



**NEW BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
PHONE 423-538-8688
Rev. Tom Gomola
(724) 992-0447
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First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

THE BARNES FAMILY

LITURGIST

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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

*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"HOLY SPIRIT, THOU ART WELCOME IN THIS PLACE"

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) **Psalm 100**

100:1 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

100:2 Serve the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

100:3 Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

100:4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him; bless his name.

100:5 For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

Heavenly Father, we confess that we so often fix our eyes on the troubles of this world rather than in your eternal hope. As a result, we doubt you and your promises. Forgive us, Lord, for focusing only on what we can see. Empower us instead to trust you, walk by faith, and rest confidently in your grace daily. We pray this in the merciful name of Jesus. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (Liturgist).**

If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; Isaiah 58:13-14a

***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 #169**

"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

(Red Hymnal)

(Verses 1 and 2)

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive
Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

(Refrain)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our Spirits by Thine
advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

(Refrain)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON "HOPE: THE ORIGINAL CHRISTMAS DECORATION" FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT"
REV. TOM GOMOLA

SERMON SCRIPTURE Isaiah 2:4-5

2:4 He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

2:5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Romans 13:11-14

13:11 Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;

13:12 the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;

13:13 let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.

13:14 Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 24:36-39

24:36 "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

24:37 For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

24:38 For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark,

24:39 and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man.

OFFERING

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Hebrews 13:16 "Do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

*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.

Receiving New Members: Greg & Linda Heaton, Ed & Donna (Raines) Carter

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

***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 #168 **"COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS"**
(Red Hymnal) (All Verses)

1. Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free; From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's Strength and Consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.
2. Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King, Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

***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 thru life’s journey from earth to glory,

All I ask, to be like Him.

***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
November 30, 2025 – December 7, 2025

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

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR:

Melissa Alley----- receiving treatment for cervical cancer, friend of Sherry Brademeyer
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
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-----various health problems, church member
Phyllis Painter-----eyes, shoulder and leg issues, friend of New Bethel members,
Debbie Smith-----breast cancer treatment, friend of Becky Wise
Mary Nelle Smith-----recovering from broken hip, sister-in-law of Sandra Leonard
Tom Smith-----facing serious neck surgery on 11/17, friend of Mary Lynn
Dean Torbett-----at home recovering from foot surgery and pneumonia, church member
Jerry Vaughn-----recovering from open heart surgery and receiving further treatment for AFIB, Gary Vaughn's father

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

Linda Smith December 5 Leigh Shepherd December 6 Scott Greene November 28

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

Lt. Matthew Musick A naval aviator was 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: New Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Greeneville, TN 37743
The Session as they lead our church

Current Session Members

Tom Gomola	(724) 992-0447	Denise Torbett	(423) 341-4013
Dickie Torbett	(423) 967-5831	Mary Dobrovolc	(315) 525-2454
Larry Smith	(423) 747-7282	Eddie Ramsey	(423) 306-1526
Mary Lynn Barnes	(423) 534-0060	Katie Wright	(423) 967-6534
Byron Barnes	(423)-794-6522	Gary Vaughn	(423) 956-6907

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 online broadcast and the church bulletin on the church website at www.newbethelpres.org.

COME MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! The New Bethel choir plans to sing on the Sunday before Christmas, **December 21**. All volunteers are welcome to participate! Two practices are scheduled: Wednesday, **December 17, at 6:00 pm**; and Saturday morning, **December 20, at 10:00**. Making both practices is great, but if you can only make it to one, we'll take it!

5-CENTS-A-MEAL: The 5 Cents a Meal Offering will be received today.

CAROLING: Please join us in making a joyful noise on **Sunday, Dec 14**, when we go Christmas caroling! We will meet in the church parking lot **at 4:00**, and stop for dinner afterwards. Transportation is furnished and all are welcome. There is a **sign-up sheet** in the entry space of the sanctuary.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: The annual PW Christmas Party will be on **Wednesday, December 3 at 6:00p.m.** The meal will be purchased from Simms Pizzeria. Drinks and desserts will be provided by the PW. If you plan to attend, please notify Mary Lynn Barnes by November 30th and give her a donation of \$5.00 for your meal. Don't forget to bring donations for the River: diapers--sizes 3, 4, and 5 and/or baby wipes. If you want to play our lively bingo exchange game, you need to bring a gift of up to \$20.00. Please join us in the fellowship hall for a fun time!

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE: If you have experienced the loss of a job, home, loved one, health, sense of purpose this quiet, candlelight service is for you. "Hope in the Midst of Loss" on Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 6:30p.m. at Piney Flats Presbyterian, 6337 Bristol Highway

PINEY FLATS MEALS-ON-WHEELS: Piney Flats Meals-on-Wheels needs volunteers from local churches to deliver meals one morning each month.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Gary and Mary Dobrovolc, 2007A, Sherwood Drive, Johnson City, TN 37601

CLASSES OF ELDERS: Class of 2026: Larry Smith, Byron Barnes, Denise Torbett
Class of 2027: Eddie Ramsey, Mary Lynn Barnes, Dickie Torbett
Class of 2028: Gary Vaughn, Katie Wright, Mary Dobrovolc

CHURCH DIRECTORY: The church directory is now in a database that is easily updated. If you need to be added or make changes, please email Mary Lynn at mlbarnes0303@gmail.com. The information should include names, address, phone, email, birthdates, anniversary date. Copies of the current directory are in a folder in the narthex. As changes are made updated copies will be available there. **The latest church directory is now available in a folder in the narthex.**

WIFI: bethel592

COMMUNION AND OFFERING: The Holy Communion and Offering sign-up sheets for 2026 are in the entry space of the sanctuary. You must be an ordained elder to serve Communion, but anyone can take up the offering. Offering collection is 4X per month. Holy Communion is served on the 1st Sunday of each month. Please help when you can!

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.

ONLINE GIVING: Please use this QR Code for giving online.



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:
The financial report is not available for this week.

Weekly Budget Needs	\$ 1,443
November Offering	\$
Other Offerings	\$
Year to Date	\$