

WELCOME! Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, we are glad to have you with us today. If you are visiting, you are our honored guest!

FOR PRAYER . . .

CHURCH FAMILY:
Becky Thomas; David & Delores Pruitt (death of David’s sister, Patricia Justice; Carol Fournier (death of mother, Jeanette Ramey); family of Richard Yost; Bob & Joan Brown; Harriet Beavers; Wanda Deskins; Dorothy Wright; Julia Butler; Dawn Olinger; Doris Branam; Connie Fletcher; Lois Angles. *Heritage Hall:* Betty Kelly. *Dogwood Crossing:* Marlene Buffalow; *English Meadows in Abingdon:* Madeline Hurt; *Homebound:* Renia Hale Peery; Louise Smith.
OTHERS:
Josie Pruett; Dixie Mitchem & family; the family of Freddie Gillespie; Geoff Gilbert; Eve Bishop; Ed Smith; Linda Cross; Kathy Melton Jackson.
ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL: Jon Wright; Jason Hacker.
To pass along a prayer request, contact Eunice Lester at (276.988.4412) jnseun@aol.com); or by contacting the church office at (276.988.4724; sectazpresb12@yahoo.com). Names will remain on the Prayer List for 4 weeks, unless otherwise requested.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sunday, January 30		
Worship Service	9 A.M.	Black’s Chapel
Sunday Morning Bible Study	10:10 A.M.	Fellowship Hall/ Zoom
Worship Service	11 A.M.	Sanctuary
Monday, January 31		
Outreach Planning Meeting	10:30 A.M.	Fellowship Hall
Boy Scouts	7 P.M.	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, February 1		
Table Talk Book Group	11 A.M.	Front Porch Restaurant/Zoom
Christian Education Committee	7 P.M.	Parlor/ Zoom
Wednesday, February 2		
Worship Committee	1 P.M.	Parlor/ Zoom
Adventure Time	3 P.M.	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, February 6		
Worship Service	9 A.M.	Black’s Chapel
Sunday Morning Bible Study	10:10 A.M.	Fellowship Hall/ Zoom
Worship Service	11 A.M.	Sanctuary

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30

COVER ART

Angel showing John the heavenly Jerusalem, manuscript illumination from the Revelation to John, c. 1020; in the Staatsbibliothek in Bamberg, Germany. Courtesy of the Stagtsbibliothek Bamberg, Germany. From **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the Interests of Everyone’s Health. . . please wear a mask while entering and exiting the building, and maintain physical distance with others not part of your immediate household. Extra space is available in the chapel for those desiring it. Masks may be removed in worship, but please wear one while singing or speaking. The sanctuary windows have been opened to facilitate ventilation. During these cooler months you will want to dress accordingly.

Food Pantry Emphasis for February: “soup and crackers.”

Outreach Planning Meeting: A planning meeting for the February Outreach Meal will be held tomorrow, January 31, at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Church eCommunications: Dave Gilbert is now emailing a weekly eNote. Look for it. Also, we are resuming the church’s newsletter, *The Lamplighter*, which will be sent out in a modified format by email, (and for the few not using a computer) by regular mail. If you have changed your contact information within the last year, please let the church office know (sectazpresb12@yahoo.com; 276-988-4724). Thank you.

Thank You

We express our gratitude to Matt Irvin, Kim McGraw, Howie Mitchell, and Michael Thomas for their faithful service as Session elders (Class of 2021). At last Sunday’s Annual Meeting Randall Cooper, Greg Thomas, and Michael Thomas were elected as elders to the Session (Class of 2024). David Larimer was also elected as a trustee to fill a vacancy in the trustees. We thank each of them for their upcoming service, and the Nominating Committee for their work. At the meeting the church bylaws were amended to reduce the number of elders on the Session from 12 to 9. This reduction will take place on a graduated basis over the next two years.

SERMON SERIES
“I Wish You Would Talk About . . .”
Jan. 9 – Feb. 27

- Jan. 9 Predestination: Does That Sound Like Good News?
- Jan. 16 *Worship cancellation due to winter storm*
- Jan. 23 The World is a Mess. Why Doesn’t God Do Something?
- Jan. 30 **Can We Really Trust that We Will Go to Heaven?**
- Feb. 6 The Earth is the Lord’s (What About Climate Change?)
- Feb. 13 Why Did Jesus Talk So Much About Money?
(Doesn’t He Know that Makes Us Uncomfortable?)
- Feb. 20 Do We Need the Book of Revelation?
- Feb. 27 Mystery: Thank God for What We Don’t Know



Service for the Lord’s Day

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY + JANUARY 30, 2022

THE GATHERING

For you, O LORD, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.
-Ps. 71:5

Jesus didn’t talk about heaven very much, but when he did, he spoke in simple metaphors. It’s like a wedding banquet where all are invited. It’s like a mansion with a room waiting for you. Paul said it’s like a winner’s crown for a race well run. The consistent theme is that we belong there. We will be at home, a home we spend our entire lives seeking.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR AND PRELUDE
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
arr. Paxton

WELCOME AND GATHERING PRAYER

*OPENING ACCLAMATION

They whispered early morning words: “He is risen,”
and an undying hope was born.
Just as he told us, life lives beyond death.
For God is faithful and will not let go of us.
Hear again the promises of our faithful God:
nothing separates us from God’s love;
in my Father’s house are many rooms;
today you will be with me in paradise.
Hold fast to the promises of the Risen One:
Alleluia! Amen!

*HYMN 409
God is Here!
ABBOT’S LEIGH

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and glory,
We live as if You have made no promises.
We live as if Your love is weak.
We live as if nothing matters beyond our own work.
Forgive our paltry imaginations and our paltry hope.
May Your promises become the substance of our dreams. *(Silent Prayer)*

*KYRIE
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

*PASSING OF THE PEACE
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

You are invited to exchange the peace of Christ with one another, greeting each other with the words above with your hands placed together. Please refrain from physical contact.

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE
Love the Lord your God with all your heart.
Love the Lord your God with all your soul.
Love the Lord your God with all your mind.
Love the Lord your God with all that you are.

THE WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11 a.m.)
Barbara Kincer

FIRST READING
2 Timothy 4:6-8 *(pg. 968)*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM
Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil;
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil,
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SERMON
Dave Gilbert
Can We Really Trust that We Will Go to Heaven?

*Time is provided following the sermon
for a few moments of personal reflection and prayer.*

THE RESPONSE

*HYMN 803
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
RESIGNATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
The 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.

*INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY
God’s Care
Logan

*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.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITON

THE LORD’S PRAYER
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.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 326
For All the Saints
SINE NOMINE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY AND POSTLUDE