



**NEW BETHEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
PHONE 423-538-8688  
Rev. Tom Gomola  
(724) 992-0447  
[tomgomola@yahoo.com](mailto:tomgomola@yahoo.com)

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 15, 2024



"To Make Christ Known"

Mission Statement: To know Christ and make Christ known

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME IN GOD'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

### "SANCTUARY"

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

The instructions of the Lord are perfect, reviving the soul.

**The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.**

The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart.

**The commands of the Lord are clear, giving insight for living.**

Reverence for the Lord is pure, lasting forever.

**The laws of the Lord are true; each one is fair.**

They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold.

**They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.**

How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.

**Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me.**

Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.

**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart**

**be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. (Psalm 19: 7-14)**

\*OPENING PRAYER

\*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 (Responsively)

Lord God, Master of the universe, You are good, wise, and just.

**In Christ, You have shared Your authority with Your people, and You have invited us to rule alongside You, for the benefit of the whole world.**

But we do not rule well. We misuse our authority and abuse our position.

**We fail to see that all we have is Yours. We hoard our time, energy, and resources. We treat others as means to our own ends.**

But, Lord God, we have seen our sin, and we are sorry; in Your great mercy forgive us.

**Transform our hearts to reflect Your goodness, wisdom, and justice. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

11 For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens  
above the earth.

12 He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. **(Psalm 103: 11-12)**

\*OPENING HYMN #359

**“MORE LOVE TO THEE, O CHRIST”**

(Blue Hymnal)

(All Verses)

1. More love to Thee, O Christ, More love to Thee! Hear Thou the  
prayer I make On bended knee. This is my earnest plea:  
More love, O Christ, to Thee, More love to Thee, More love to Thee!
2. Once earthly joy I craved, Sought peace and rest; Now Thee a-  
lone I seek, Give what is best. This all my prayer shall be:  
More love, O Christ, to Thee, More love to Thee, More love to Thee!
3. Then shall my latest breath Whisper Thy praise; This be the  
parting cry My heart shall raise. This still its prayer shall be:  
More love, O Christ, to Thee, More love to Thee, More love to Thee!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

SPECIAL MUSIC

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

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

SERMON SCRIPTURE                   **Numbers 21: 4b-9, John 3: 13-21**

SERMON                                   **“SNAKE ON A STICK”**                                   REV. 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 #339  
(Blue Hymnal)

**“BE THOU MY VISION”**  
(All Verses)

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art—  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
2. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.
3. Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**"I WILL SERVE THEE"**

I will serve Thee because I love Thee, You have given life to me; I was nothing before You found me, You have given life to me. Heartaches, broken pieces, Ruined lives are why You died on Calvary; Your touch was what I longed for, You have given life to me.

\*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  
September 15, 2024 – September 22, 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  
Mary Beth Asbell-----undergoing radiation treatment for recurrent cancer, sister of Vickie Musick  
Billy Bagnell-----brain tumor; friend of Rodney Smith  
Tommy Forrester-----brain cancer, friend of Mary Lynn Barnes  
Jerry Graham-----A-Fib issues, friend of Katie Wright  
Julia Kegley-----recovering and trying to stay healthy  
John Landers, II-----medical and mental health issues, son of Kevyn Torbett  
Joan Mathes-----serious eye problems and other health issues, aunt of Dickie Jones (lives in Israel)  
Sally McPeak-----recently had a fall and is having difficulty walking; on bed rest, church member  
Phyllis Painter-----eyes, shoulder and leg issues, friend of New Bethel members  
Carolyn Shaw-----mobility issues, wife of Dr Angus Shaw  
Judy Sweeney-----recuperating from recent cardio-version procedure  
Tab Torbett-----is in the VA receiving treatment

**PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS**

Audree Greene    September 17        Carolyn Shaw    September 18

**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: Mount Hermon Presbyterian Church, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219  
The Session as they lead our church

## **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 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).

**CONGREGATION MEETING:** There will be a Congregational Meeting on **September 29th** for the purpose of electing an Elder Nominating Committee. The meeting will be immediately following the morning worship service.

**TIME AWAY:** Pastor Tom will be out of town from **Sunday evening Sept. 15- Thursday afternoon Sept 19**. He will be available by text, phone, and email. (You can find Tom's contact information on the top of the first page of the bulletin.)

**LORD'S ACRE SALE:** **Edgefield Methodist Church** is having their Lord's Acre Sale Saturday, **September 28th**. Breakfast is from 8-10 and cost \$7. Crafts, canned goods, baked goods, produce, and local honey will be sold from 8 a.m. till noon. There will also be a raffle and a live auction.

**SAVE THE DATE!:** The session has approved a fellowship meal following worship on **November 17**. Bring your favorite dish and invite a guest to join us!

**FALL FESTIVAL:** New Bethel will have a Fall Festival on **October 19, from 8 a.m. to noon**. Breakfast at 8 a.m. Games and activities will follow, More details will come in the near future. See Byron Barnes with any questions.

**NEW DEVOTION BOOKLETS:** The new September-November issue of "Our Daily Bread" is available in the narthex.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** The next project for Presbyterian Women is to collect donations for Sullivan East HS Swag Shoppe where students get access based on need. We did this last year, but the items they need have changed somewhat. This time they do NOT need any toiletries donated. They need the following items: trial size laundry detergent, boys' clothing (sizes S-3X) including hoodies, graphic tees (boys or girls), sports jackets, toboggans or caps. Also ties and dress shirts as well as (new or gently used) blue jeans-sizes 30, 32, 34, 36. They can also use men's belts and tennis shoes. The drive will run through **Sun, Oct 6**, and items can be placed on the pew in the narthex.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY:** Our church directory is in need of an update. Sandra and Mary Lynn plan to work on it this month. If you know of changes, please send them ASAP to either Sandra or Mary Lynn by e-mail: [mlbarnes0303@gmail.com](mailto:mlbarnes0303@gmail.com) or [csmleonard878@outlook.com](mailto:csmleonard878@outlook.com)

**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 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.d

**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
September 8 Offering	\$ 726
Other Offerings	\$ 100
Year to Date	\$ -2,307