



Art by Vicky Yang

Sunday August 31st, 2025

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Susan Foster

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Bud Clark

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Gail Knudsen

SPECIAL MUSICIAN

Sandy Andrews

WELCOME DESK

Buddy Needham

HEAD USHER

Buddy Needham

USHERS/GREETERS

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

COFFEE HOSTS

Shepherd Group #2

Barry and Maura Owen

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 *“The Lord’s My Shepherd”* James Mansfield

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gathered to worship God,
we are **all right** where we belong.
Called to this celebration of worship by God’s Spirit,
we **approach God with joy in our hearts.**
Nourished by the love of Jesus, God’s Son
we **gladly feast at this banquet of grace.**

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our God is a generous God, bestowing grace immeasurably, loving us
beyond what we can imagine, and forgiving us before we know to ask.
To this God of generosity, love and forgiveness we now turn as we confess
our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we compare ourselves with others, wondering if we are
better than them. We judge one another, trying to justify ourselves.
We seek to establish our superiority by assuming positions of honor.
Forgive us, we pray. Free us to see ourselves truthfully and to love one
another with humble, gracious spirits. Amen.

(Moment of silence for personal confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God alone has the authority to judge, and by the grace of Jesus Christ, God has declared that we are forgiven of all our sin.

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 25:6-7

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, ⁷for it is better to be told, “Come up here,” than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 112

¹Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in his commandments.

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

⁴**They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

⁵It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

⁶**For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.**

⁷ They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

⁸ **Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

⁹ They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us” with “He Leadeth Me”

Arr: Larry Shackley

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 14:1 and 7-14

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Open our hearts and minds, O God, by your Holy Spirit’s power, that as scripture is read and the Gospel announced, we might receive with open hearts whatever you speak to us this day. Amen.

SERMON

"Dinner for Seven"

Dr. Rev. Judi McMillan

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*HYMN #363

"Rejoice, The Lord is King!"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Book of Common Worship, Philippians 2:5-11)

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:

Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

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

As a response to God's Word, which we have heard read and proclaimed, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY

“With Loving Hearts”

Bertha Frick

*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, we offer to you these gifts, both as signs of our gratitude and as instruments of your reign. Use these gifts, and us, that your way of love and peace, transformation and hope might flourish in this place. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO MINISTER

INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #365

“God Reigns! Let Earth Rejoice!”

*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

“Song of Triumph”

James Denton



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- THURS:
9 am to 3 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 stating your need.

Deacons on Call for September:
Betty Bennett
Terry Woods

8/24/2025 Attendance:
Members & Friends: 83 Visitors: 3
Online: 32



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

CHURCH & 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.

Please go home after church to get your pet before the picnic starts.

Bell Choir practice starts back up this Wednesday at 5pm. Come join the fun.



BIRTHDAYS

Sept 2 Roger Zemlicka

Sept 3 Lloyd Forsyth

Sept 6 Charles Whitford

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 31

9:00am Christian Ed Class

10:00am Worship

11am-12pm Fellowship Time (F/H)

Monday, September 1

LABOR DAY

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, September 2

10:30am-1pm Writing Group (P)

5:30pm Men's AA (A)

Wednesday, September 3

9:30am Deacon's (A)

3-4:00 pm Congregational Life (C)

5:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, September 4

NO EVENTS

Friday, September 5

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

1:00pm Busy Hands (Lobby)

Saturday, September 6

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

Sunday, September 7

9:00am Christian Ed Class

10:00am Worship/Communion

11am-12pm All Church Picnic/
Blessing of Pets (Outside)

PW Kick-off Lunch is
Thursday, Sept 12th at
Noon. Sign-up sheet is in
Connector Hallway