

Order of Worship
January 29, 2023 – 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Announcements and Prelude

Call to Worship – Psalm 146:5-10

⁵ Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God.

***⁶ He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—
he remains faithful forever.***

⁷ He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.

***The LORD sets prisoners free,
⁸ the LORD gives sight to the blind,
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,
the LORD loves the righteous.***

⁹ The LORD watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

***¹⁰ The LORD reigns forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD.***

Hymn *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* #158

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading – John 15:1-17

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

Gloria Patri & Apostles’ Creed

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.

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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead, he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon

Pastor Paul

Keys to the Dynamic Christian Life:
Compassion, Cleansing, Connection

*Every branch in me not bearing fruit, he lifts it up,
and every branch the fruit bearing, he cleanses it...*
Abide in me, and I in you.
John 15:2, 4

Hymn

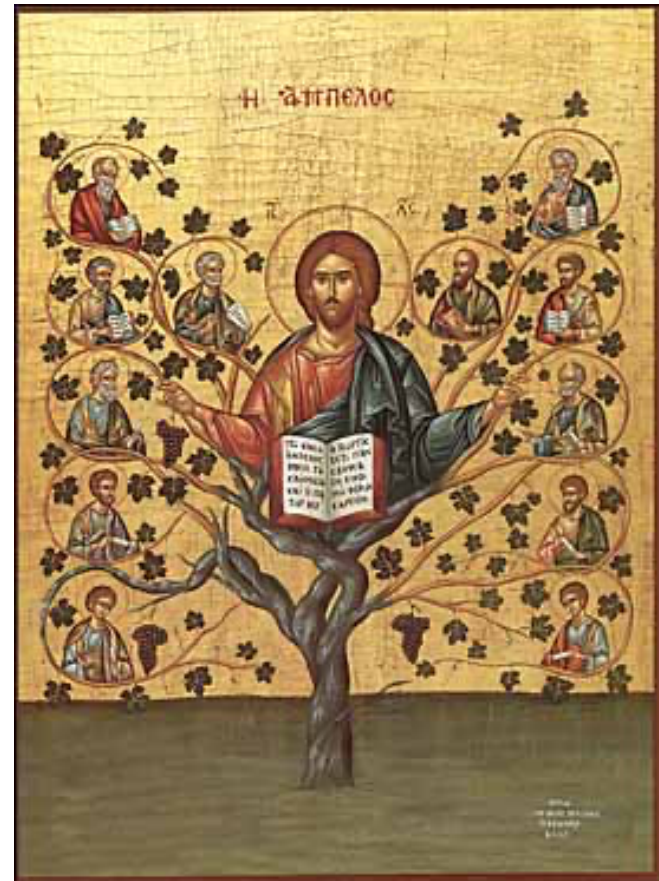
I Am Thine, O Lord

#419

Benediction

Abiding in the Vine
2023 Preaching Series on John 15 – 17

Jan. 29	John 15:1-8	The Vine and the Branches
Feb. 5	John 15:9-17	The Productive Branch
Feb. 12	John 15:18-16:4	Christians Forewarned
Feb. 19	John 16:5-15	The Work of the Holy Spirit
Feb. 26	<i>[Guest Preacher, Ralph Chubbuck]</i>	
Mar. 5	John 16:28	The Mystery of Christ
Mar. 12	John 16:16-22	Grief Into Joy
Mar. 19	John 16:23-27	Ask in My Name
Mar. 26	John 16:29-33	Peace & Trouble
Apr. 2 p	John 17:14-19	Called to Holiness
Apr. 6 m	John 17:17	The Christian's North Star
Apr. 7 g	John 17:18	Christian Mission
Apr. 9 s	John 17:20-23	Christian Unity
Apr. 9 e	John 17:24	Our Easter Destiny
Apr. 16	John 17:1-5	The Glory of Jesus
Apr. 23	John 17:6-12	The Greatest Name of God
Apr. 30	John 17:13	The Gift of Joy
May 2	John 17:25-26	The Crowning Prayer



Icon of Christ the True Vine (late 20th century)
Dormition Convent, Parnes, Greece
Based on an early 15th century icon
by Angelos Akotantos at Malles, Hierapetra.

Poplar Valley United Methodist Church
www.poplarvalleyumc.info

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