

Order for the Worship of God

Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Welcome

from John 12:24-25

L Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain,

C but if the grain of wheat dies it bears much fruit.

L Those who love their life lose it,

C those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Prayer

*Opening Hymn (Blue #551)

"Come Ye Thankful People Come"

Worship from the Psalms

(from Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19)

L Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

C You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

L Stir up your might and come to save us!

C You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

L You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

C The mountains were covered with its shade,

L the mighty cedars with its branches;

C it sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.

L Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

C The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

L Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see;

C have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted.

L It has been burned with fire; it has been cut down;

C may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

L But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,

C the one whom you made strong for yourself.

L Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

C Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we know that you never turn away from us. Through Jesus Christ, you offer us mercy and grace from every sin we have committed and every stain we have caused. Once again, we ask for your forgiveness. Please forgive the ways we have refused to follow your Son. Please forgive the ways we have resisted your Spirit. Please forgive the ways we have substituted faithful ritual for faithful living. Guide us by your Spirit to bear your fruit in your lives, and make us strong in the Lord, able to resist every temptation.

Silent Prayers of Reflections

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Special Music

"Pruning for the Harvest"

Prayer for Illumination

Heavenly Father, I pray that I may live this day in your presence and please you more and more.

Lord Jesus, I pray that this day I may take up my cross and follow you.

Holy Spirit, I pray that this day you will fill me with yourself and cause your fruit to ripen in my life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Scripture

John 15:1-11

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 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. 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. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by

this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 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. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

Message

Bruce Brown

Prayer of Affirmation

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn (Red #326)

"Nearer, My God, To Thee"

*Offering Prayer

*Doxology

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The prayers of thanksgiving and intercession are responsive. When you hear the leader say:

Lord in your mercy,

Please respond,

Hear our 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

SENDING OUT

*Opening Hymn (Blue #543)

"Abide With Me"

