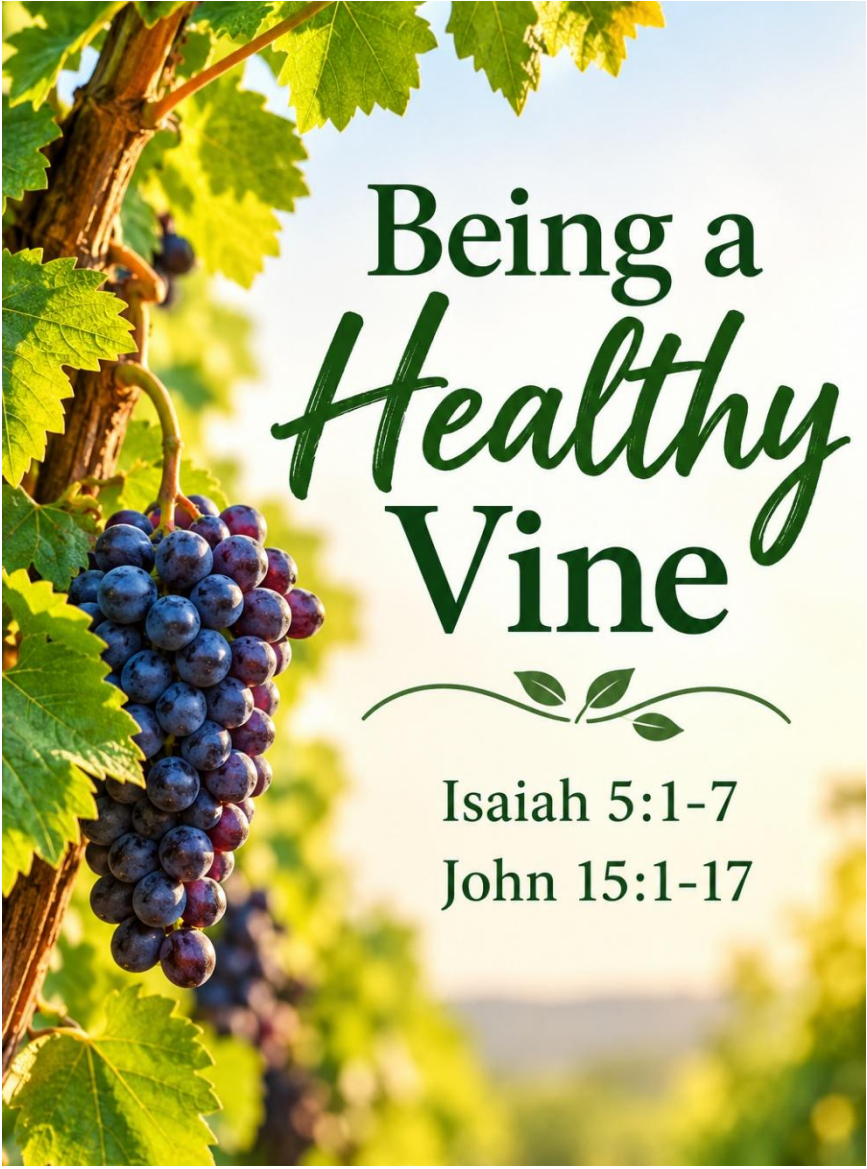




Being a *Healthy* Vine



Isaiah 5:1-7

John 15:1-17



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2026

10:50 a.m.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

Jimmy Hall

Prelude

Max Jackson

Brethren, We Have Met To Worship

Bonnie Johansen-Werner

† Call to Worship

L: God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace.

P: Use the tools of your grace and mercy to churn up and cast out what is foreign and hurtful.

L: Leave nothing undone to help us be fruitful.

P: Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life.

L: Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days.

P: Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love,

L: so that you may find us to be just the kind of vineyard you envisioned us to be.

A: In your holy name, we ask as we worship together.

