



**NEW BETHEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
PHONE 423-538-8688  
The Rev. Tom Gomola  
(724) 992-0447  
[tomgomola@yahoo.com](mailto:tomgomola@yahoo.com)  
First Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 11, 2026



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

KATIE MCMILLAN

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

**"HERE I AM LORD"**

Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have  
heard You calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) **Acts 10:34-43**

10:34 Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality,

**10:35 but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him.**

10:36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all.

**10:37 That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:**

10:38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

**10:39 We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,**

10:40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,

**10:41 not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God, You call us to grow in wisdom and faith, to listen for Your voice, and to seek You above all else. Yet we confess that we often lose our way. We rush ahead in our own understanding, searching everywhere except where You are already at work. Forgive us when we grow impatient with Your timing, and when we forget that our lives belong to You. Restore in us a desire to trust You and to follow You more faithfully. Meet us in our need and help us grow in wisdom and grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love... as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes 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 #50

(Blue Hymnal)

**"RISE UP, SHEPHERD, AND FOLLOW"**

(Verses 1 and 2)

1. There's a star in the East on Christmas morn,  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow, It will lead to the place where the  
Christ was born, Rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
(Refrain)  
Follow, follow, Rise up, shepherd, and follow,  
Follow the Star of Bethlehem, Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
2. If you take good heed to the angel's words,  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow, You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget  
your herds, Rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
(Refrain)

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

ROBIN LANE

**SERMON SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 42:1-9***

42:1 Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
42:2 He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street;  
42:3 a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
42:4 He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching.  
42:5 Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:  
42:6 I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,  
42:7 to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
42:8 I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. (cont.)

42:9 See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

**Matthew 3:13-17**

3:13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.

3:14 John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

3:15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.

3:16 And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him.

3:17 And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

SERMON

**"BRUISED REED AND BAPTISM"**

THE REV. TOM GOMOLA

OFFERING

ROBIN LANE

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

**\*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 #36

(Blue hymnal)

**"IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER"**

(Verses 1, 2 and 4)

1. In the bleak midwinter, Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, Long ago.
2. Our God, heaven cannot hold Him, Nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away When He comes to reign:  
In the bleak midwinter A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.
4. What can I give Him, Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart.

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

### **“MAY THE LORD, MIGHTY LORD”**

May the Lord, Mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever;  
Grant us peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.  
Lift up your eyes and see His face, and His grace forever.  
May the Lord, Mighty Lord, Bless and keep you forever.

\*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**  
January 11, 2026 – January 18, 2026

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

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**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 McMillan  
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**

Oliver Fuller January 14      Carolyn King January 15      Isaac Miller January 15

Kyleigh Barnes January 17

**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: Old Kingsport Presbyterian Church, Kingsport, TN 37660  
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](http://www.newbethelpres.org).

**SESSION:** The session will meet immediately after worship today in the fellowship hall.

**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!)

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** The next PW meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **January 21**, 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

**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 2026 budget is shown below:

Weekly Budget Needs	\$1,534
January 4th Offering	\$2,890
Other Offerings	\$ 25
Year to Date	\$1,356