



**NEW BETHEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
PHONE 423-538-8688  
Rev. Tom Gomola  
(724) 992-0447  
[tomgomola@yahoo.com](mailto:tomgomola@yahoo.com)  
Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7, 2025



Mission Statement: To know Christ and make Christ known

## **ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

WELCOME IN GOD'S NAME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. TOM GOMOLA

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

DICKIE AND MARCIA TORBETT

LITURGIST

LARRY SMITH

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

**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.**

Worship is a special time where people seek to meet God and have their lives changed. To prepare your heart and life to be changed for God's glory, we invite you to a time of reflective prayer and reverent silence seeking the Holy Spirit in your personal time of worship.

PRELUDE

MUSIC BY MARCIA MCGRATH

\*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

### **"HOLY SPIRIT, THOU ART WELCOME IN THIS PLACE"**

Holy Spirit, Thou art welcome in this place.

Holy Spirit, Thou art welcome in this place.

Omnipotent Father of mercy and grace,

Thou art welcome in this place.

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) **Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

72:1 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

**72:2 May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.**

72:3 May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

**72:4 May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

72:5 May he live while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

**72:6 May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. (cont.)**

72:7 In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

**72:18 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.**

72:19 Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

"Jesus Christ, we worry about the future, we worry about peace. We struggle to make plans for our lives and we forget that you're in control. Forgive us for focusing so much on the things of this world that we forget about you... Teach us to live each day in the confidence that you are in control of the world, and give us eager anticipation for your second coming when you will make all things new."

**\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (Liturgist) Isaiah 58:13-14a**

**If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**"GLORY BE TO THE FATHER"**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN #169**

**"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"**

(Red Hymnal)

(Verses 3 and 4)

3. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, And order all things,  
far and nigh; To us the path of knowledge show,  
And cause us in her ways to go.

(Refrain)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

4. O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of  
all mankind; Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of peace.

(Refrain)

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**SERMON**

**"PEACE OF ADVENT"**

REV. TOM GOMOLA

**SERMON SCRIPTURE**

**Isaiah 11:1, 5-10**

11:1 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

11:5 Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

11:6 The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.

11:7 The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. (cont.)

- 11:8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- 11:9 They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.
- 11:10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**Matthew 3: 3-8**

- 3: 3-4 Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.
- 3:5 Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him,
- 3:6 and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.
- 3:7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?"
- 3:8 Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance

OFFERING

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

**Hebrews 13:16** "Do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

\*DOXOLOGY Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below, praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

COMMUNION

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*RESPONSIVE HYMN #183  
(Red Hymnal)

**"I WONDER AS I WANDER"**  
(All Verses)

1. I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die. For  
poor, ornery people like you and like I--- I  
wonder as I wander, Out under the sky.
  
2. When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cows' stall,  
With wisemen and farmers and shepherds and all. But  
high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, And the  
promise of ages it then did recall.  
(cont.)

3. If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing:  
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing; Or  
all of God's angels in heaven to sing, He  
surely could have had it, 'Cause He was the King!

4. I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
How Jesus, the Savior did come for to die. For  
poor, ornery people like you and like I—I  
wonder as I wander, Out under the sky.

**\*GO IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

**"TO BE LIKE JESUS"**

To be like Jesus, to be like Jesus  
All I ask, to be like Him.  
All thru life's journey from earth to glory,  
All I ask, to be like Him.

\*Indicates those who are able may stand. **Individual prayers and liturgical text for worship are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*. Copyright 2015**

WELCOME TO NEW BETHEL  
December 7, 2025 – December 14, 2025

9:45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

---

**SPECIAL PRAYER FOR:**

Melissa Alley----- receiving treatment for cervical cancer, friend of Sherry Brademeyer  
Matt Amick-----some improvement of paralysis – still in serious condition, neighbor of Rodney Smith  
Billy Bagnell-----brain tumor; friend of Rodney Smith  
Ramona Fender-----38 year old undergoing treatment for colon cancer, granddaughter of a friend of Sandra's  
Jerry Graham-----A-Fib issues, friend of Katie Wright  
Ron Jones-----prostate cancer and long covid, friend of Jon White  
Mike Martin-----recovering from wrist surgery, friend of Becky Wise  
Joan Mathes-----serious eye problems and other health issues, aunt of Dickie Jones (lives in Israel)  
Sally McPeak-----various health problems, church member  
Phyllis Painter-----eyes, shoulder and leg issues, friend of New Bethel members,  
Debbie Smith-----breast cancer treatment, friend of Becky Wise  
Mary Nelle Smith-----recovering from broken hip, sister-in-law of Sandra Leonard  
Tom Smith-----facing serious neck surgery on 11/17, friend of Mary Lynn  
Dean Torbett-----at home recovering from foot surgery and pneumonia, church member  
Jerry Vaughn-----recovering from open heart surgery and receiving further treatment for AFIB, Gary Vaughn's father

**PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS**

Daniel Collins December 7     Dean Torbett December 10     Janie Torbett December 11

**PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES**

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Lt. Matthew Musick     A naval aviator was deployed in January to the middle east area.  
His family will continue to live and go to school at his base in Florida while he serves in this new tour of duty.

