

# First Sunday of Advent



**Good Soil Lutheran Ministries**

*Growing Together in Christ*

Nov 28, 2021

9:30 a.m.

# Good Soil Lutheran Ministries

20300 Hilliard Boulevard

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YouTube: [Good Soil Lutheran Ministries](https://www.youtube.com/GoodSoilLutheranMinistries)

## Welcome

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ.

## Holy Communion

Christ is truly present with us in worship and through this meal! All are welcome to participate in Holy Communion here at Good Soil. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available upon request. Those who choose not to commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Key:

**Bold Font** – Spoken by the Congregation

Regular Font – Spoken by the Pastor or Worship Assistant

† – Please stand as you are able, in body or spirit.

*Please Note: In an effort to protect the most vulnerable among us, **masks are required in the building**. Masking of young children is up to the discretion of parents. Council continues to monitor the situation.*

## First Sunday of Advent

*Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these next four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.*

**Prelude**

**Ringing of the Bell and Silent Reflection**

**Welcome to Worship**

**Children’s Sermon & Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**Advent Hymn: Light One Candle to Watch For  
Messiah, ELW 240 v 1**

1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall bring salvation to Israel,  
God fulfills the promise.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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| <p><i>The presiding minister greets the assembly with the words used by the apostle Paul in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 13:13 to greet churches. The assembly also greets the presiding minister in return. It is a moment of mutuality that signifies trust, love, mutual service, and a shared hope in God.</i></p> | <p><b>† Greeting</b></p> <p>The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.<br/> <b>And also with you.</b></p>  |
| <p><i>The Prayer of the Day highlights themes from the scripture readings we are about to hear.</i></p>  | <p><b>† Prayer of the Day</b></p> <p>Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.<br/> <b>Amen.</b></p>   |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>The Word</b></u></p> <p><b>First Reading: Psalm 25:1-10</b></p> <p>1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.<br/> 2 My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.<br/> 3 Let none who look to you be put to shame;<br/> rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.<br/> 4 Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.<br/> 5 Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.<br/> 6 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,<br/> for they are from everlasting.<br/> 7 Remember not the sins of my youth and my</p> |

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|   | <p>transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.</p> <p><sup>8</sup> You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.</p> <p><sup>9</sup> You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.</p> <p>Word of God. Word of Life.<br/> <b>Thanks be to God.</b></p>   |
| <p><i>The Gospel reading is announced by the pastor. We rise to our feet, if able, as a sign of respect for the Gospel that reveals Jesus Christ to us. Following the reading of the Gospel, we give thanks and praise to Jesus Christ, who is revealed to us through the Gospel reading.</i></p> | <p><b>† Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36</b></p> <p>To put this reading into context:</p> <p><i>God will fulfill God’s purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God’s people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God’s promised redemption.</i></p> <p>The holy gospel according to Luke.<br/> <b>Glory to you, O Lord.</b></p> <p>[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup>“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”</p> <p><sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the</p> |

kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon: The Rev. Shelley Nelson-Bridger**

*Silence for reflection.*

**† Hymn of the Day: Creator of the Stars of Night  
ELW 245 vs 1-3, 5**

1 Creator of the stars of night,  
your people's everlasting light,  
O Christ, redeemer of us all,  
we pray you hear us when we call.

2 When this old world drew on toward night,  
you came; but not in splendor bright,  
not as a monarch, but the child  
of Mary, blessed mother mild.

3 At your great name, O Jesus, now  
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:  
all things on earth with one accord,  
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.

5 To God the Father, God the Son,  
and God the Spirit, Three in One,  
praise, honor, might, and glory be  
from age to age eternally. Amen.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

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*As the church, we  
pray for those in  
our community and  
around the world.  
The prayers are also  
responsive,  
emphasizing our  
own participation.*

## † Prayers of the Church

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*


God of presence and peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world. Help us recognize your face in all people and in all of creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all living things, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of equity and compassion, bring righteousness and goodness to all peoples of the earth. Give a heart of discernment and integrity to leaders in our communities and all levels of government. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing, and life transitions of every kind. Today we especially pray for... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destruction. We pray for those whose lives

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|  | <p>have been upended by natural disasters, and for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations. Hear us, O God. <b>Your mercy is great.</b></p> <p>God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Even in distress and uncertainty, make us confident that your promises endure forever. Hear us, O God. <b>Your mercy is great.</b></p> <p>God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.<br/><b>Amen.</b></p> |
| <p><i>A practice of the ancient church, where we recognize Christ's peace in one another and share it together.</i></p>                      | <p><b>† Passing of the Peace</b></p> <p>The Peace of Christ be with you always<br/><b>And also with you.</b></p>   |
| <p><i>God entrusts us with everything we have. Our offering is one way we give thanks to God and support the ministry of the church.</i></p> | <p><b>The Meal</b></p> <p><b>Offering</b></p> <p>God's ministry through Good Soil makes a difference, and your offering makes that possible. Help Good Soil continue making an impact by giving today at <a href="http://www.goodsoillutheran.org/support">www.goodsoillutheran.org/support</a>. This QR code will take you directly to Good Soil's online giving page.</p>   |



