



Sunday, September 21st, 2025

FIFTEENTH 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

David Riter

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Bud Clark

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Gail Knudsen

Chancel Choir

Sandy Bachelder, Betty Bennett, Arlene Biebesheimer, Jerry Biebesheimer,
Marcia Beard, Bud Clark, Dick Francis, Gail Knudsen,
Sharry McGuire, Peggy McMenus, Jean Nichols, David Riter, Gary Harris,
Edie Harris, Martha Stout, Karen Watson, Brenda Works, Jim Works

WELCOME DESK

Terry Woods

HEAD USHER

Buddy Needham

USHERS/GREETERS

Barb Francis, Nancy Ortman, Barry Owens, Terry Woods

COFFEE HOSTS

Shepherd Group #5
Delores Jennings, Dan Dovell

AUDIO/VISUAL

Tom Hackleman,
Steve Little, Jim Watson

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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 *“Give Me Strength O Lord”* L.A. Warriner

CALL TO WORSHIP

Turn us, O God,
away from the world’s temptations and distractions
Return us, O God,
to the quiet calm of your presence
Restore us, O God,
to the path you call us to follow
Orient us, O God,
to the hope of all that is possible through you

*HYMN #744 *“Arise, Your Light is Come!”*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us honestly acknowledge how we have gone astray and confess our sins to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, our refuge, you lift up the lowly and hold out hope to the hopeless. Yet we who receive your grace so freely do not follow your example. We are quick to judge, eager to criticize, slow to show mercy. We keep for ourselves what was meant to be shared. We diminish and dehumanize those around us. God of us all, hear this confession. Receive it. We ask for your forgiveness. Amen.

(Moment of silence for personal confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Isaiah 43:1)

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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 share the sign of “peace”.)

***GLORIA PATRI #581**

WE ENCOUNTER THE WORD

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 57:1-5

¹ Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, until the destroying storms pass by.

² **I cry to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me.**

³ He will send from heaven and save me, he will put to shame those who trample on me. God will send forth his steadfast love and his faithfulness.

⁴ **I lie down among lions that greedily devour human prey;
their teeth are spears and arrows, their tongues sharp swords.**

⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens. Let your glory be over all the earth.

ANTHEM

“This is the Day”

Keith Christopher

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 5:17-26

¹⁷ One day while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting nearby (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem) and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. ¹⁸ Just then some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus,¹⁹ but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. ²⁰ When he saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven you.” ²¹ Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, “Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” ²² When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ²³ Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk’? ²⁴ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the one who was paralyzed—“I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.” ²⁵ Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. ²⁶ Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen strange things today.”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Open us to your life-giving word. Quiet the voices within us that do not align with your will. Focus our minds on the message you intend for us, so we may faithfully discern your way. Amen.

SERMON

“Moved by a Story”

Dr. Rev. Judi McMillan

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*HYMN #463 *“How Firm a Foundation”* (v.1, 2, 3, 5)

*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.

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's abundance cannot be matched. Still, we are inspired to be generous by a generous God. We are inspired to give by the greatest of givers. In gratitude to God, let us present our tithes and offerings.

OFFERTORY *"Jesus Is All the World to Me"* Charity Broyles

***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, what we place before you is but a fraction of all you have entrusted to us. Receive these gifts, we ask, and multiply them for your purpose. Let our offerings become a source of blessing for the most vulnerable, for those in greatest need. May the act of giving, rooted in generosity, loosen our grip on what we possess, and kindle in us a deeper desire to share. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO MINISTER

INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #667 *“When Morning Gilds the Skies”*

*CHARGE & BLESSING

*GOING FORTH *“Go Now in Peace”*

*POSTLUDE *“Enter His Courts with Praise”* Adam Mason



WELCOME!

*We hope you will find
your time of worship with
us to be very meaningful.
We are an open faith
community.*

9/14/2025 Attendance
Members & Friends: 82
Visitors: 4
Online: 12

Please visit www.pcbv.org,
or call the Church Office at
479-855-2390 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

WEEKLY VISTA CALENDAR

Sunday, September 21

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

Monday, September 22

11am-12pm—Spiritual Writing (P)
4-6pm - Game Night (F/H)

Tuesday, September 23

9:30-10:30am Spiritual Life (A)
5:30pm Men's AA (A)
6-8pm End of Life Workshop (F/H)

Wednesday, September 24

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

Thursday, September 25

NO EVENTS

Friday, September 26

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
1:00pm Busy Hands (R. Cozad's)

Saturday, September 27

NO EVENTS

Sunday, September 28

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Terry Woods

Gary Brod
Fred and Julie
Crenshaw

Julie Crenshaw
Gail Cowdin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shepherd Group 3 Game Night is tomorrow from 4-6pm. Please come join us for some fun and games.

All women of the Congregation are invited to the **Ladies Birthday Lunch Bunch** on Friday, **September 26, 11:30**, at Haven 55, 408 Havenhurst Drive, Pineville, MO (417-223-2055). 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 are going. ***If you would like to carpool, please meet at the church at 11am.*** Thank you.

There will be a **short audio/visual and sound board training session immediately following church of September 28th**. The focus on this session is on making the role accessible, providing hands-on training, and clearly communicating the vision behind the A.V. Ministry. We know that many people are willing to help, but may be intimidated by the equipment or feel they lack the skill. This session will be led by Tom, Steve and Jim, who have dedicated their time to this ministry and are in need of back-up support. Please come and see what its all about.

The Alzheimer's Walk - October 11th

3pm Registration - 4pm—Ceremony - 4:30pm Walk starts
Walk is 2 miles at Village on the Creeks, 5309 Village Pkwy, Rogers . Please let Florence Riter know if you would like to walk and a team will then be created.

PW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please
don't
forget to
bring in
Essentials
Outreach
products.



Essentials Outreach

- ◇ Shampoo
- ◇ Conditioner
- ◇ Bath Soap
- ◇ Deodorant (men & women)
- ◇ Toothbrushes
- ◇ Toothpaste
- ◇ Shaving Cream
- ◇ Razors (men & women)
- ◇ Toilet Paper
- ◇ Sanitary

Please sign up to volunteer to assist with doing an inventory of the kitchen. Sign up sheet is in Connector Hallway

REMINDER FOR EVERYONE

Please let either Deacon Susan Foster or Pastor Judi know if you are ill, receiving treatments or having upcoming surgery and would like a call or a visit. Sometimes people travel or cannot attend worship for a variety of reasons! But if you are sick and need us to know, please do. We care about you.

