**NEW BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

PHONE 423-538-8688

The Epiphany of our Lord

January 7, 2024



*Mission Statement: To know Christ and make Christ known*

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME**

WELCOME IN CHRIST’S NAME

LITURGY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS LARRY SMITH

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

(Blue Hymnal, #66) **“WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE”**

(1st verse)

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar.

Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,

Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

\*CALL TO WORSHIP **(**Responsively)

Arise and shine, for your light has come!

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

We will kneel down before him to give him honor, glory, and praise.

**We will offer him all the treasures of our hearts and lives.**

For the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

\*LORD’S PRAYER (IN UNISON)

\*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.

\*CALL TO CONFESSION \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

**God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin and pour out the gifts of your Spirit. Forgive and renew us, that we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN **#56** **“THE FIRST NOWELL”**

(Blue Hymnal) (Verses 3, 4, 5, and 6)

1. And by the light of that same star, Three wise men came from country far; To seek for a

King was their intent, And to follow the star wherever it went.

(Refrain) Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

1. This star drew nigh to the northwest; O’er Bethlehem it took its rest;

And there it did both stop and stay, Right over the place where Jesus lay.

(Refrain)

1. Then entered in those wise men three, Fell reverently upon their knee,

And offered there in His presence, Their gold and myrrh, and frankincense.

(Refrain)

1. Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,

That hath made heaven and earth of nought, And with his blood our life hath bought.

(Refrain)

**PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

SPECIAL MUSIC CALL TO STEWARDSHIP OFFERTORY

\*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 THANKSGIVING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**RESPONSIVE READING**: ISAIAH 60: 1-6

Arise! Shine! for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;**

But the Lord will arise upon you, and God’s glory will appear over you.

**Nations shall come to your light, and Kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

Lift up your eyes and look around; they gather together, they come to you;

**Your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses’ arms.**

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

**Because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,**

The wealth of the nations shall come to you.

**A multitude of camels shall cover you, all those from Sheba shall come.**

They shall bring gold and frankincense,

**And shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

SCRIPTURE **MATTHEW**  **2: 1-12 (NRSV)**

**SERMON** **“WHERE FAITH WILL LEAD YOU”** REV. TERESA KINDELL

PRAYER

\*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 **“AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD”**

**SUNG TO THE TUNE OF FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH**

1. As with gladness men of old – did the guiding star behold; -as with joy they hailed its light,

leading onward, beaming bright: - so, most gracious Lord, may we – evermore be led to thee.

1. As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed, - there to bend the knee before-

thee whom heaven and earth adore, so may we with willing feet–ever seek thy mercy seat.

1. As they offered gifts most rare-at thy cradle rude and bare-so may we with holy joy,

pure and free from sin’s alloy, all our costliest treasures bring, Christ to thee our heavenly king

1. Holy Jesus, every day-keep us in the narrow way,-and when earthly things are past,

bring our ransomed souls at last-where they need no star to guide,-where no clouds of glory hide.

1. In that heavenly country bright-need they no created light:-thou its light, its joy, its crown,-

thou its sun which goes not down;- there forever may we sing-hallelujahs to our King.

**\*GO IN GOD’S NAME**

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

(Blue Hymnal, #66) **“WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE”**

(CHORUS)

O star of wonder, star of night,

Star with royal beauty bright,

Westward leading, still proceeding,

Guide us to thy perfect light!

1\*Indicates that those who are able may stand. The Call to Worship and the Prayer of Confession are from Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion.

**WELCOME TO NEW BETHEL**

**January 7, 2024—January 14, 2024**

**9:45 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**SPECIAL PRAYER FOR:**

Harold Alison-------recovery from open heart (valve) and by-pass surgery, friend of Dean

and Janie Torbett

Matt Amick------some improvement of paralysis - still in serious condition, neighbor of

Rodney Smith

Billy Bagnell------brain tumor; 20-year-old friend of Rodney Smith

Harold Barnes------continued improvement in health, church member

Tommy Forrester------brain cancer, friend of Mary Lynn Barnes

Jerry Graham------A-Fib issues, friend of Katie Wright’s

Don King------recovery from broken leg, church member

Pam King------healing and recovery from stroke, church member

John Landers, II-----medical and mental health issues, son of Kevyn Torbett

Phyllis Painter------eyes, shoulder and leg issues, friend of New Bethel members

Carolyn Shaw------mobility issues, wife of Dr. Angus Shaw

Larry Smith------recovery from shoulder surgery, church member

Bill Snapp------lung and shoulder issues, church member

Willene Spence------eyes and leg issues, former minister’s wife

Dean Torbett------recovery from heart valve surgery, church member

Janie Torbett------recovery from shoulder surgery and leg issues, church member

Judy Sweeney------heart ablation procedure at Vanderbilt on January 9th

**PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS**

Denise Torbett January 9 Sherry Brademeyer January 10

**PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES**

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

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

Holston Presbytery and their work for the larger church

This week: Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church, Johnson City, TN 37601

The Session as they lead our church

**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.

**UPCOMING CHURCH ACTIVITIES:** We will continue to have in person worship services on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. and live streaming broadcast online. You can find a link to the online broadcast and the church bulletin on the church website at [www.newbethelpres.org](http://www.newbethelpres.org).

**TODAY’S SERVICE:**

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** The PW will meet Wednesday, January 17 at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Please join us!

**PASTOR SEARCH:** Continue to be in prayer for our Presbytery, the Committee on Ministry, our Session, and our Congregation as we continue our search for a part-time pastor.

**CLERK OF SESSION NEEDED:** New Bethel needs a Clerk of Session. Please be in prayer as **this most important position must be filled as soon as possible.** The clerk must be an elder, but not necessarily an active one. If you or someone you know would like to serve our church in this way, let any session member know.

**NEW BETHEL T-SHIRTS:** T-shirts featuring our new logo are still available for purchase. There is a sample hanging in the narthex and sizes small through 3X are available. They are $20 and can be purchased from Byron Barnes. All proceeds go to New Bethel.

**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.

**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 2024 budget is shown below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Weekly Budget Needs | $ 1,165 |
| December 31st Offering | $ 1,475 |
| Difference | $ 310 |
| Other Giving | $ 50 |
| Year to Date | $ -174 |