

NEW BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PHONE 423-538-8688
The Reverend Tom Gomola
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Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026

"To Make Christ Known"

Mission Statement: To know Christ and to make Christ known

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME IN GOD'S NAME

ANNOUNCEMENTS REV. TOM GOMOLA

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGIST KATIE MCMILLAN

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**

"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 77
1 I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, that he may hear me.
2 In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.
3 I think of God, and I moan; I meditate, and my spirit faints. Selah
4 You keep my eyelids from closing; I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
5 I consider the days of old and remember the years of long ago.
6 I commune[a] with my heart in the night; I meditate and search my spirit:
7 "Will the Lord spurn forever and never again be favorable?
8 Has his steadfast love ceased forever? Are his promises at an end for all time? **(cont.)**

9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion?" Selah
10 And I say, "It is my grief that the right hand of the Most High has changed."
11 I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.
12 I will meditate on all your work and muse on your mighty deeds.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

Gracious God, we confess that we often forget we represent You to the world. Our words and actions don't always reflect Your heart. We fail to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with You. Forgive us, Lord. Fill us with Your Spirit so that we may be the aroma of Christ— bringing the love of the Father, the hope of salvation, and the extension of Your grace to everyone we meet. May others experience Your heart through the way we care for them. We boldly ask for Your power and strength to live this faithful life. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (Liturgist)**

"God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us," **Romans 5:8**

***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 #591** **"JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE"**

(Red Hymnal) (Verses 1, 2 and 3)

1. I am weak but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
   I'll be satisfied as long As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.
   (Refrain)
   Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
   Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
2. Through this world of toil and snares, If I falter, Lord, who cares?
   Who with me my burden shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.
   (Refrain)
3. When my feeble life is o'er, Time for me will be no more;
   Guide me gently, safely o'er To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.
   (Refrain)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Joshua 4:1-24

1 When the entire nation had finished crossing over the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua,
2 "Select twelve men from the people, one from each tribe,
3 and command them, 'Take twelve stones from here out of the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet stood, carry them over with you, and lay them down in the place where you camp tonight.' "
4 Then Joshua summoned the twelve men whom he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe.
5 Joshua said to them, "Pass on before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites,
6 so that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, 'What do those stones mean to you?'
7 then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever." (cont.)

8 The Israelites did as Joshua commanded. They took up twelve stones out of the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the Lord had told Joshua, carried them over with them to the place where they camped, and laid them down there.
9 (Joshua set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the covenant had stood, and they are there to this day.)
10 The priests who bore the ark remained standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything was finished that the Lord had commanded Joshua to tell the people, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua. The people crossed over in haste.
11 As soon as all the people had finished crossing over, the ark of the Lord and the priests crossed over to the front of the people.
12 The Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over armed before the Israelites, as Moses had ordered them.
13 About forty thousand armed for war crossed over before the Lord to the plains of Jericho for battle.
14 On that day the Lord exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel, and they stood in awe of him, as they had stood in awe of Moses all the days of his life.
15 The Lord said to Joshua,
16 "Command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant to come up out of the Jordan."
17 Joshua therefore commanded the priests, "Come up out of the Jordan."
18 When the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the Lord came up from the middle of the Jordan and the soles of the priests' feet touched dry ground, the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and overflowed all its banks, as before.
19 The people came up out of the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they camped in Gilgal on the east border of Jericho.
20 Those twelve stones that they had taken out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal,
21 saying to the Israelites, "When your children ask their parents in time to come, 'What do these stones mean?'
22 then you shall let your children know, 'Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.'
23 For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you crossed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we crossed over,
24 so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty and so that you may fear the Lord your God forever."

SERMON **"TELL THE STORY OF THE STONES"** TOM GOMOLA

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

OFFERING

***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**

***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 #588** **"IN THE GARDEN"**

(Red Hymnal) (Verses 1, and 2)

1. I come to the garden alone, While the dew is still on the roses; And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, The Son of God discloses.
   (Refrain)
   And He walks with me, and He talks with me,
   and He tells me I am His own; And the
   joy we share as we tarry there, None other has ever known.
2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the birds hush their singing, And the melody that He gave to me Within my heart is ringing.
   (Refrain)

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.

