



**Grace
on
the
Spectrum**

Sunday, October 26th, 2025

TWENTIETH 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

Karen Watson

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

Bell Choir

Sandy Andrews, Arlene Beibesheimer, Gail Knudsen
Florence Riter, Cathie Whittenberger, Sharon Warner, Karen Watson,
Brenda Works, Fran Zimmerman

WELCOME DESK

HEAD USHER

Buddy Needham

USHERS/GREETERS

Dan Johnson, Nancy Ortman, Barry Owen, Frank Taylor

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 *“A Renewed Call to Commitment on this Reformation Sunday”*
Lani Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Luke 18:14)

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.

We humble ourselves before our God, ready to hear and receive God’s truth

***HYMN #41** *“O Worship the King, All Glorious Above”* (v1,2,3,5)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Let us open ourselves in this time of prayer, being truthful in our confession as we humble ourselves before our God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, your truth is so often sharp and unsettling. We confess the ways we skirt the hard edges of your Word, turn up the volume on lesser noises, and lean into the comfort of our own certainty rather than submit to the discomfort of your challenge. You send us messengers, and we sidestep them; you challenge us, and we defend ourselves. Again and again, Holy God, we resist what we do not want to hear. And yet you keep calling. Have mercy on us. Interrupt our evasions. Soften what pride has hardened in us. Let us hear and receive your truth. Amen.

(Moment of silence for personal confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (from the Book of Common Worship)

Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,
Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone;

a new life has begun.

Know that 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 share the sign of “peace”.)

***GLORIA PATRI**

WE ENCOUNTER THE WORD

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.**

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶ **The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

⁸ **Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.**

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.**

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM

“Crown Him With Many Crowns” Sondra Tucker

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 18:9-14

⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of Wisdom and Grace, you speak through your Word read and proclaimed. Prepare us, then, to listen well. Open our ears to your truth; open our minds to the unexpected. Humble us here, in your presence, so nothing stands in the way — not pride, not distraction, not weary hearts.

Let your Word reach us as we are now. Amen.

SERMON

“Grace on the Spectrum”

Dr. Rev. Judi McMillan

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*HYMN #65

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Philippians 2: 6-11)

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

Let us give and live generously in response to all that God has done for
us. Let us present our tithes and offerings to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

Medley of Hymns

*“Faith of Our Fathers”
“How Firm a Foundation”
“One Holy Church of God”*

*“God of Our Life”
“Blessed Jesus at Your Word”
“The Church’s One Foundation”*

*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

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion, a single slice, of the abundance you’ve handed to us. Still, we press them into your care, set them down where they might become more. We hand over these gifts, grateful, but also in awe at how you shape small things into good news. Let these gifts find their way into the broken places, find the ones carrying heavy burdens. May these humble offerings help relieve those who need it most. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO MINISTER

INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #63

“The Lord is God”

*CHARGE & BLESSING

*GOING FORTH #542 *“God Be With You Till We Meet Again” (v1)*

*POSTLUDE

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

arr: Martin Luther



WELCOME!

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

**You are invited to
refreshments and a time
of fellowship after the
service in Fellowship
Hall**

10/19/2025 Attendance
Members & Friends: 82
Visitors: 6
Online: 22

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 October:
Alice Irwin
Butch Cowdin**

WEEKLY VISTA CALENDAR

Sunday, October 26

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

Monday, October 27

4-6pm Shepherd Group Game Night (F/H)

Tuesday, October 28

9:30-10:30am Spiritual Life (A)
5:30pm Men's AA (A)

Wednesday, October 29

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

Thursday, October 30

NO EVENTS

Friday, October 31

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

Saturday, November 1

9am-12pm—Outdoor Church Clean-up
9:30-10:30am Presbyterian Men's Group

Sunday, November 2 (change clocks)

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

**Birthdays &
Anniversaries**

Richard and Linda
Dahlquist

Jon and Mary Alice
Adams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 27th is the next Shepherd Game
Night, hosted by Shepherd Group 4.
4-6pm in Fellowship Hall

Next Fall Church Clean-up day will be
9am-Noon on
Saturday—November 1st—Outdoor Church
Yard Cleanup (Date Change)
If you can only come for an hour that is fine,



There will be a stewardship luncheon immediately following worship on Sunday, November 2nd. Please sign up in the connector hallway or call the church office if you plan to attend. This will be a catered meal so it is important that we have an accurate count. Please join with your church family as we celebrate what God is doing at PCBV!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL SAINTS' REMEMBRANCE DAY

Please call the church office to submit the name of a loved one whom you wish to be remembered on All Saints' Remembrance Day on Sunday, November 2nd.

NOVEMBER 2th—
DON'T FORGET TO
ROLL-BACK YOUR
CLOCKS



We are going to start collecting non-perishable food items to fill boxes for Helping Hands for Thanksgiving. Please pick up a list in Connector Hallway. Boxes will be in Connector Hallway too.

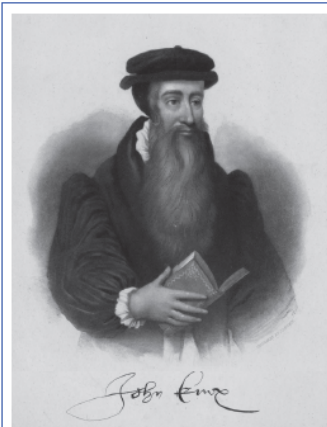
REFORMATION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 26



Knox preaching in Old St. Giles Cathedral

In Scotland, the Protestant Reformation was led by the great reformer, **John Knox (1514-1572)**. During his life in the 16th century, Knox was a tutor, a galley slave to the French, a royal chaplain of King Edward VI, a sword-wielding bodyguard, a scholar and writer, and a preacher of fiery sermons at Old St. Giles in Edinburgh. He was a leading figure in the Scottish Reformation, during which time Protestants fought for religious freedom in countries ruled by the Catholic faith. Knox instilled in his fellow countrymen the duty to oppose unfair government to bring about moral and spiritual change.

In 1559, the leading group of the Reformation movement, the Lords of the Congregation, militarily occupied various cities, including Perth and Edinburgh, where they elected Knox minister of St. Giles Cathedral. Later that year, after hearing Knox's Thanksgiving sermon, the Lords of the Congregation asked Knox and his colleagues to write a confession of faith. They obliged, and four days later offered up The First Book of Discipline of the Scots Confession. The Confession was adopted by Parliament in 1560 and remained the Scottish churches' official theological doctrine until 1647, when it was superseded by the Westminster Confession.



Portrait of John Knox, 1842

The adoption of the Scots Confession did not mean total freedom—rather, the return of the Catholic Mary Queen of Scots in 1561 erected a few more roadblocks for the emerging Reformation. But the flames of the movement had caught, and John Knox's influence continued to spread by and large as the Reformation forever changed the Scottish landscape.



For more Reformation Sunday resources visit
www.pcusa.org/rs