

Order of Worship
February 5, 2023 – 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Announcements and Prelude

Call to Worship – From Psalm 1, *Matthew* 7, Galatians 5

Blessed is the one whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law day and night.

That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.

By their fruit you will recognize them.

Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?

*Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit,
but a bad tree bears bad fruit.*

*A good tree cannot bear bad fruit,
and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit.*

*Every tree that does not bear good fruit
is cut down and thrown into the fire.*

Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Hymn *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus* #462

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. **2** He 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. **3** You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. **4** Remain 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. **6** If 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. **7** If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** This 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. **10** If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. **11** I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. **12** My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command. **15** I 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. **16** You 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. **17** This 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

Marks of the Fruitful Branch:
Love, Obedience, Joy

*This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit ...
... so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last ...*
John 15:8, 16

Hymn

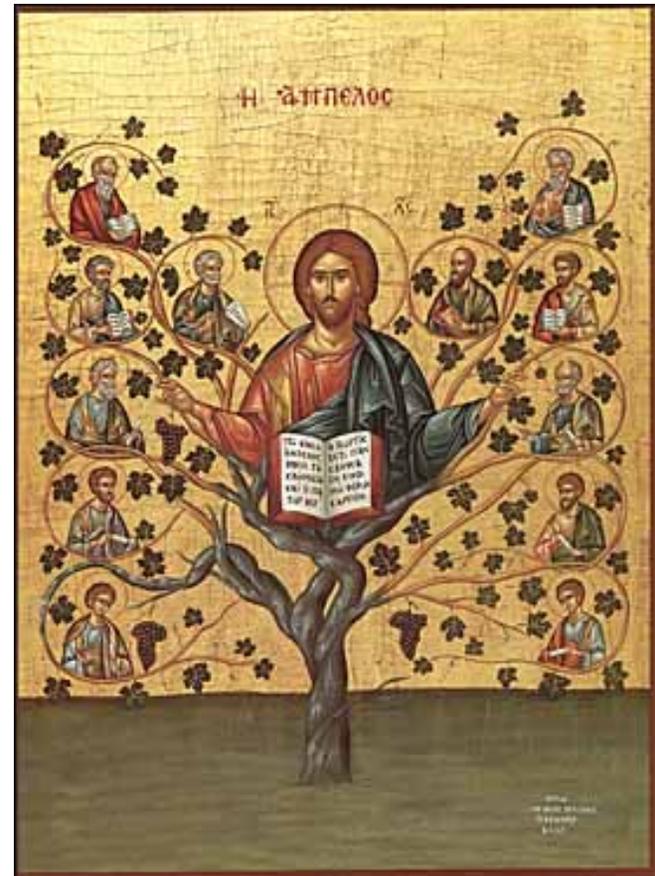
Trust and Obey

#467

Benediction

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

Feb. 5	John 15:9-17	The Fruitful 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> <i>One Combined Service, 10:00 a.m. at <u>Cherry Valley</u></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	<i>Guest Preacher,</i> <i>One Combined Service, 10:00 a.m. at <u>Poplar Valley</u></i>	
May 2	John 17:13	The Gift of Joy
May 9	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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