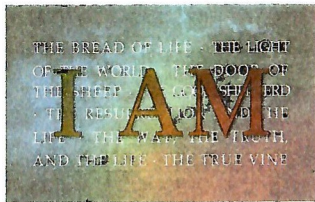


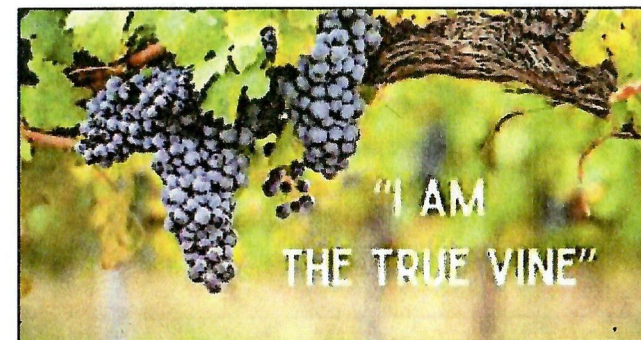
"I AM... The True Vine"

(Who Does Jesus Think He Is? #8)
John 15:1-11



Jesus, who called Himself the True Vine because He would fulfill God's-people-Israel's divine fruit-bearing purpose, calls us to stay connected to Him & so to fulfill our own divine fruit-bearing purpose.

- I. Essential Background...
 - A. Jesus' Upper Room Discourse (chapters 13-17)
 - B. Vines, real & symbolic
- II. Jesus, the True Vine (vv.1, 5)
 - A. Perfect fulfiller of Israel's calling
 - B. *The one perfect, essential and enduring vine before which all other vines are but shadows.* - J. M. Boice (John, p.1160)
- III. God the Father as Vinedresser/Gardener (vv.1-3)
 - A. Takes away/cuts off/lifts up unfruitful branches
 - B. Prunes/cleans fruitful branches
 - C. Works for fruitfulness
- IV. Our Crucial Task = Abide/Stay Connected to Jesus (vv.4-5)
 - A. Don't be overly concerned about the fruit you aren't bearing: Just keep abiding!
 - B. Expect some painful pruning... And keep abiding!
 - C. Keep abiding, and the fruit will come!
- V. Jesus' Word of Warning: Contrasting Results (vv.6-11)
 - A. The works of those who do not abide are like disconnected branches—truly worthless, dry & withering. (v.6)
 - B. Those who abide in Christ receive glorious rewards:
 1. A powerful new personal will in concert with God's (v.7)
 2. A life of meaningful fruit-bearing to God's glory (v.8a)
 3. Assurance of our secure status in Jesus (v.8b)
 4. A life firmly embedded in real, lasting love (v.9-10)
 5. Joy...to the full... like the eternal joy that is in Jesus (v.11)



The description of Jesus as the true vine is primarily intended to contrast with the failure of the vine Israel to fulfill its calling to be fruitful for God. That the Vine is Jesus, not the Church, is intentional; the Lord is viewed in his representative capacity, the Son of God—Son of Man, who dies and rises that in union with him a renewed people of God might come into being and bring forth fruit for God.

- George R. Beasley-Murray, John, p.272

Covenant Presbyterian Church
of
Reno, Nevada
Pentecost Sunday
May 24, 2026

Service for Pentecost Sunday

May 24, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

Disciples bring glory to God by bearing 'much fruit'. The 'fruit' is most likely the outcome of their entire life and ministry as they remain in fellowship with Jesus by keeping his commands and experiencing his presence with them through the Spirit. In their lives and ministry, then, they reflect the character of God and he is glorified as people catch glimpses of what he is truly like.

