

NEW BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PHONE 423-538-8688

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024



Mission Statement: To know Christ and make Christ known

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME IN CHRIST'S NAME

LITURGY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARY LYNN BARNES

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

"OPEN OUR EYES LORD"

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him and say that we love him.

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

In the wilderness, water brings life.

Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.

In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.

In the bread and the wine, the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.

Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.

Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity.

Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.

*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 mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you have loved us. We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

***OPENING HYMN #403**
(Blue Hymnal)

“WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS”
(All Verses)

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer!
2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged: Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; Take it to the Lord in prayer!
3. Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge----Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a solace there.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MARY LYNN BARNES

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

SCRIPTURE

ACTS 8: 26 – 40
(To be read responsively)

8:26 Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.)

8:27 So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship

8:28 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

8:29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it."

8:30 So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

8:31 He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

8:32 Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

8:33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

8:34 The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"

8:35 Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

8:36 As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?"

8:38 He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

8:39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

8:40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

SERMON

"PHILIP MEETS AN ETHIOPIAN"

REVEREND TOM GOMOLA

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 #298**

(Red Hymnal)

"CHRIST AROSE"

(Verses 1 and 3)

1. Low in the grave He lay, Jesus, my Savior! Waiting the coming day, Jesus, my Lord!
(Refrain)
Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain, And He lives forever with
His saints to reign; He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!
3. Death could not keep his prey, Jesus, my Savior! He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord!
(Refrain)

***GO IN GOD'S NAME**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and,
keep you forever; grant you peace,
perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see God's face, full of
grace forever; May the Lord,
mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

*Indicates that those who are able may stand.

Individual prayers and liturgical texts for worship are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2015.

WELCOME TO NEW BETHEL
April 28, 2024 – May 5, 2024

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

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR:

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
Julia Kegley -----recuperating at home from two fractures in her back
John Landers, II----medical and mental health issues, son of Kevyn Torbett
Anna Ruth Lloyd---stomach cancer surgery 5 weeks ago - very serious and weak condition,
sister-in-law of Carolyn King
Joan Mathes-----serious eye problems and other health issues, aunt of Dickie Jones (lives in
Israel)
Sally McPeak-----acute bronchitis and pneumonia since mid-December
Phyllis Painter-----eyes, shoulder and leg issues, friend of New Bethel members
Carolyn Shaw-----mobility issues, wife of Dr. Angus Shaw
Willene Spence-----eyes and leg issues, former minister's wife
Judy Sweeney-----recuperating from recent cardio-version procedure
Tab Torbett-----is in the VA receiving treatment for pneumonia

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

Deana Torbett April 28 Karisa Miller May 3

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: Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church, Kingsport, TN 37663
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.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES: The New Bethel family extends its deepest Christian sympathies to the family of Bill Snapp. Bill, who passed away on April 19, attended New Bethel Presbyterian Church most of his life. He was a faithful member of this church and will be greatly missed. His funeral service was held at the church on April 24, and his burial was in the New Bethel Cemetery.

TODAY'S SERVICE: We welcome Reverend Tom Gomola back as our speaker this morning. Dr. Angus Shaw will be with us the first two Sundays in May and Reverend Gomola will be back for the last 2 Sundays in May.

WOMEN'S BIRTHDAY OFFERING: Thank you to all who contributed to the Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering. Thanks to your generous gifts, we received \$485. If you didn't have a chance to give last week you can still add your donation to the offering plate today. Just indicate it is to go to the Birthday Offering.

DECORATION DAY: Decoration Sunday is **May 26** and preparations have begun. For Lunch we are planning to order chicken boxes again from KFC. Cost per box is \$10 and includes 3 chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, Cole slaw and a biscuit. Drinks and dessert will be provided. **Please let Mary Lynn know how many boxes you want by May 19. RSVP to 423-534-0060, call or text.**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Support for the River continues In April when we will be collecting baby wipes and 2.5 gallon Hefty resealable bags, used for diaper distribution. In May we will be collecting band-aids (especially the large size) and resealable sandwich bags for personal care items for the ladies. Thanks for your support of this great organization.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: A reminder, Our Presbyterian Women meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at **2:00 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. Our next meeting is **Wednesday, May 15th!** Please join this very active group of ladies.

PASTOR SEARCH: Please be in prayer for our Pastor Nominating Committee as they continue their work in the 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	\$ 1,310
April 21st Offering	\$ 1,505
Difference	\$ 195
Other Giving	\$ 540
Year to Date	\$-2,031