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WELCOME TO NEW BETHEL
November 8, 2026 – November 15, 2026
9:45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR:

Matt Amick----------still in serious condition, neighbor of Rodney Smith
Billy Bagnell----------brain tumor; friend of Rodney Smith
Penny Bowery----------complications from ovarian cancer, friend of Marion Reed
Mary Cross----------health issues, mother of Denise Torbett
Ramona Fender----------tumor is shrinking as she continues to undergo treatment for colon cancer, granddaughter of Sandra's friend.
Ronnie Harless----------after a recent heart attack, a cancer was found on his lung, and he will be under going chemotherapy, Sandra's cousin
Miranda Heaton----------battling cancer, prayers for her, her husband, Matthew, and their children, daughter-in-law of Greg and Linda Heaton
Ron Jones----------prostate cancer and long covid, friend of Jon White
Ben Kelley----------tests run on swollen leg, in Air Force in Idaho, friend and neighbor of Julia Kegley
Joan Mathes----------serious eye problems and other health issues, aunt of Dickie Jones
Eric McPeak----------to have heart valve surgery soon. Sally McPeak's younger son, grew up in our church
Sally McPeak----------various health problems, New Bethel member
Phyllis Painter----------broken hip surgery after a fall, a member of New Bethel
Wendy Rayfield----------undergoing treatment for colon cancer after surgery, wife of a friend of Sandra's
Rev. Dr. Angus Shaw—experiencing knee pain, friend of New Bethel
Debbie Smith----------breast cancer treatment, friend of Becky Wise
Mary Nelle Smith--------at home hopefully awaiting more physical therapy, Sandra's sister-in-law
Vanessa Smith----------recovery from heart valve repair, daughter-in-law of Larry and Linda Smith
Kevyn Torbett----------recovering at home after hip replacement, New Bethel church member
Jack Tottle----------cancer surgery, friend of Becky Wise
Jerry Vaughn----------open heart surgery and receiving further treatment for AFIB, Gary Vaughn's father
Garrett Workman--------at home after colostomy surgery; doctors trying to decide on best treatment for tumor in his colon and treatment for serious liver issues due to cirrhosis, father of Sandra Leonard's great-grandson

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

Anne White November 8 Lexi Spoon 12

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

Scott and Becky Wise 10

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

Lt. Matthew Musick A naval aviator who was deployed in January to the middle east area

PRAY FOR THE WORK OF CHRIST'S CHURCH:

Holston Presbytery and their work for the larger church
This week: First Presbyterian Johnson City, TN 37604
The Session as they lead our church

	Class	Current Session Members		Class	
Tom Gomola		(724) 992-0447	Eddie Ramsey	2027	(423) 306-1526
Byron Barnes	2026	(423)-794-6522	Dickie Torbett	2027	(423) 967-5831
Larry Smith	2026	(423) 747-7282	Mary Dobrovolc	2028	(315) 525-2454
Denise Torbett	2026	(423) 341-4013	Gary Vaughn	2028	(423) 956-6907
Mary Lynn Barnes	2027	(423) 534-0060	Katie McMillan	2028	(423) 967-6534

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

RURITAN CHICKEN SALE: To benefit the Piney Flats Fire Department and the Piney Flats Ruritan, fresh chicken tenders will sell for $80 for 40 pounds. Wings are also available for $90 for 40 pounds. If you would like to order, please contact any of the following members today: Scott Burton 423-534-1113 Ed Dupuis 423-0388-1796 Chris Berry 423-782-8398 or church members Larry Smith, Linda Smith, or Mary Lynn Barnes. Pick up date will be **November 14** at Piney Flats Baptist Church from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. You will pay by cash or credit card at pickup. (card fees will be $2.50)

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES: The shoeboxes are due next Sunday, **November 15th**. If you are unable to shop for your shoeboxes this year, see the insert in your bulletin regarding how to purchase prepared shoeboxes online for $30 each.

DECORATE THE SANCTUARY: The Advent season is upon us! The sanctuary will be decorated after worship on Sunday, **November 22**. We will put up and decorate the tree, set up nativity scenes, put candles in the windows, and hang wreaths. All who can stay and help will be appreciated!

THANKSGIVING OFFERING: Our Thanksgiving Offering will be received on **November 22nd**. The recipients of this offering will be one or more charitable organizations determined by the session. Last year half went to the River and half to Isaiah House.

THANK YOU: Thank you to Marcia and Dickie Torbett for hosting our Sunday school gathering this morning, with drinks and donuts.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: There will be a congregational meeting after worship on Sunday, **November 29**, for the purpose of electing officer(s), and approving the 2027 church budget.

WIFI PASSWORD: bethel592

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 2026 budget is shown below:

Weekly Budget Needs	$ 1,534
November 1 Offering	$ 3,935
Other Offerings	$ 90
Year to Date	$10,709