



**NEW BETHEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
PHONE 423-538-8688  
Rev. Tom Gomola  
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Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 22, 2024



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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

LITURGY

MARY LYNN BARNES

\*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

**"EMMANUEL"**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called  
Emmanuel; God with us, revealed in us;  
His name is called Emmanuel.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,

**and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,**  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. Isaiah 9:6-7**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

**Lord God, Your goodness, beauty, and power are too much for us to fully comprehend. Your ways are higher than our ways, and Your thoughts higher than our thoughts. But in our pride and self-importance, we attempt to impose our ways and thoughts on You. Forgive us for thinking too highly of ourselves and too little of You. Thank You for the immeasurable grace and mercy displayed in Christ's coming to us, for giving us a way to truly know the Father through the Son. By Your Spirit, root out our pride and shape us into Jesus' likeness. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

"Jesus himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." 1 Peter 2:24

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

JON AND ANNE WHITE

\*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 #53

**"WHAT CHILD IS THIS"**

(Blue Hymnal)

(All Verses)

1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?  
(Refrain)  
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!
2. Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.  
(Refrain)
3. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
(Refrain)

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

SPECIAL MUSIC

NEW BETHEL CHOIR

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 ILLUMINATION

SERMON

**"GOD WITH US"**

REV. TOM GOMOLA

SERMON SCRIPTURE

**Matthew 1:20b - 23**

20b An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,

“Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (“which means “God with us”).

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 #44 “O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM”**

(Blue Hymnal) (Verses 1, 2, and 4)

1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary; And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

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

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION

**“LET'S WORSHIP AND ADORE HIM”**

Let's worship and adore Him, Let's worship and adore Him,  
Let's worship and adore Him, Christ the Lord. For He alone is worthy,  
For He alone is worthy, For He alone is worthy, Christ the Lord.

\*Indicates those who are able may stand.

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WELCOME TO NEW BETHEL  
December 22, 2024 – December 29, 2024

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

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**SPECIAL PRAYER FOR:**

Matt Amick-----some improvement of paralysis – still in serious condition, neighbor of Rodney Smith  
Billy Bagnell-----brain tumor; friend of Rodney Smith  
Jerry Graham-----A-Fib issues, friend of Katie Wright  
Ron Jones-----prostate cancer and long covid, friend of Jon White  
Julia Kegley-----recovering and trying to stay healthy  
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-----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  
Debbie Smith-----breast cancer treatment, friend of Becky Wise  
Tab Torbett-----is in the VA receiving treatment

**PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS**

Phillip Orr    December 27

**PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES**

Mark and Jennifer Procopio    December 27

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Lt. Matthew Musick    A naval aviator, will be 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: Rogersville Presbyterian Church, Rogersville, TN 37857  
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).

**CORRECTION IN CHURCH DIRECTORY:** The phone number for Rev. Tom Gomola in the new church directory is incorrect due to a typographical error. Please change the current number that is listed to the following number as soon as possible: **724-992-0447**

**GOFUNDME FOR LOCAL FAMILY:** A local family in Piney Flats recently lost their home, 2 cars, 2 dogs and all of their belongings in a house fire. A GoFundMe account has been established to help them. Any amount would be appreciated. Go to GoFundMe.com and search for Brock Miles family.

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING:** The Christmas joy offering will be taken today. Through the Christmas joy offering, we reflect God's perfect gift to us, with generous support of church leaders among us – past, present and future-who have pointed us to God. We honor and celebrate leaders like retired, pastors, church workers, and their families who have faithfully guided and led us, but who have now found themselves in critical financial need. We honor and celebrate emerging leaders and students in schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Jesus's example as a child, born to be among us and lead us to eternal life provides a pattern for us to follow. Through the Christmas joy offering, we come together to support past, present and future leaders, embodying God's perfect gift to us, Jesus Christ.

**ELDER TRAINING:** Holston Presbytery is offering COMMISSIONED LAY PASTOR (CRE) TRAINING. There are 7 monthly meetings either online or zoom meetings on the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating, go online to [holstonpresbytery.net](http://holstonpresbytery.net) where you can get more information or register for this program.

**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
December 15 Offering	\$ 1,535
Other Offerings	\$ 35
Year to Date	\$ -3,433