

Prayer Concerns

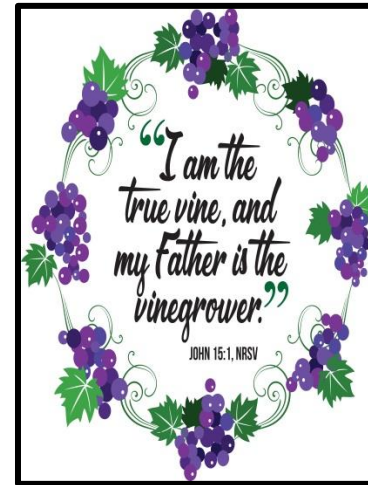
First Responders	Carole B.'s niece's family
Those affected by gun violence	Nancy D.
Those suffering from mental illness, addiction & homelessness	Lois D.
	Anita B.
Condolences to the family of Sesler	Ray S.
Titus, Tammy M.'s Dad, on his passing	Judy, lifted by Brenda F.
Bunny, Liz L.'s cousin	Marianne, lifted by Janis J.
Doug, friend of Joel & Deb C.	Jane P.
Janis Jarvis	Keith A.
Curtis, lifted by Reba Y.	Judy L.
Bill & Marilyn R.	Selene, lifted by Carole A.
Vicki and her family, daughter of Rae and Walt S.	Barbara B.
Dan G., lifted by Barb & Ron C.	David N., JoAnne's husband
Matt & Debby, lifted by Janis J.	Joy and Rocky, lifted by Paul & Claudia T.
Joan H.	Ron W.
Jeff S., nephew of Jan & Bill C.	Richard P., lifted by Liz L.
Cindy, Reba Y.'s sister-in-law	Jan, community meal guest
Betty, Paul T.'s aunt	Barb L.
Ed B.'s aunt	Ken & Doris, friends of Sally C.
Jennifer G.	CJ Cornell, lifted by Chris B.
Will S.	Pat, CJ C.'s mother
	Condolences to Janis J. and family on the passing of her aunt, Patti

This Week's Birthdays and Anniversaries

4/30 Virginia Steiger	5/3 John Gonska
4/30 Judy Solt	5/4 Ray Schurr
5/1 Sara Bridges	5/4 Cameron Ressel
5/2 Karin Deeken	

Today's Worship Leaders

Preacher: Rev. Hoyte L. Wilhelm
Organist: Javier Gonzalez
Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez
Liturgist: John Wolter
Greeters: Jim and Ellie Yager, Greg Lavelle
Ushers: Sarah Jackson and Sydney Scothon
Audio Video Elements: John and Michelle Wolter, Phil Wolter



North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Feeding the Community –
Body, Mind, and Spirit

4600 Dover Center Road,
North Olmsted, Ohio 44070
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www.noumc.org

Rev. Hoyte L. Wilhelm, Pastor

5th Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024 10:30 am

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

L: The grace and peace of our Lord and Savior be with you.

P: And also with you.

Celebration of Ministries and Missions

Prelude

*Hilf, Gott, dass mirs gelinge
(O Help Me, Lord, to Praise Thee)*

J. S. Bach

***Call to Worship**

John Wolter

L: Easter people, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, the life-giving Vine.

P: We abide in Love, the life-giving Vine.

L: We are branches of the Vine—sustained, nurtured, and pruned by love.

P: We have no life apart from love, the life-giving Vine.

L: When we make our home in the Vine, and the Vine makes a home in us, we bear the fruit of love.

P: We produce the fruit of love, the life-giving Vine.

L: Easter people, how shall we bear the fruit of Love, the life-giving Vine?

P: We will love and learn to love as we rest, play, work, and build community with God and one another.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, November 2023)

***Unison Prayer** (based on John 15)

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life. Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

***New Testament Reading** I John 4:7-13

***Hymn** O How I Love Jesus UMH 170

Prayers of the People

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Unison Prayer of Confession (based on I John 4)

Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love; you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections. Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection, that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love.

Responsive Words of Assurance (based on John 15)

L: Christ is the vine. We are simply branches. If we abide in Christ, Christ's words will abide in us. In the name of Christ, you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

P: In the name of Christ, you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

(Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2012, © 2011 Abingdon Press)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem

Prayer for the Offering

Special Music Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
J.S.Bach, arr. Myra Hess

Gospel Reading John 15:1-8

Hymn Fairest Lord Jesus UMH 189

Sermon "Bearing Fruit" Rev. Hoyte L. Wilhelm

***Hymn** Sent Forth by God's Blessing UMH 664

***Responsive Benediction**

L: Branches of the Vine, go from this place blessed by Love to work in love with your family, your friends, your neighbors, and strangers—

P: who will become friends, bearing the fruit of the life-giving Vine as you cultivate abundant life wherever you go.

All: Amen.

(Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, November 2023)

Postlude I've Got Peace Like a River Mark Hayes
arr. Marvin Gaspard

(You are invited to be seated for the Postlude before exiting the Sanctuary.)

**Please stand if you are able.*