (Tues-Friday) at 479-855-3771. It doesn't matter if it was part of this, or some other scam you have been a victim of. Please reach out for assistance. There is also information about how to identify scams and the various scams going around on the table in the office reception area.