† Hymn of Praise

#529

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in Your name
two or three are met together, You are in the midst of them;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Here we touch Your garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather In the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of You,
that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession

Loving God, help us. When we have run away, when we have turned our backs on love, when we have sought immediate satisfaction and not long-term healing, help us. Merciful God, forgive us. When we have been selfish, when we have been mean, when we have closed our ears to the cries of others, forgive us. Powerful God, heal us. When we are so broken we cannot move, when we don't know how to stem the bleeding of our wounds, when we are too ashamed to seek community, heal us. Give us the courage, the strength, and the hope to accept your grace and hear your call in Christ. Amen.

† Assurance of Pardon

† Response

#439 (2,3)

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

God forgives all your transgressions, all diseases gently heals;
God redeems you from destruction, and with you so kindly deals.

Far as east from west is distant, God has put away our sin;
like the pity of a father has the Lord's compassion been.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Dress A Girl Blessing/Geri Willis

(The children will collect coins for the 5 Cents a Meal Hunger Program following the children's message. Thank you for your contribution to this important ministry.)

Anthem

Chancel Choir

With A Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered His people. O be joyful in God all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious.

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7 (NRSV)

Carli Weston

I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. 2 He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; →

he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. 3 And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. 4 What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? 5 And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. 6 I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. 7 For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

L: The Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 114

Congregation

When Israel Fled from Egypt Land

When Israel fled from Egypt land,
from foreign tongue and cruel hand,
the Lord took Judah for His home
and Israel for His very own.

The sea rolled back to form dry land,
the Jordan fled at God's command.
The mountains shook and skipped like rams;
the hills leapt up like little lambs.

What made you part, O mighty sea?
Why, Jordan, did you turn to flee?
Why, mountains, shake, why skip like rams?
And hills, why leap like little lambs?

Now tremble, earth, the Lord is near;
bow down and see your God appear.
His might makes springs to gush and glow;
from flint the cooling waters flow.

† **The Gospel Lesson:** John 15:1-17 (NRSV) *Rev. Jimm Smedley*

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become[c] my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ! **P: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Jimm Smedley

Being A Healthy Vine

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

† Hymn of Response

#629

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast.
But sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame, nor can the mind recall
a sweeter sound than thy blest name, O Savior of us all.

O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek,
to those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show.
The love of Jesus, what it is none but his loved ones know.

Jesus, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be.
Jesus, be thou our glory now, and through eternity.

† Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe 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, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again 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.

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (sins)

Offering Acknowledgement

Special Offering: Organ Repair Fund

† Doxology

#606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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 Dedication

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

† Hymn of Sending

#833

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be.

Postlude

Voluntary No 11 in E Major

Paul Page

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing as you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Jan Holbrook*

Liturgists: *Jimmy Hall; Carli Weston*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 60

General Offering: \$1,655.00

Backpack Program: \$150.00

Youth/Earth Care: \$20.00

Tee Shirts: \$70.00

Online Offering: \$1,202.00

Total Offering: \$3,097.00

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

➡ SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Harmony of the Gospels, 9:30 a.m. (on break, will resume 9/27)

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

The Chosen Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

➡ MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Ministry Team Meetings, 5:30 p.m.

➡ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Tai Chi, 5 p.m.

Finance Ministry Team, 5:30 p.m.

➡ WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans

Bell Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

➡ THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Paper Angels, 1 p.m. | Dames + Dinner Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

➡ SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Tai Chi, 11 a.m.

New Sunday School Class To Begin

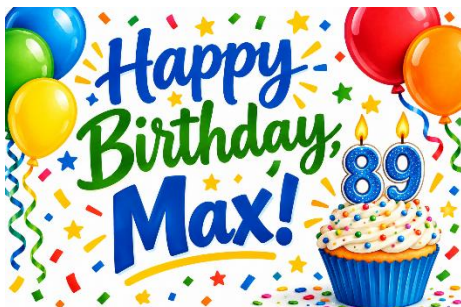
"Be still and know that I am God." *Psalm 46:10*

When were you last quiet and still in God's Presence? Our world is busy, full of multiple distractions. Join us **Sunday, September 27 at 9:30 a.m.** to take time to sit quietly with the intent to be with the Holy One. Meditative music, led by Todd Wilson. The class will continue through November 15. The first session will introduce participants to the ancient practice of Contemplative Prayer. This practice was first recorded during the last part of the 14th century, an age of pandemic. It was shared widely and ecumenically during the 1970's by Fr. Thomas Keating in Snowmass, CO. There will be a time for private and corporate prayer. We will meet the first Sunday in the 2nd floor parlor near the choir room. Please see Kathleen Filkins for any questions.

Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

Please find the details below for the upcoming Fall Gathering:

- ▶ Location: Camp Burnamwood
- ▶ Date: **Saturday, September 26, 2026**
- ▶ Time: Coffee at 9:30 a.m. | Program begins at 10 a.m.
- ▶ Theme: "Working together for Jesus: church mission partnerships"
- ▶ Program Features: Guest speaker The Rev. Dr. Lisa Culpepper, author of *Together is Better: How Small Membership Churches Fulfill God's Mission Call Through Partnerships*. The program will include ideas for churches connecting with each other for mission projects, ecumenical connections, and more.
- ▶ Registration: \$15 (Due by Wednesday, September 16)
Questions, see Bettie George Frye.



Birthday Celebration for Max

Please join us on **Sunday, September 27** as we celebrate the birthday of our own Max Jackson. There will be a reception immediately following Morning Worship in the Narthex. A basket will

be available for cards and/or other expressions of appreciation.

You Are Invited!



Sunflower Seeds Tri-State Aid for Ukraine

The Missions Ministry Team invites you to a light luncheon following worship on **September 27**. President John Yeager will give a presentation and video about the organization. For additional information, see Donna Jones or visit: sunflowerseedstristate.com.



Pulpit Supply:

Sept. 20:

Ryan
Whitman

Sept. 27:

Rev.
Deanna Bradley

October 4:

Rev.
Jerry Utz

October 11:

Rev.
Jimm Smedley

October 18:

Patrick
Hall

October 25:

Rev.
Jerry Utz

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending September 12

Carolyn Burton (Melissa Rigsby)

Week ending September 5

Kena Broomall/Surgery Nov. 3 (Kelly & Mark Hanni's daughter)

Darlene Garris (Kay Ferguson's niece)

Jason Garris (Kay Ferguson's great nephew)

Mike Hall (Geri Willis' brother)

Family of Libby LaFon (Kelly Hanni)

Don Lilly

Cara Martin (Jennifer Johnson)

Family of Jane Elizabeth Zwick (Ryan Whitman)

Week ending August 27, 2026

Jacob Mollette (Glen & Christy Thomas' son)

Nancy Payne

Family of Steve Reliford (Kelly Hanni)

Ongoing:

<i>Christina Akers</i> (Heather Whitman's sister-in-law)	<i>Nancy Payne</i>
<i>Bill Gesling</i>	<i>Bonnie Pettijohn</i>
<i>Charlie Holbrook</i>	<i>Tim Shepard</i>
<i>Angie Lewis</i>	<i>Jan Winans</i>
<i>Chris Payne</i>	<i>Ann Wiseman</i>
<i>Derek Payne</i>	

Boyd Nursing and Rehabilitation: Kenny McGill, Sr.

Kingsbrook Care Center: Barry Barbour

The Lantern: Betty Jean Phipps

Military: Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins); Lieutenant Katie Brown (US Army, granddaughter of Mike Whitman); Christian Brown (US Air Force, grandson of Mike Whitman); Greg Weston (Army National Guard); Lieutenant Colonel Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)

STAFF

Minister: *Vacant*
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Jan Holbrook*
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2027	2028	2029
<i>Jimmy Hall</i>	<i>Teresa Cassity</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook *</i>
<i>Lee McCloud *</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni *</i>	<i>Mike Lilly</i>
<i>J.T. Norris *</i>	<i>Donna Jones</i>	<i>Ellen Sharp</i>
*2nd term of service		

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</i>	Membership: <i>Teresa Cassity</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Donna Jones</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Jan Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Mitch Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Mike Lilly</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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