



**NEW BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
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The Seventh Sunday After Epiphany
 February 23, 2025



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

LITURGIST

MARY LYNN BARNES

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

*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“HOLY SPIRIT”

Holy Spirit Thou art welcome in this place
 Holy Spirit Thou art welcome in this place
 Omnipotent Father of Mercy and Grace
 Thou art welcome in this place.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

- 37:1 Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,
- 37:2 for they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.**
- 37:3 Trust in the LORD and do good; live in the land, and enjoy security.
- 37:4 Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.**
- 37:5 Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.
- 37:6 He will make your vindication shine like the light and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**
- 37:7 Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices. (Continued on next page).

37:8 Refrain from anger and forsake wrath. Do not fret--it leads only to evil.

37:9 For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

37:10 Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.

37:11 But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

37:39 The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their refuge in the time of trouble.

37:40 The LORD helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked and saves them because they take refuge in him. **Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40**

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and forgive us that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

"I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud
and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you." – **Isaiah 44:22**

*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 #324

"OPEN MY EYES THAT I MAY SEE"

(Blue Hymnal)

(All verses)

1. Open my eyes, that I may see Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key That shall unclasp and set me free.
(Refrain)
Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!
ears,
heart,
2. Open my ears, that I may hear Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, Everything false will disappear.
(Refrain)
3. Open my mouth, and let me hear Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare Love with Thy children thus to share.
(Refrain)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

“LOVING DIFFICULT PEOPLE”

REV. TOM GOMOLA

SERMON SCRIPTURE **Luke 6:27-38 (responsive)**

6:27 "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you;

6:28 bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you.

6:29 If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

6:30 Give to everyone who ask of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again.

6:31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.

6:32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

6:33 If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

6:34 If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

6:35 Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

6:36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

6:37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;

6:38 give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD BY RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

Robert and Renne Tolbert

***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.

*PRAYER

***RESPONSIVE HYMN # 442 "THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION"**

(Blue Hymnal)

(Verses 1, 2, and 4)

1. The church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the word;
From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

2. Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

4. Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious Shall be the church at rest.

***GO IN GOD'S NAME**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

"TO BE LIKE JESUS"

To be like Jesus, To be like Jesus,
All I ask, to be like Him.
All through life's journey
from earth to glory,
All I ask, to be like Him.

*Indicates those who are able may stand.

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WELCOME TO NEW BETHEL
February 23, 2025 - March 2, 2025

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; friend of Rodney Smith
Ramona Fender-----38 year old undergoing treatment for colon cancer, granddaughter of a friend of Sandra's
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,
Jerry Reed-----liver cancer, receiving immunotherapy treatment, Ron Reed's brother
Carolyn Shaw-----mobility issues, wife of Dr Angus Shaw
Debbie Smith-----breast cancer treatment, friend of Becky Wise
Jerry Vaughn-----has plaque buildup, has scheduled heart cath and stress test, Gary Vaughn's father

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

Jack White February 23 Lindsey Smith February 24
Jennifer Orr February 27 Matthew Ramsey February 27

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: Tri-City Korean 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.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Please join us after the worship service today for lunch in the fellowship hall.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Due to snowy weather our PW meeting was postponed to **Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

HOLY COMMUNION: Next Sunday, March 2, we will be celebrating **Holy Communion** during our service. This is a special time for us to remember **Jesus' sacrifice** and reflect on His love and grace.

ASH WEDNESDAY: The "Ash Wednesday" service will be March 5, at 6:30 p.m.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: This year New Bethel will be hosting the World Day of Prayer on **Friday, March 7 at 11:00 a.m.** The service will be followed by lunch in the fellowship hall. The World Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries annually on the first Friday in March.

WIFI: The WiFi password for New Bethel Presbyterian is **bethel592**

NEW ADDRESS: **Kevyn Torbett** has recently moved. Her new address is 3529 W. Walnut Street Apt. 307, Johnson City, TN 37604. Please make this change in your directory.

NEW ADDRESS: **Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Fuller and Family** have recently moved. Their new address is **556 Summer Street, Weymouth, MA 02188.** Please update your directory with this information!

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 2025 budget is shown below:

Weekly Budget Needs	\$ 1,443
February 16 Offering	\$ 2,905
Other Offerings	\$ 6,775
Year to Date	\$ 53