



**NEW BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
PHONE 423-538-8688
The Rev. Tom Gomola
(724) 992-0447
tomgomola@yahoo.com
Second Sunday of Christmas
January 4, 2026



"To Make Christ Known"

Mission Statement: To know Christ and make Christ known

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME IN GOD'S NAME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE REV. TOM GOMOLA

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGIST

LARRY SMITH

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

"COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS"

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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) **Psalm 72:1-6, 11-13**

72:1 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

72:2 May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.

72:3 May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

72:4 May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

72:5 May he live while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

72:6 May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

72:11 May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service. (cont.)

72:12 For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

72:13 He has pity on the weak and the needy and saves the lives of the needy.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

"Holy God, Gracious God, grant us the heart of the Magi: Hearts that desire the light... Hearts that are always ready to kneel before You... Hearts that are prepared to move in new directions and travel a different way. Please forgive us, and accept our imperfect gifts—time, talents, trust—and draw all nations to worship at Your feet." Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (Liturgist) **Psalm 103:8-12**

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

*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 #66

(Blue Hymnal)

"WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE"

(Verses 1, 3, and 5)

1. We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain,
moor and mountain, Following yonder star.
(Refrain)
O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright; Westward leading,
still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!
3. Frank-in-cense to offer have I:
Incense owns a Deity nigh; Prayer and praising
we are raising, Worshiping God Most High.
(Refrain)
5. Glorious now behold Him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia,
Alleluia Sounds through the earth and skies.
(Refrain)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SPECIAL MUSIC

JON WHITE

SERMON SCRIPTURE **Matthew 2:1-12**

2:1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem,
2:2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east, and have come to pay him homage." (cont.)

2:3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him,
2:4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the
 Messiah was to be born.
2:5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:
2:6 And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for
 from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."
2:7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had
 appeared.
2:8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you
 have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."
2:9 When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had
 seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was.
2:10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.
2:11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid
 him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense,
 and myrrh.
2:12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by
 another road.

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.

*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HOLY COMMUNION

***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.

1. Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains.
(Refrain)
Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo; Glo-----ria
in excelsis Deo. (cont.)

3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
(Refrain)

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

“GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN”

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

*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

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-----recovering from 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

Matthew Wright January 5 Denise Torbett January 9 Sherry Brademeyer January 10

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: Oakland Presbyterian Church, Limestone, TN 37681
The Session as they lead our church

Current Session Members

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.

CONGRATULATIONS: The New Bethel family of faith congratulates Katie Wright and Adam McMillan on their wedding yesterday.

SESSION: The next session meeting will be immediately after worship next Sunday, **January 11**, in the fellowship hall.

UNDECORATING: If you are able to help remove the decorations from the sanctuary today after worship, your help will be greatly appreciated.

SANCTUARY TV: The new sanctuary television screen and the installation are a donation from Richie and Amber Torbett.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Our next fellowship meal, "Souper Bowl", will be **January 25**, following worship. (We know the Super Bowl is not until Feb. 8, 2026!)

RETIREMENT: We congratulate these church members on their recent retirement:
Ed Ramsey – Sullivan County Department of Education
Pam King – Ballad Health

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: The next PW meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **January 19**, 2026, in the fellowship hall.

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 Dobrovolt

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 2026 budget is shown below:

Weekly Budget Needs	\$1,459
December 28 Offering	\$1,910
Other Offerings	\$1,630
Year to Date	\$3,250