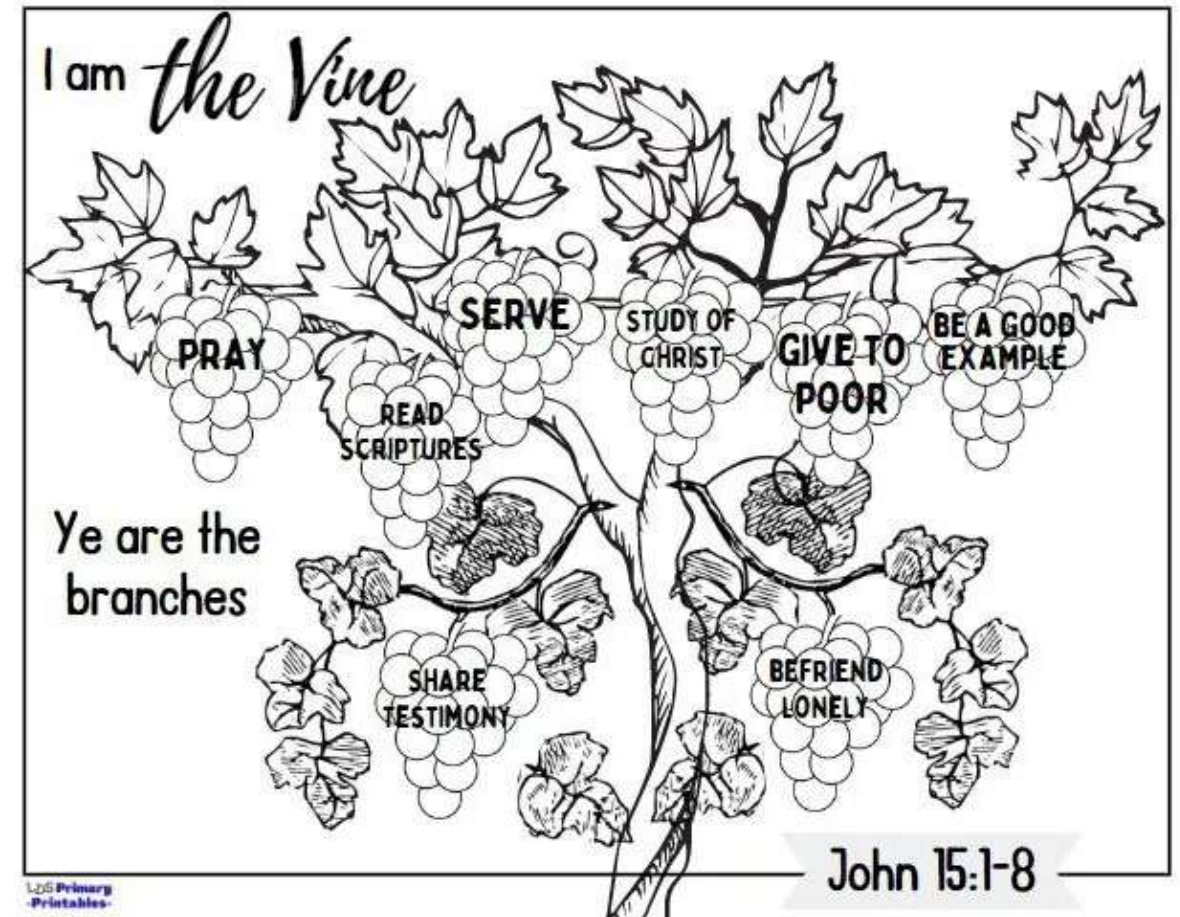
*Blessing and Benediction

Departing Music

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

303 West Washington St.

Napoleon, OH 43545



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 14th, 2025

10:00 a.m.

419-592-7736 - fpcnapoleon@gmail.com - fpcnapoleon.org

Welcome to our Worship!

We are glad to have you with us today. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. Everyone is welcome for refreshments and fellowship after worship. Thank you, Jana Schroeder, for being liturgist today.

Our **offering** is received on the back table in the sanctuary, you can give online using the **QR code** at right or donate from our **website**.

Please volunteer to be **liturgist** or **bring cookies**.

Signup is at the back table in the sanctuary.



Session meets at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 15th.

Our **Friendship Luncheon** returns to Hill's, meeting at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 16th. Please sign up in the south alcove.

Maumee Valley Presbytery meets on Tuesday, September 16th at 3 p.m. at Cadmus Presbyterian Church in Adrian Michigan.

The **Connections Bible Study** is still studying Liz Curtis Higgs' book *Bad Girls of the Bible: And What We Can Learn From Them*. They meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m.

We are also invited to go to the **Presbyterian Women and Friends** meetings at the Defiance Presbyterian Church. Their next meeting will be Monday, October 13th at 12:30 p.m.

Together We Can Make a Difference could use whatever you are willing to donate. They going through a lot of cereal and could always use cans of no-sugar fruit.

Our **Card of the Week** goes to Napoleon Fire and Rescue.

CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

NORTHCREST NURSING HOME: Harold Badertscher

VANCREST: Dollie Smith

BROWNING MASONIC: Connie Cobb

ALPINE VILLAGE: Sandy Johnson

PRAYER LIST: Gene & Carol Detmer, Joe & Linda McOscar, Julie Fogle, Kathy Schilens (Jana Schroeder's sister), Enoch & Adyē Castro Vásquez (Olga Hall's father and mother), Betty Sladek (Ed Sladek's Wife)

Pruning for the Harvest

By Light and Lyrics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Evqo3hu6m1o>

I've been reaching for the sunlight
Spreading branches wide
Busy with the growing
Chasing dreams with pride

Lord, cut away what doesn't feed
Prune these branches, meet my need
Too much leaf blocks the light
Take what's wrong to grow what's right.

Leaves so green they dance and sway
But where's the fruit along the way?

Take my pride, take my gain
Cut it back through joy and pain
What's a leaf, let it fall
What's of You, let it stand tall

Caught up in the beauty lost in the shade
Forgetting why this tree was made
Too much comfort too much show
A little fruit for seeds to grow

Lord, cut away what doesn't feed
Prune these branches, meet my need
Too much leaf blocks the light
Take what's wrong to grow what's right.

Lord, cut away what doesn't feed
Prune these branches, meet my need
Too much leaf blocks the light
Take what's wrong to grow what's right.

Trim me down to bear much more
Root it deep in You secure
For every leaf that falls away
Let fruit of faith be here to stay

I spread myself so far
Reaching to the sky
But growth isn't measured just by size

Trim me down to bear much more
Root it deep in You secure
For every leaf that falls away
Let fruit of faith be here to stay

Full of leaves but fruit is few
I need Your touch to make me new
Your hands are gentle, sharp, and true
You know exactly what to do
Take away the lush and grand
Till only faith and fruit stand