DECEMBER 14, 2025 **10:30A.M.**

The mission, vision, and purpose of New Bedford Evangelical Presbyterian Church is to love, know and serve the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
We* Love God *through worship,* Know God *through Growth Groups, and* Serve God *by using our gifts both outside and inside the church.

The Third Sunday of Advent

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
PRELUDE-
MINUTE FOR MISSION- The Shoe That Grows Through
LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE
The Candle of Joy - By Gary & Amy Geisinger
***CALL TO WORSHIP-**
Leader: Sing for joy, all the earth! The Lord has come to dwell among us.
People: We rejoice in the promise of Emmanuel—God with us!
Leader: The joy of the Lord is like a fountain, overflowing in our souls.
People: We lift our voices in praise, for Christ brings joy to the world!
Leader: Let us worship with gladness and proclaim the good news of great joy.
***A HYMN OF PRAISE #166 God Rest You Merry, Gentleman**

PASTORAL PRAYER & SILENT PRAYER, 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.
CHOIR ANTHEM- "Tidings of Comfort and Joy"
***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 THANKSGIVING**

***A HYMN OF PREPARATION # 159 What Child is This**
(Children dismissed for J.A.M. kids – meet leader at sanctuary door)

SCARAMENT OF BAPTISM – Lily Jo Cribbs

SERMON- "Paradise Restored"

HOLY SCRIPTURE LESSON – Revelation 21: 1-14

***THE CLOSING HYMN #158 Angels We Have Heard on High**
***THE BENEDICTION**
***THE CONGREGATIONAL CLOSING**
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
His name is called Emmanuel.
God is with us, Revealed in us.
His name is called Emmanuel.
THE POSTLUDE-
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Guest Preacher: Dan Muttart
Head Usher: Nathan Book
Director of Music Ministry: Donna Fox
Praise Team Director: Amy Geisinger
Director/Family Ministry: Lee Harris
Director/Children's Ministry: Dawn Harris
Sound/Video Technician: Nathan Book
Nursery Attendant: Brenda Miller
Church Secretary: Jaime McCarthy
Church Phone: 724-964-8055
Church email: newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com
Church Website: newbedfordepchurch.org
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Please remember in prayer the following persons who are hospitalized, receiving treatments, recuperating at home and those who have requested prayer.
Lavon Rogers----------John XXIII Nursing Home
Doris Spence----------Ridgecrest of McCandless
Ron Tremba----------Continuing Healthcare of Bordman
Carlotta Doverspike----------The Grove nursing home
Elaine Hepler----------St Elizabeth/Mercy Health Hospital
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WORSHIP OF PRAYER AND PRAISE 8:30A.M.

WORSHIP TEAM PRELUDE

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

The Candle of Joy - By Gary & Amy Geisinger

***CALL TO WORSHIP –**

Leader: Sing for joy, all the earth! The Lord has come to dwell among us.

People: We rejoice in the promise of Emmanuel—God with us!

Leader: The joy of the Lord is like a fountain, overflowing in our souls.

People: We lift our voices in praise, for Christ brings joy to the world!

Leader: Let us worship with gladness and proclaim the good news of great joy.

***SONGS OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE**

What a Beautiful Name

Noel

Light of the World

PASTORAL PRAYER & SILENT PRAYER, 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.

SCARAMENT OF BAPTISM- Henry Douglas Csernyik

MINUTE FOR MISSION- The Shoe That Grows Through

SERMON- "Paradise Restored "

HOLY SCRIPTURE LESSON- Revelation 21: 1-14

CLOSING SONG- Sing *We the Song of Emmanuel

***BENEDICTION**

Extra copies of the December Redeeming Times Newsletter are available on the Welcome cart if you don't already receive one. If you would like to receive the newsletter, by email or paper copy, please leave a note on Jaime's desk with your name and email or mailing address.

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The Church office will be closed December 24, 25 & 26th for Christmas. If you have any announcements for the December 28th Bulletin, please have them to the office by noon on Tuesday Dec. 23rd. Email office at newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com or 724-964-8055

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Annual Reports: All committee and board secretaries or chairmen should start thinking about getting their Annual Reports ready. ALL REPORTS MUST BE TURNED IN NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JANUARY 16th to be included in the 2025 Annual Report. The reports can be left on my desk or you can email your report to me at newbedfordepchurch@gmail.com Thank You!!

