



**NEW BETHEL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 3, 2026



Mission Statement: To know Christ and to make Christ known

## **ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

WELCOME IN GOD'S NAME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. TOM GOMOLA

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGIST

SHERRY BRADEMEYER

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

### **"SANCTUARY"**

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) **Psalm 148**

1 Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

**2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.**

3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

**4 Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.**

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for at his command they were created,

**6 and he established them for ever and ever— he issued a decree that will never pass away.**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison) **Heavenly Father, Your word says there's no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, but we often live like we're stuck in sin and fear. We've focused too much on worldly things and forgotten Your peace. We've doubted Your love for us as Your children. Forgive us for (cont.)**

**following our own desires instead of Your Spirit. Cleanse us and renew our minds as we embrace new life in Jesus. Give us the strength to live in the freedom and victory Christ has given us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

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

It is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. **Hebrews 10:10**

**\*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 #398**

**“THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT”**

(Blue Hymnal)

(All verses)

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; There are sweet expressions on each face, And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

(Refrain)

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove, Stay right here with us, Filling us with Your love; And for these blessings We lift our hearts in praise. Without a doubt we know that we have been revived When we shall leave this place.

2. There are blessings you cannot receive Till you know Him in His fullness and believe; you're the one to profit when you say, "I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."

(Refrain)

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**SERMON SCRIPTURE John 14:1-14**

14:1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.

14:2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

14:4 And you know the way to the place where I am going."

14:5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"

14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

14:7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

14:8 Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

14:9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

14:11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. (cont.)

14:12 Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

14:13 I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14:14 If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

SERMON

**“I AM THE WAY’----STOP ASKING GOOGLE”**

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

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.

\*RESPONSIVE HYMN #314

**“WHAT A DAY THAT WILL BE”**

(Red hymnal)

(All verses)

1. There is coming a day when no heartaches shall come,  
No more clouds in the sky, no more tears to dim the eye; All is peace for evermore on that happy golden shore—What a day, glorious day, that will be  
(Refrain)  
What a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see,  
And I look upon His face—the One who saved me  
by His grace; When He takes me by the hand, and leads me  
through the Promised Land, What a day, glorious day, that will be.
2. There’ll be no sorrow there, no more burdens to bear,  
No more sickness, no pain, no more parting over there; And forever  
I will be with the One who died for me—What a day, glorious day, that will be.  
(Refrain)

**GO IN GOD’S NAME**

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

**“I WILL SERVE THEE”**

I will serve Thee because I love Thee, You have given life to me;  
I was nothing before you found me, You have given life to me.  
Heartaches, broken pieces, Ruined lives are why You died on Calvary,  
Your touch was what I longed for, You have given life to me.

\*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.

**VETERANS HONORED:** Honor your Veterans on Memorial Day weekend, **May 21-25**, by purchasing a flag in their honor to be placed in the grassy area between Eastman Credit Union and Piney Flats Drug Center. A yellow ribbon will be attached to your flag with your honoree's name on it. Flags will be 12"x18" on a 22" stick with a golden tip and will be placed in neat rows at Patriots Corner. Flags are \$10 each, and all proceeds go to support the Piney Flats Ruritan Annual Veterans Luncheon that feeds around 144 each year near Veterans Day. Forms are on the table in the narthex and can be given to Larry or Linda Smith or Mary Lynn Barnes by **Sunday, May 10**.

**BIRTHDAY OFFERING:** Thank you for your gifts to the Birthday Offering. The total amount given last week was \$304.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** The PW meeting date has been changed from May 20<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, **May 13** at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

**SESSION:** No Session meeting in May. Next meeting will be **June 14** after worship.

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

**BABY SHOWER:** You are invited to a baby shower for Katie and Adam McMillan on **Sunday, June 7**, immediately after church in the fellowship hall. A light lunch will be provided. The shower is open to anyone but please **RSVP by May 24<sup>th</sup>** to Mary Lynn in person, by phone call or text (423-534-0060) so plans for food can be made. They are having a girl! All gifts are appreciated and gift cards are always a good idea!

**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., on Wednesday, May 6** with the Edgefield guys.

**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 26th Offering	\$1,706
Other Offerings	\$ 429
Year to Date	\$ 979