



I AM THE TRUE VINE

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John 15:1-17

Sunday Worship

11:00 AM — September 17, 2023

**Embodying the Love of Christ, we are joyfully
called to be a church in the heart of Black Mountain
where the welcome never ends.**

Please silence all communication devices. † indicates to stand, if you are able.
The congregation is invited to join in where the liturgy is marked in bold.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Katherine Robinson

INTROIT

Draw the Circle Wide

Gordon Light/Mark Miller

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Friends, we gather this day to celebrate life –
The life we have been given by God,
The life we share with one another in community,
The life that Jesus gives in abundance.
Let us be grateful for the joy of life,
Let us worship God.

† HYMN NO. 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

CALL TO CONFESSION

Bob Tuttle

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God,
hear our prayer.
We know we do not always
live as we ought:
We turn away from You,
from our neighbor,
and from our true selves.
We know we dim Your light within us,
With our pride,

our self-righteousness,
and our need for control.
We know that You love us,
that you do not abandon us,
and that again and again
you call us back to You,
back to love,
back to grace,
back to your light.
Forgive us, we pray,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, live this good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are transformed by grace.

†RESPONSE NO. 654 *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

*In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice;
look to God, do not be afraid! Lift up your voices,
the Lord is near; lift up your voices, the Lord is near.*

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

FAITH SHARING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING John 15:1-11

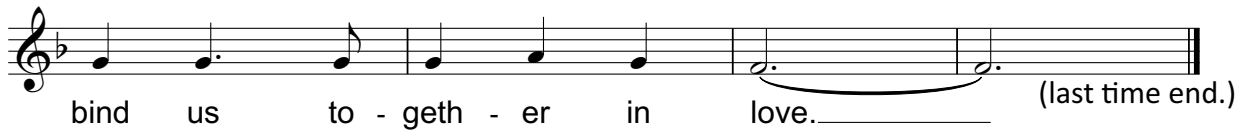
SERMON Disconnected from the Vine?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

†HYMN

Bind Us Together

Bob Gillma



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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.

THE OFFERING

Musical Meditation

Simple Gifts

arr. Douglas Wagoner

shaker melody

Bell Ringers: Alice McDowell, Bekah Caruso, Blake Martin, Connie Button,
Fran Leahey, Jean Chamberlain, Judy Williams, Michelle Ferguson, Robin Stiles,
Sharon Welker, Sheryl Schlegelmilch, Wilma Leary

†Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye, heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

†Prayer of Dedication

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

†HYMN NO. 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

P. Lutkin

POSTLUDE



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Ellen Begley's cousin, **John White**, anticipating heart surgery for multiple blockages

Scott Gregory recovering at home from hip replacement

Anne Moseley recovering her strength at Highland Farms Health Care

Aaron Price vocal healing

Family and friends of **Charlotte Sprawls** who died on August 28

Jessi Stitt is helping with well installations through Marion Medical Mission in Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, and Mozambique through October 22

Ann Wiig recovering from knee replacement surgery at home

We list names for three weeks unless requested otherwise. To add someone to the list (with their permission), please call 669-2725, or email jackie@bmpcnc.org

Mission Partners: **John McCall** in Taiwan; **Dan & Elizabeth Turk** in Madagascar;

Outreach Foundation: **Frank Dimmock**; *This Child Here/Ukraine*: **Robert Gamble**;

Seminary Students: **Emily Beaver**, Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia;

Levi Bannerman, Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia;

Susie Burns, Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte, North Carolina;

Our partner Presbytery and partner church, **Ebenezer**, in Guatemala

Please remember in prayer these people with ongoing concerns:

Cynthia & Carl Battles, Chad Carlton, Jane Collins, Art De Jong, Patricia Dunn,

Jim Elam, Ellen Gibson, Kevin Griffin, Becky Hughes, Mary McElrath, NeGrete Family,

Casey Newton, Elissa Pusser, Margaret Rada, Betty Rand, Penny Sampson,

Charles Sandy, Ken Scott, Callie Shaffer, Sandra Wilson, Kay Petty Young

WORK AND WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH

Greeter Perry Sprawls **Ushers** Ellen McClintock, Mary Carroll and Xander Dodd, Jack Williams

Sunday, September 17

- 8:45 a.m. FirstLight
- 9:45 a.m. Adult Faith Formation
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 2:00 p.m. Annual Picnic part 2
- 2:00 p.m. Handbell Practice

Monday, September 18

- 1:00 p.m. Earth Care Book Study

Tuesday, September 19

- 1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Women's AA Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Mama's Group
- 7:00 p.m. Prophets

Wednesday, September 20

- 11:30 a.m. Old Fellaers Lunch
- 3:30 p.m. RAD! Wednesdays
- 5:30 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Youth
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 21

- 3:00 p.m. Book Club with Ina Hughs
- 5:00 p.m. Karate with Tanner

Friday, September 22-24

- 4:45 p.m. Dads' Retreat

Saturday, September 23

- 9:30 a.m. Bounty & Soul Yoga
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Annual Picnic part 2 at Camp Rockmont TODAY

2:00 p.m. – Family Worship

2:15 p.m. – Waterfront

*There is no organized potluck planned,
but feel free to bring a picnic lunch.*

Everyone is welcome!

Spaghetti Dinners – 5:30pm All Wednesdays through November 8

Wednesday night spaghetti dinners are back. There is a suggested donation of \$5/per person, \$3 for children ages three and under, or \$20/per family. Pay what you can – everyone is welcome.

The meal consists of spaghetti with sauce (with or without meat), bread, salad, vegetable, and dessert with vegetarian and gluten-free options.

**Please sign up on the sheet outside
fellowship hall or by calling the church office
(828-669-2725).**



QR code for giving

Our Church's Vision – Embodying the Love of Christ

Inspiring through Worship and Faith Formation • Nurturing through Fellowship
Equipping to Serve • Welcoming to All

Session

Mike Ballard, clerk

Class of 2023

Alison Banzhoff (faith formation)
Gay Ferguson (congregational life)
Sarah Wren Robinson (youth elder)
Margo Smith (strategic planning)
Tommy Wilkinson (mission)

Class of 2024

Alan Belsches (property)
Bill Gilliland (personnel)
Ken Kelly (faith formation)
Ellen Phillips Smith (worship)

Class of 2025

Mary Carroll Dodd (Hospitality & Welcome)
Kristy Beaver (congregational life)
Steve Riley (Finance)
Mike Begley (Generosity)

Deacons

Class of 2023

Karen Austin
Alex Carver & Joe Carreiro
Margaret Fouse & Craig Cooley
Diane Ginther
Jeannie Maidment
Margie Stansell
Janine & Russ Spiller

Class of 2024

Annamarie & Bill Arens
Christy Carswell
Julie & Dale Culpepper
Melissa Kadau
Ellen McClintock
Tom and Sam Maynard
Ann Wiig

Class of 2025

Ann Carr Adkins
Liesl Case
Susan McElrath
Alice McDowell
Katherine Holman
Harriette Fulton & Robert Sway
Jayne & Ronald Vaughan
Debby Vial

Ministers: Every Member Of The Congregation

Mary Katherine Robinson Pastor and Head of Staff
David Carter Florence..... Associate Pastor for Congregational Faith Formation
Bob Tuttle..... Parish Associate
Aaron Price Director of Music and Worship Arts
Alice Patton Director of Preschool Ministry
Brittany Williams..... Director of Congregational Life and Children's Ministry
Sam Webber Director of Operations
Jackie Kerr Director of Communications
Katie Duvall Youth Director
Suzane Churchman Bookkeeper
Steve Kint Custodian



BLACK MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

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