

The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 15, 2024

Hymn Sing

Welcome, Announcements and Passing the Peace

Call to Worship (inspired by John 15:1-8)

Leader: We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

People: We come because we seek to abide in Christ.

L: The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

P: We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, and productive.

L: If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.

ALL: May we grow and bear fruit as God tends us lovingly.

Alleluia!

*Opening Hymn "Standing on the Promises" Page 374

Opening Prayer

Children's Sermon

Prayer of Confession

L: We thank you, gracious God, for Jesus Christ the true vine, with his roots eternally grounded in you.

P: We rejoice that by grace we have been grafted into him, to be branches on a vine which bears the loveliest fruit of earth. Yet we confess that all is not well with the way we live.

L: Please forgive us when we turn from you, disconnect from you, and go our own way. Forgive us for neglecting to draw deeply on the source of your love.

P: We confess the apathy we have that lets us go through some seasons without bearing any fruit.

L: Have mercy on us. Please do not lose patience or sever us completely from the true vine.

P: Rather heal our diseases and prune our unfruitful branches

and cut away our diseased ones.

ALL: May we remain in Christ and he in us, through all the changing seasons of life. Let us delight in bearing the fruit of love which is our true purpose and joy. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance (based on Psalm 89:1-2)

L: I will sing about the wonders of Your love forever, O God!

I will proclaim Your faithfulness to everyone I meet – young and old
For Your merciful love lasts forever, as constant as the heavens
above. Blessed are those who trust in You,
who walk in the light of Your presence. Amen.

Offering "My Life is in You Lord" Page 2032

Doxology Page 95

*Hymn "Peace Like a River" Page 2119

Scripture Galatians 5: 13-26 John 15: 1-8

Sermon: *Are You Fruitful or Fruitless?*
Staying Connected to the True Vine! Part 2

Solo "The Potter's Hands"

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn "Come and Find the Quiet Center" Page 2128

Benediction

*The Altar flowers today are donated by Patty and Allen Morell in
Celebration of theirs and all other church couples' 50th Wedding
Anniversaries this year*

Lay Readers

8:30 am: Dave Eaton

10:00 am: James Tinsley

Coffee Hour

Barbara Priestly

Sharon Kaczmarczyk

Join us for coffee hour after the service each Sunday in our Solarium. If this is your first time, please fill out the registration pad in the pew. Reminder: We want to get to know each other. If you see someone you don't know, greet them and introduce yourself.

Church Happenings

There will be a Church Beach Picnic at Dowses on Today at 3:00 pm. All are Welcome! Bring a picnic lunch and we will provide ice cream for dessert.

Our Last Yard will be on September 28. If you have items to donate this will be the final opportunity until next spring.

All are Encouraged to Join Our Secret Prayer Pal.

Youth Group meets tonight at 5:30 till 7:00 pm.

Men's Fellowship Group will meet on Tuesday morning at 10 am in the Solarium. Questions, call Pastor John 508-451-5858.

You are Invited to join a holiday fair workshop on Tuesdays from 9 am till 12 pm. Questions call Sue DeMartino 508-648-4844.

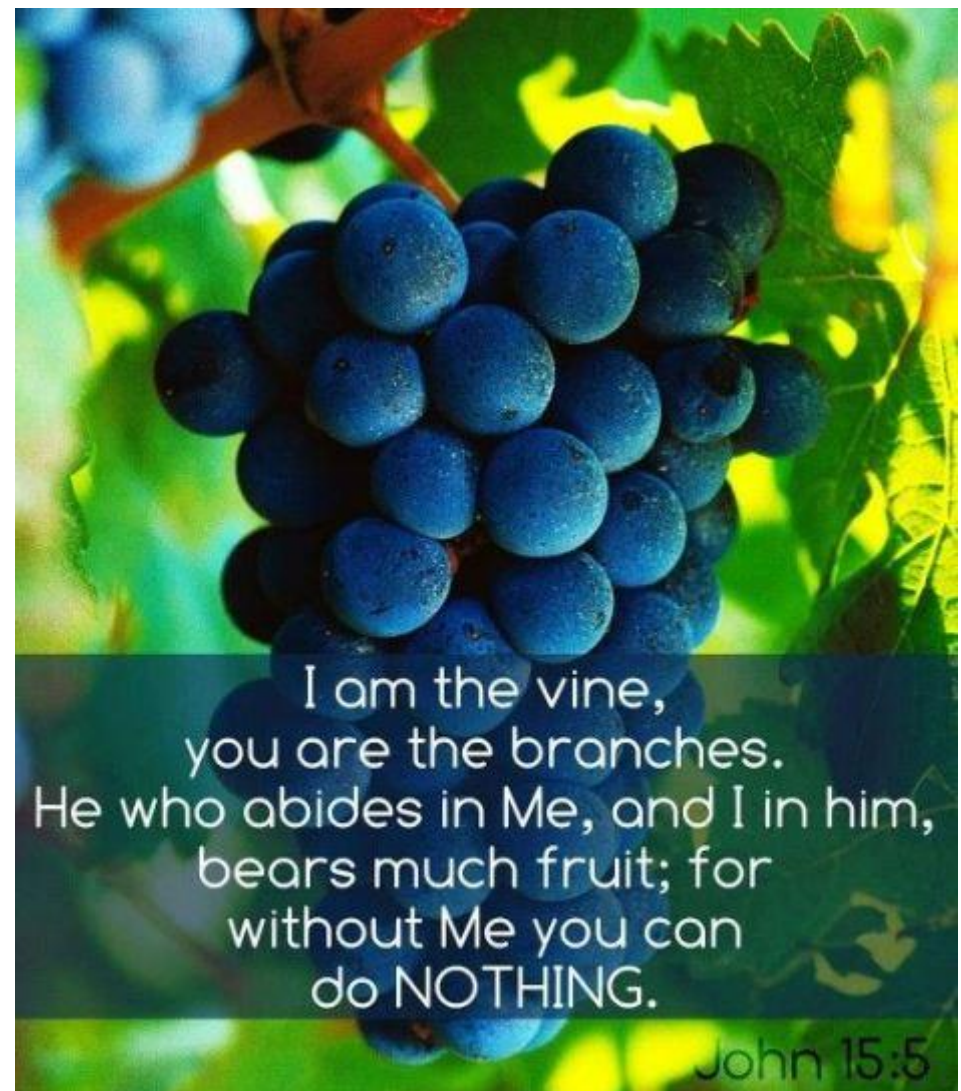
Pastor John offers a Bible Study session every Thursday morning at 10 am. He covers the Scripture that is offered during the following Sunday services. All are welcome to join the group.

The Gift Baskets are being created. We need ideas for new baskets and items to be put into these wonderful gifts. Please bring in your donations and give your ideas to Sue DeMartino or Ellie Eaton.

The Next Church Council Meeting is on September 25 at 7:00pm.



Pastor John Wesley Taylor 508-451-5858
United Methodist Church
57 Pond Street, Osterville, MA 02655
508-428-2811 www.ostervillechurch.com



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After Pentecost
September 15, 2024
Pastor John Wesley Taylor
Daniel Shinabarger
Music Director***