**PRAY FOR THE WORK OF CHRIST'S CHURCH:**

Holston Presbytery and their work for the larger church  
This week: New Market Presbyterian Church, New Market, TN 37820  
The Session as they lead our church

**Current Session Members**

Tom Gomola	(724) 992-0447	Denise Torbett	(423) 341-4013
Dickie Torbett	(423) 967-5831	Mary Dobrovolc	(315) 525-2454
Larry Smith	(423) 747-7282	Eddie Ramsey	(423) 306-1526
Mary Lynn Barnes	(423) 534-0060	Katie Wright	(423) 967-6534
Byron Barnes	(423)-794-6522	Gary Vaughn	(423) 956-6907

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today and pray that your life will be enriched by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**UPCOMING CHURCH ACTIVITIES:** We will continue to have in person worship services on online broadcast and the church bulletin on the church website at [www.newbethelpres.org](http://www.newbethelpres.org).

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES:** The New Bethel family of faith expresses its deepest Christian sympathies to the family of Frances Torbett. Frances, wife of the late Wayne Torbett, was Dean Torbett's sister-in-law. Frances passed away on Thursday, December 4, 2025.

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE:** If you have experienced the loss of a job, home, loved one, health, sense of purpose this quiet, candlelight service is for you. "Hope in the Midst of Loss" on Thursday, **December 18, 2025**, at 6:30p.m. at Piney Flats Presbyterian, 6337 Bristol Highway.

**CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING:** The Piney Flats Christmas tree lighting will take place today from 4:00-6:00 pm in the historic village area near Mary Hughes School. There will be free hotdogs available as well as hot chocolate, cookies, and cider. T-shirts and ornaments to mark the event will be for sale and also a visit from Santa. This is sponsored by the Piney Flats Ruritan club.

**COME MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!** The New Bethel choir plans to sing on the Sunday before Christmas, **December 21**. All volunteers are welcome to participate! Two practices are scheduled: Wednesday, **December 17, at 6:00 pm**; and Saturday morning, **December 20, at 10:00**. Making both practices is great, but if you can only make it to one, we'll take it!

**POINSETTIAS:** The beautiful poinsettias in the sanctuary are courtesy of Denise Torbett.

**CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-A-LONG:** We are invited to come and sing Christmas carols at Piney Flats Presbyterian Church at **4:00 p.m.** on Sunday, **December 21**. Our own dulcimer group, Saving Grace, will be playing during this service.

**SESSION:** The session will meet immediately after worship next Sunday, **December 14** in the fellowship hall.

**CAROLING:** Please join us in making a joyful noise on **Sunday, Dec 14**, when we go Christmas caroling! We will meet in the church parking lot **at 4:00**, and stop for dinner afterwards. Transportation is furnished and all are welcome. There is a **sign-up sheet** in the entry space of the sanctuary.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** The annual PW Christmas Party was a huge success with over 20 women attending who enjoyed a delicious meal and gift exchange bingo! Stacy Larson, director of the River, was in attendance and received lots of diapers and wipes for her organization. Thanks ladies for your donations.

**PINEY FLATS MEALS-ON-WHEELS:** Piney Flats Meals-on-Wheels needs volunteers from local churches to deliver meals one morning each month.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** Gary and Mary Dobrovolc, 2007A, Sherwood Drive, Johnson City, TN 37601

**CLASSES OF ELDERS:** Class of 2026: Larry Smith, Byron Barnes, Denise Torbett  
Class of 2027: Eddie Ramsey, Mary Lynn Barnes, Dickie Torbett  
Class of 2028: Gary Vaughn, Katie Wright, Mary Dobrovolc

**CHURCH DIRECTORY:** The church directory is now in a database that is easily updated. If you need to be added or make changes, please email Mary Lynn at [mlbarnes0303@gmail.com](mailto:mlbarnes0303@gmail.com). The information should include names, address, phone, email, birthdates, anniversary date. Copies of the current directory are in a folder in the narthex. As changes are made updated copies will be available there. **The latest church directory is now available in a folder in the narthex.**

**WIFI:** bethel592

**COMMUNION AND OFFERING:** The Holy Communion and Offering sign-up sheets for 2026 are in the entry space of the sanctuary. You must be an ordained elder to serve Communion, but anyone can take up the offering. Offering collection is 4X per month. Holy Communion is served on the 1st Sunday of each month. Please help when you can!

**COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY:** Your monetary donations to feed the hungry are appreciated! These donations go to support our local food pantry which is located at Edgefield Methodist Church. You are encouraged to continue to be a part of this important ministry by making your checks to **New Bethel Presbyterian Church** with “**Community Food Pantry Donation**” on the memo line.

**ONLINE GIVING:** Please use this QR Code for giving online.



**WEEKLY CHURCH FINANCIALS:** Please give as you are able. Your gifts and offerings can also be mailed to the church at 592 New Bethel Road, Piney Flats, TN 37686. A summary of our current standing against the 2025 budget is shown below:

Weekly Budget Needs	\$1,443
November 23 & 30 Avg. Offering	\$1,039
Other Offerings	\$ 580
Year to Date	\$3,512