



**NEW BETHEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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The First Sunday of Christmas  
December 29, 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

LARRY SMITH

\*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)

**148:1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**

148:2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

**148:3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!**

148:4 Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

**148:5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.**

148:13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

**Psalm 148 NIV**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

**"Gracious God, as we reflect on the gift of Christ's birth, we confess that despite the joy of the season, we have fallen short in our commitment to love and serve others. We have let pride and selfishness creep into our hearts, and we ask for your forgiveness. Wash us clean, renew our spirits, and guide us to live with the true spirit of Christmas throughout the coming year. In Jesus' name, Amen."**

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!  
**1 Corinthians 5:17 NIV**

\*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 #37

**"INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY"**

(Blue Hymnal)

(All Verses)

1. Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, Little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging Angels singing, Noels ringing,  
Tidings bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.
2. Flocks were sleeping; Shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new.  
Saw the glory, Heard the story, Tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow, Praises voicing  
Greet the morrow: Christ the babe was born for you.

## **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 ILLUMINATION

SERMON

**"WORRIED ABOUT OUR KID"**

REV. TOM GOMOLA

SERMON SCRIPTURE

**Luke 2:41-52 (NIV)**

2:41 Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.

2:42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival.

2:43 When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. (Continued on next page)

2:44 Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.  
2:45 When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.  
2:46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.  
2:47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.  
2:48 When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you."  
2:49 He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"  
2:50 But they did not understand what he said to them.  
2:51 Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart.  
2:52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor.

## 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 #60**

(Blue Hymnal)

### **"SILENT NIGHT"**

(All Verses)

1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."
3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.
4. Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

### **\*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 29, 2024 – January 5, 2025

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**

Kassie Smith    December 31

**PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES**

**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: Rosemont Presbyterian Church, Bristol, TN 37620  
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**

**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Offering Envelopes are ready and available in the Narthex for those who wish to use them. If you haven't used them in the past and would like to receive envelopes for your 2025 donations, contact Larry Smith.

**OFFICER INSTALLATION AND SESSION MEETING:** Officer installation will be during the morning worship service on January 12th. The January meeting of the session will also be on January 12th, immediately following morning worship.

**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:** Thank you for your generous gifts to the Joy Offering. The total amount received was \$555.

**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 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 22 Offering	\$ 1,112
Other Offerings	\$ 2,535
Year to Date	\$ -3,631