

## John 15:1-11 (CEB)

<sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. <sup>2</sup>He removes any of my branches that don’t produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can’t produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can’t produce fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. <sup>6</sup>If you don’t remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

<sup>9</sup>“As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete.

Toledo Mennonite Church  
5501 Nebraska Avenue, Toledo, OH 43615  
**419-536-1251 | toledomennonite@gmail.com | www.toledomennonite.org**  
Pastor, Joel - on Sabbatical until mid September  
Secretary, Maureen Loutit  
Secretary’s office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
**Note:** Please send all emails for Maureen to the church’s email address



Toledo  
Mennonite  
Church

October 6, 2019  
ABIDE

**Prelude** Laura Hoag

### Gathering

Opening Hymn:  
“O thou, in whose presence” (HWB # 559) Dave Weldy  
Call to Worship and Welcome & Prayer Linda Carter  
Pass the Peace (see description on page 2)  
Opening Sharing Song: “O Lord, hear **my** prayer” (HWB # 348)  
Congregational Sharing  
Closing Sharing Song: “O Lord, hear **our** prayer” (HWB #348)  
Offering\*

### Hearing God’s Word

Hymn: “Thou true Vine, that heals” (HWB #373)  
Scripture: John 15:1-11 Kate Holsopple-Stainbrook  
Sermon: “**Abide: UP**” Pastor Joel Shenk

**Responding** Spencer Cunningham, Nick & Kate Holsopple-Stainbrook  
“Precious Memories”  
“Where the soul never dies”

Communion (All who profess Jesus as their savior are invited to the table)

### Sending

Announcements  
Sending Hymn: “I want Jesus to walk with me” (HWB #439)  
Benediction

Infant’s Nursery is at the back of sanctuary - unsupervised  
Toddlers up to 4 years old, Children’s Play Room - Room 102 - Karen Rupp  
Sound Tech  
Usher - Nancy & Randy Becker

*Hymn Books used:*  
(HWB) *Hymnal, A Worship Book* - blue, hard cover  
(SJ) *Sing the Journey* - green, soft spiral bound cover  
(SS) *Sing the Story* - purple, soft spiral bound cover

\*Giving by credit card is available. See James or Amy Bennett - TMC Treasurers. Please note that there is a 2.75% transaction fee. Please consider that when making an electronic donation.

## CALENDAR

**Today** - 10:45 am - Fellowship and refreshments in the social hall.  
**All are welcome to stay.**

11:00 am - Children's Singing - Room 103 - Emiley Shenk,  
followed by Intergenerational Sunday School

10/11,12 Quilt Show and Friday Night Dinner  
10/16 Prayer Meeting - 6:30 pm, Joan Robertson's home  
10/13 Potluck  
10/15 Leadership Team Meeting - 7:00 pm  
11/3 Erie Orchard Hayride and Bonfire

## PASS THE PEACE

At this time, we acknowledge one another in peace with a handshake or a hug. When we "pass the peace" with one another, we are trying to follow Jesus' call to be peacemakers (Matthew 5), we are remembering his desire that people would know the things that make for peace (Luke 34:31-35) and we are receiving his greeting of peace with which he commissioned his disciples upon his resurrection (John 20:19-23). We are also trying to honor the Apostle Paul's request to the early church to "greet each other with a Holy Kiss," and to live into his vision of a beloved community where human divisions are overcome in Christ (Galatians 3:27-29).

No matter how strained our relationships are, how weary we feel, or how differently we think and live, we extend our peace and mutual respect to one another. If we can develop patterns of peaceful relating here in worship, we might soften our hearts and let God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

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It is with deep appreciation for this congregation that I, Maureen Loutit, submitted my letter of resignation as TMC secretary, effective October 26th. I step down with sadness in my heart, but at the same time I am sure that this is the best course of action for me at this time. It has been a pleasure working with you and having the backing of this congregation. You will always be special to me. I'm not going away. I love this church.

The job description and terms are updated and are posted on the Administration Bulletin Board. Please spread the word to anyone who might be interested in applying. Please speak to Pastor Joel if you have any questions about this position.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 15th annual **Quilt Show begins this Friday at 10:00 am, with a home-made dinner starting at 6:30 pm. There will be musical entertainment after dinner. On Saturday, the quilt show runs from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.** Lunch, fabric sale, and a bake sale will be available both days. Admission to both the show and dinner is by donation. See Karen Rupp for more information. Please see the sign-up sheets on the kitchen counter.

Mark your calendar for the Erie Orchards Hayride and Bonfire on November 3rd from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Hotdogs, buns, cider, and donuts will be provided. Please bring a snack to share. Talk to Emily Buller if you have

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS FOR JOY OR CONCERNS

Ellen Strecker's mother, Louise Strecker, 98, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 22nd. Her funeral was on Saturday, Oct. 5th. Ellen and her four brothers (Richard, James, David, and Phillip) and many grand and great-grandchildren mourn her passing. Please keep them in your prayers.

Charlie Cook's mom, Patricia Cook, 92, died on Monday, Sept. 30th and was laid to rest on Thursday in Port Clinton. She left her three children, Polly, Charlie, and Tom and their families to grieve her passing. Among her many grand and great-grandchildren are Sam and Ellie, Charlie and Sue's children and who are members of TMC. Please keep the Cook family uplifted in your prayers.

Maureen Loutit had cataract surgery on Wednesday and it went well.

Last week, Amy Bennett talked about the kids who use our property as a pass-through to their homes from school. It is nice to know that they feel comfortable to do so in a positive way.

Lynn Rupp often sees whole families using our back parking lot or the green space around us for fun activities. It is always a joy to see them.

Amy also told us about her oldest nephew and his wife moving to Texas. Her nephew's wife is in the navy, and they will be in Texas for six months and then they will be moved to an other location - unknown to them at this time. Please be with Amy's family as they are trying to understand how the military works or doesn't work.

Karen Rupp's brother, Mike, was transferred to the University of Michigan hospital. He has been battling a serious lung disease. While there, he went through a series of tests. He is now on the lung transplant list.

Rick Miller was talking to his daughter when she got a 911 call about her mother. She was being transported to the hospital. Rick did not know any details.