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We will be doing a combine January/February Newsletter. Please have all information and or articles submitted by Tuesday December 30th by noon. Thank you!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2025

8:30A.M. Contemporary Service
9:30A.M. Sunday School
10:30A.M. Traditional Worship Service
6:00P.M. Carols, Cakes & Cookies Oh My

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025

9:30A.M. Ruth Circle meets
6:00P.M. Praise Team meets

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025

9:00A.M. The Weight Group
9:30A.M. Deborah Circle meets
6:30P.M. Mission Committee meets
7:00P.M. Christian Education meets

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025

5:00P.M. Awana
6:00P.M. Choir rehearsal
7:00P.M. Bible Study meets
7:15P.M. Handbell Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025

11:00A.M. E.P.I.C. meets
6:30P.M. Elizabeth Circle meets
7:00P.M. Session meets

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20,2025

9:00A.M. Rebecca Circle meets

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Please fill out a yellow slip located in the pews or on the Welcome Cart in the Narthex. These are for prayer requests and/or visitors who would like more information about our church. Place it in the offering plate located at the back of the sanctuary or on the Welcome Cart.

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**J.A.M. (Jesus And Me) Kids during the 10:30 service.....Children in PreK – Gr. 3 are invited for a Bible lesson, craft, games. Parents can pick up their child after the service in the education wing.*

This morning, we are honored to perform the Sacrament of Baptism of Henry Douglas Csernyik. Henry's parents are Alex and Jocilyn Houk Csernyik. The proud grandparents are Doug & Angela Houk and Alex Csernyik & Debbie Rogers

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This morning, we are honored to perform the Sacrament of Baptism of Lily Jo Cribbs. Lily's parents are Cody & Emily Cribbs. The proud grandparents are Robert & Nancy Bretz and Mike & Amy Cribbs.

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There is a kid's table in the vestibule with coloring/activity papers and fidget items that can be used during the service.

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We will be going Christmas caroling in the community December 21st. We will meet at the church at 2 pm anyone who is interested is welcome to join us in spreading Christmas cheer.

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Officer Training meeting will be held January 17th 9A.M.- Noon. All Officers, Elders and Deacons, returning and new, are encouraged to attend this training. This training is required by our Book of Order and is also a great time of fellowship and for making goals for the upcoming year.

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E.P.I.C meeting December 18th...join us for study at 11 AM. Following will be a potluck lunch; meat will be provided. Also bring a wrapped white elephant gift to share.

Angel Tree: There are a few new tags recently added. Please follow the instructions on the tags. Please return gift wrapped and angel tag attached to outside of gift and return ASAP.

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CHRISTMAS OFFERING- The special offering envelops will be in your bulletins on 12/14, 12/21 & 12/24. The Christmas Offering for 2025 will be directed to Be.cause International, The Shoe That Grows. Alleviate poverty by ending shoelessness. The shoe that grows expands five sizes and lasts for years, protecting health and access to education for kids impacted by poverty and crisis worldwide. We appreciate your support.

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Deacons will once again be assembling and donating Christmas food boxes and fruit trays. There is a decorated box in the narthex if you would like to help with this mission. Only non-perishables in the box, please. Your help is appreciated. Thank you from the Deacons!

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Coffee & Chat

When: Tuesday, December 16
Time: 8:30-10:30 AM
Where: Pulse Coffee Company, 138 S Market Street, New Wilmington PA 16142
What: Lee & Dawn will be starting the day at The Pulse Coffee Company
Who: Anyone and Everyone……. Dropping the kids off at school? Starting your morning errands? Wanting company during the morning? Stop by, grab a beverage, and say "Hi!". (If WASD is closed or delayed then we will not be there)

Carols, Cookies & Cakes, Oh My!

An evening of Christmas music and more.

Enjoy a Cantata presented by our Choir, Comfort and Joy.

Bring your favorite dessert to share after the singing, beverages will be provided

December 14th at 6pm

PARADISE RESTORED

Message Notes

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars--their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death." Revelation 21:1-8 (NIV)

One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

Revelation 21:9-10 (NIV)

Key Idea: With Jesus arrival on earth, He brought the spiritual aspect of heaven with Him. With His ascension to heaven, He released the heavenly realm *inside* believers by giving out the Holy Spirit. But the Holy Spirit is just a down payment of what is to come when you as a believer see paradise restored, not just spiritually but *physically* restored.

Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:13b-14 (NIV)

1. TAP INTO THE PARADISE THAT IS _____ _____ _____ _____.

The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. 2 Timothy 3:16 (TLB)

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Hebrews 10:25 (NLT)

2. TRUST IN THE PARADISE THAT IS _____ ____ _____ _____.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared.

Revelation 21:1 (NLT)

"These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place."

Revelation 22:6 (NIV)

The final vision shows the _____ of God's plan

It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Revelation 21:12-14 (NIV)

This final vision shows you will actually _____ God in all His glory

The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

Revelation 22:3-4 (NIV)

This final vision shows that you will be oh, so _____ to Him

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22:1-2 (NIV)

3. TURN FROM WHAT ____ TO WHAT WILL ____.

You will be totally _____

On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. Revelation 21:25 (NIV)

You will be totally _____

It will be a _____ place

The one who spoke with me had a gold measuring rod to measure the city, and its gates and its wall. The city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal.

Revelation 21:15-16 (NIV)