



**NEW BETHEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
PHONE 423-538-8688
The Reverend Tom Gomola
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Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 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 86:11-13, 15-17

86:11 Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

86:12 I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

86:13 For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Hell.

86:15 But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

86:16 Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your maidservant. (cont.)

86:17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

Almighty God, You ask us to take courageous steps of faith. We want to follow You, but when the way is unknown, we often hold back. Sometimes we are afraid. Other times we would rather stay in control, thinking we know better than You. Forgive us for choosing to rely on our own understanding instead of Your wisdom. Shepherd us, O Lord, especially when we are faced with burdens we would not have chosen. Comfort us, and remind us that You are always with us. Through Christ our Lord we pray, Amen.

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

Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having been dead to sin, we might be alive to all that is good in God's sight." **1 Peter 2:24**

***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 #387**

"SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US"

(Blue Hymnal)

(Verses 1,3)

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us, Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.
3. Early let us seek Thy favor; Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SPECIAL MUSIC

"LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS"

Donna Carter, Sheila Lowry, Denise Torbett, and Mary Lynn Barnes

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24

139:1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

139:2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

139:3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

139:4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

139:5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

139:6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

139:7 Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

139:8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Hell, you are there.

139:9 If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

139:10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

139:11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me,"

139:12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. (cont.)

139:13 For it was you who formed my inward parts: you knit me together in my mother's womb.

139:14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

139:15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

139:16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

139:24 See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

SERMON

"THE ULTIMATE BACKGROUND CHECK"

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 #388

"O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED"

(Blue Hymnal)

(Verses 1, 2, and 4)

1. O Jesus, I have promised To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me, My Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway If Thou wilt be my guide.
2. O let me feel Thee near me! The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me, Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer And shield my soul from sin.
4. O Jesus, Thou hast promised To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, My Master and my friend.

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.

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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.

NEW UPDATED DIRECTORY: An updated church Directory is available at the front entrance. One per family please! Also if you need to add/delete info or something is incorrect in it, please notify Mary Lynn Barnes.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: The Presbyterian Women are collecting school supplies for the 2026-2027 school year. These will be donated to Emmett Elementary School in Sullivan County the last week in July. Please leave items on the table in the "yellow classroom" (2nd door on the right as you go down the back hallway) any Sunday, **July 12-26**.

Choose donation items for Back-to-School supplies:

Backpacks-elementary age appropriate: boys or girls

Pencil pouch for binders (but no pencil boxes)

#2 pencils

Cap erasers

Composition books (wide ruled)

Colored pencils

Clorox (or any brand) disinfectant wipes

Highlighter pens

Kleenex (or any brand) tissues

Crayons

Washable markers

Paper towels

Glue sticks

Quart-size baggies

Hand sanitizer

The next PW meeting will be Wednesday, **August 19**, at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. There will be no PW meeting in July.

PINEY FLATS DAYS: Piney Flats Days sponsored by the Piney Flats Ruritan Club will be happening at Mary Hughes School, **July 31-August 1**. On Friday is the book fair at the community center and 5K road race. On Saturday there will be live entertainment, including the Piney Pickers/Saving Grace dulcimer group from New Bethel, food and craft vendors, a car show, ax throwing, kids zone, and also the book fair. If you have any used books you would like to donate, you can leave them on the pew in the entryway, and we will see that they get delivered. The money the Ruritan makes goes right back into the community so come on out, have fun, and support a good cause.

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
July 12th Offering	\$3,331
Other Offerings	\$ 90
Year to Date	\$8,915