- C. G. Kruse, John, p.315

We Are Called Together by Jesus Christ, The Great "I AM"

Prelude Eric Kao, piano

Church Family News

Recognition & Prayer for Our Graduates Pastor Jay

We Worship the One Who Is The Resurrection & The Life

*Call to Worship Isaiah 5:1-7 Phil Barackman

Leader: Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:

People: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. 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; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

Leader: And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

People: I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

Leader: For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting;

People: And he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

*Songs of Praise Samuel Dueñas & CPC Praise Band
"God Is For Us" & "Only a Holy God"
[CCLI License #246069]

Time of Greeting / Welcoming One Another

Children's Prayer Time Katie Guerrero

Confession Prayer, Word of Assurance & Gloria Patri

Time of Offering

Offertory Anthem Covenant Choir, Denell Hull, director
"Let All the People Praise" – Courtney

*Doxology (#731) & Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Preparation Hymn "Jesus Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" #646

God's Word Tells Us of Jesus, The True Vine

New Testament Reading John 15:1-11 (p.901)

Message: *I AM the True Vine*
(Who Does Jesus Think He Is? #8)

We Go Out with Jesus Who Is The Way, The Truth & the Life

Prayers of the People & 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 sins as we
forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

*Closing Hymn "Blessed Assurance" #693

*Charge & Benediction

*Congregational Benediction "You Are My King"

*indicates to stand if you are able

Weekly Events

Sundays

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
 9:30 am Prayer
 10:00 am Worship Service
 11:15 am Coffee & Fellowship

Wednesday

9:00 am Women's Bible Study
(Summer Break)
 1:30 pm XLENT-Teens
 2:30pm Kid's Club

Thursdays

1:00 pm All Church Bible Study
 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal **(On summer break until September)**

Upcoming Meetings & Events

May 24 Pentecost Sunday	Jun 9 Evangelism MTM 5:00-6:00 pm
May 25 Memorial Day Holiday Office Closed	Christian Ed MTM 6:00-7:00 pm
May 26 Session 6:30 pm	Deacons MTM 6:00-7:00 pm
Jun 1 Fellowship MTM 2:00-3:00 pm	Worship MTM June 30 6:00 pm
Jun 7 Communion Sunday	XLD Missions MTM 7:00-8:00 pm

Save the dates

VBS	July 20-23
Men's Retreat	Sept 25-27
Women's Retreat	Oct 23-25



News & Reminders

May 24 - Pentecost Sunday

Just a reminder to get your best red attire out and ready, as we will be observing Pentecost.

Vacation Bible School

VBS is coming July 20-23. If you have kids or grandkids, know friends of your kids or grandkids, neighbors, and coworkers, invite them for some summer fun. Registration is now open on our website www.covenant-reno.org.

Kids Club and XLENT Teens

Both of these groups will begin their Fall sessions on Wednesday, August 12. Registration is now open on our website www.covenant-reno.org. Forms are also available in the narthex.

August is Mission Month

There will be a new speaker each Sunday, and each message will be insightful. Sunday, August 2, will be our annual Mission Fair. Be sure to set time aside to visit with the ministries present.

Looking for a Few Good People

There are still a few opportunities left to spend some pleasant time with T as she stops here on her way back to the mission field in Central Asia. You could take a drive, go to lunch, go shopping (her request) or to a movie, sit and talk, or whatever you'd like to do. If you're interested, email Anna Bates at trucker26541@gmail.com or call (775) 448-6085.

PRAYERS & PRAISES



For the Church

Pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee as they pray and search for a pastor to succeed Pastor Jay when he retires.

Prayer Requests

Nancy Tedford Healing
Joyce Miers Healing
Bette Kyle Healing (submitted by Todd and Lorraine Rhoden)

Bereavement

Family and friends of **Karen Sandaval** (submitted by Jerry DeVore)
 Family and friends of **Robert Messimer** (submitted by Jerry DeVore)

Our New Neighbors

Pray for the new neighbors who have moved in.



On Active Military Tour of Duty

Noah Arias, Terran Billharz, Cody Carr, Matthew Cunningham, Westin Hart, Chase Lemon, Levi Sanchez, Gary Hogman, Maille Mathieu, Brian Zordell, Margaret Guthrie, Benjamin Guthrie, Chandler Bryant, Caleb Mize & Jacob Simpkins

Prayer Requests

Name of Person to pray for: _____

Concern or Update _____

Submitted by _____

Date _____

For Church-wide prayer

For Pastor/Staff Prayer

Post on the Realm

Prayer submissions will be listed for 4 weeks; if an extension is desired, please request with an update. Put your request in the offering plate or in the prayer request box located on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.