

**Order of Worship**

**January 22, 2023 – Sanctity of Human Life Sunday**

**Announcements and Prelude**

**Call to Worship – Psalm 139:13-17**

For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

*I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.*

My frame was not hidden from you  
when I was made in the secret place.

*When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,  
your eyes saw my unformed body.*

All the days ordained for me were written in your book  
before one of them came to be.

*How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!*

**Hymn**                      *Blessed Assurance*                      #369

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer**

**Scripture Reading – John 15:1-17**

<sup>15</sup> “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> “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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

<sup>9</sup> “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.

**Gloria Patri – #70**

**Apostles’ Creed – #881**

**Offering & Doxology – #95**

**Sermon** Pastor Paul

**Brave New World?**  
**The Vine and the Branches**

*“I AM the vine; you are the branches.  
If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit ...”*  
**John 15:5**

**Hymn**                      *God of Grace and God of Glory*                      #577

**Benediction**

**Sanctity of Human Life Prayer Witness**

**This Sunday, January 22**

2:00 p.m. in Front of Monroe County Courthouse  
Join Pastor Paul & others for this 30-minute ecumenical service

**Poplar Valley Meetings This Thursday, Jan. 26 in Social Hall**

6:30 pm Board of Trustees, 7:00 pm Church Council

**Abiding in the Vine**

**2023 Preaching Series on John 15 – 17**

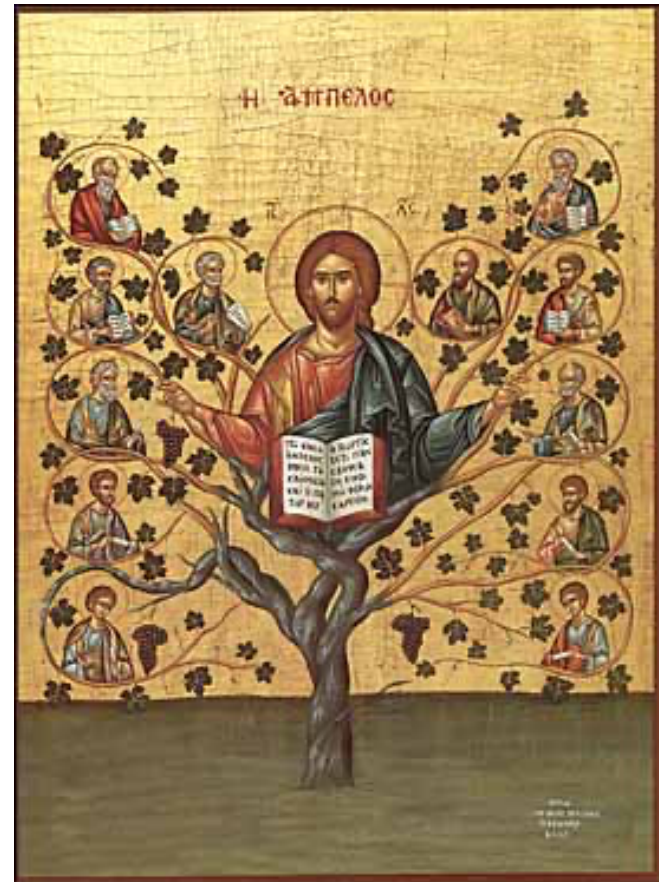
Jan. 15	John 15:1	Jesus the True Vine
Jan. 22	John 15:1-5	Brave New World?
Jan. 29	John 15:1-8	The Vine and the Branches
Feb. 5	John 15:9-17	The Productive Branch
Feb. 12	John 15:18-16:4	Christians Forewarned
Feb. 19	John 16:5-15	The Work of the Holy Spirit
Feb. 26	<i>[Guest Preacher, Ralph Chubbuck]</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

**Holy Week**

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

**January 22, 2023**

**Sanctity of Human Life Sunday**



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](http://www.poplarvalleyumc.info)

**Cherry Valley United Methodist Church**

[www.cherryvalleyumc.info](http://www.cherryvalleyumc.info)