



**NEW BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
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 The Reverend Tom Gomola
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 Third Sunday of Easter
 April 19, 2026



Mission Statement: To know Christ and to make Christ known

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

“WERE YOU THERE”

SAVING GRACE

WELCOME IN GOD’S NAME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. TOM GOMOLA

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGIST

MARY LYNN BARNES

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

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)

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-13

116:1 I love the LORD because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

116:2 Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

116:3 The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

116:4 Then I called on the name of the LORD, "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"

116:12 What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?

116:13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD;

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Heavenly Father, You knew us before we were born and created us for purpose and relationship with You, yet we often turn away from Your goodness. You call us higher, but we hide behind excuses and listen to other influences. You offer help, and we rely on our own understanding. Forgive us, Lord. Call us again. Invite us again. Help us again. You promise that those who seek will find and those who knock will see the door opened. In Your mercy, help us step into Your purpose through Your Son, Jesus.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (liturgist)

Luke 4:18-19

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free,

19 and that the time of the Lord's favor has come."

*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 #333

"SEEK YE FIRST"

SAVING GRACE

(Blue hymnal)

(congregation sings verses 1 and 2)

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness, And all these things shall be added unto you. Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia!
2. Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Al-le-lu, al-le-lu-ia!

SPECIAL MUSIC

"UNCLOUDY DAY" and "I'LL FLY AWAY"

SAVING GRACE

SERMON SCRIPTURE (Responsive)

Acts 9:1-9

1 Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So, he went to the high priest.

2 He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains.

3 As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him.

4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?"

5 "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked. And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!

6 Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

7 The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one!

8 Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus.

9 He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink.

SERMON

"UNEXPECTED, UNWANTED, UNDESERVED, UNMISTAKABLE"

REV. TOM GOMOLA

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

***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 #280**

“AMAZING GRACE”

(Blue hymnal)

(verses 1, 3, and 5)

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

***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**

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.

THE BIRTHDAY OFFERING: The birthday offering is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings.

Received in the spring each year, it gives women a tangible way to celebrate the blessings in their lives. The Birthday Offering funds up to five projects each year, in amounts of \$75,000 to \$150,000 each. This year the Birthday Offering will be received on **April 26**.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Save the date for VBS beginning on **June 13, 2026!** Time to be announced later. Volunteers are needed!

BIBLE STUDY: There is a new Bible study starting on **Tuesday, April 21st at 6:30** at **Marcia Torbett's** on the **Chosen season 5**. If you are interested, please let me know right away. We have a study guide to go along with the video and we need to know how many copies to make.

LOST AND FOUND: Glasses found in the pews are on the entry way table.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The men's breakfast at Bojangles is at **6:45 a.m., the first Wednesday** of every month with the Edgefield guys.

CHANGE IN PHONE NUMBER: Kevyn Torbett's new phone number is 423-796-8500. Please make this change in your New Bethel directory.

NEW ADDRESSES: Please add these addresses to your New Bethel Directory:

Mr. Jack White
650 Cedar Creek Rd
Kingsport, TN 37664

Ms. Alie White
431 Indian Creek Rd
Corbin, KY 40701

WIFI PASSWORD: bethel592

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
April 12th Offering	\$2,075
Other Offerings	\$ 50
Year to Date	\$1,289