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|  | <p><b>“Faith at Work” Interview with Mandy Forshey</b></p>   |
|  | <p><b>† Offering Prayer</b></p> <p>God of our waiting and watching,<br/> we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives<br/> to the service of all your people.<br/> Prepare the way before us<br/> as we meet you in this simple meal,<br/> through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.<br/> <b>Amen.</b></p>  |
|  | <p><b>† Great Thanksgiving</b></p> <p>The Lord be with you.<br/> <b>And also with you.</b><br/> Lift up your hearts.<br/> <b>We lift them to the Lord.</b></p> <p>Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.<br/> <b>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</b></p>   |
|  | <p><b>† Words of Institution</b></p>   |
| <p><i>The Lord’s Prayer is Jesus’ response to his disciples when they asked him to teach them how to pray.</i></p> | <p><b>† Lord’s Prayer (prayed by all)</b></p> <p>Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.</p> <p><b>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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.</b></p> |

## The Meal

### Communion

*Christ is with us in this meal. All who are hungry for the presence of Jesus are welcome to commune here at Good Soil. Please wait for the usher to release your row before proceeding up front. Receive the elements and then return to your seat before partaking of them.*

The body of Christ, given for you.  
**Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
**Amen.**

### Communion Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel ELW 257 all vs

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

#### ***Refrain***

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay;  
teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain*

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might,  
as to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times you gave the law  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

- 4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*
- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

### † Post-Communion Table Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen  
you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

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| <p><i>With the blessing of God, we go out to live as Christ's body in the world.</i></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>The Sending</b></u></p> <p><b>† Blessing</b></p> <p>The God of hope<br/>fill us with all joy and peace in believing,<br/>so that we may abound in hope<br/>by the power of the Holy Spirit,<br/>through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.<br/><b>Amen.</b></p>  |
| <p><i>Through the sending hymn we are sent out into the world to follow Jesus.</i></p>   | <p><b>† Sending Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers</b><br/><b>ELW 244 vs 1, 3-4</b></p> <p>1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,<br/>and let your lights appear;<br/>the evening is advancing,<br/>and darker night is near.<br/>The bridegroom is arising<br/>and soon is drawing nigh.<br/>Up, pray and watch and wrestle;<br/>at midnight comes the cry.</p> <p>3 The saints, who here in patience<br/>their cross and suffrings bore,<br/>shall live and reign forever<br/>when sorrow is no more.<br/>Around the throne of glory<br/>the Lamb they shall behold;<br/>in triumph cast before him<br/>their diadems of gold.</p> |

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|   | <p>4 Our hope and expectation,<br/> O Jesus, now appear;<br/> arise, O Sun so longed for,<br/> o'er this benighted sphere.<br/> With hearts and hands uplifted,<br/> we plead, O Lord, to see<br/> the day of earth's redemption<br/> that sets your people free!</p> <p>Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907</p> |
| <p><i>The dismissal sends us out into the world as Christ's Body—fed, nourished, and ready to serve. Worship has ended, and our service begins!</i></p> | <p><b>† Dismissal</b></p> <p>Go in peace. Christ is near.<br/> <b>Thanks be to God.</b></p>  |
|   | <p><b>Postlude</b></p>   |

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## Announcements from Good Soil Sunday, Nov 28, 2021

**For those in need of healing, comfort or strength:** Linda Beebe, Diane Bennett, Dave Blocksom, Gary Dennison, Deborah Dzurilla, Evatt Family, Barry Hollowell, Char Mattson, Joyce Miller, Mitterholzer family, Ann Norman, Jerry and Marie Sternad, Tony Sykaluk, Gloria Syverson, Jeanette Weidlich

**Celebrate with our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders!** The following 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders participated in a communion instruction class last Sunday:

Sammie Forshey  
TJ Lanter  
Ryan Williamson

Alexandra Inman  
Luke Williamson

We celebrate this faith formation milestone with them! Additionally, the communion bread for this Sunday was baked by the Lanter family, thank you for blessing us with that today!

**The Rocky River Community Choir and Band invites you** to a free Christmas Concert on Dec 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

**Trials for Hope** is in need of the following items for their new community “Hope Box” on Bridge Ave. Please place items in the bin outside the front doors of Good Soil and Bill Fink will deliver the items to Trials for Hope. Thanks for your support of those in need in our community!

Emergency Blankets  
Socks  
Toiletries  
Handwipes

Hand and foot warmers  
Gloves  
Tampons/pads  
Books

Questions? Contact Bill Fink at [bfink06@yahoo.com](mailto:bfink06@yahoo.com) or Trials for Hope directly at [trialsforhopecle@gmail.com](mailto:trialsforhopecle@gmail.com) or 216-920-2205



Last Month for 1:1 Matching Campaign for Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries' Breaking New Ground initiative: Good Soil recently established an Endowment Fund, and the Council voted to designate \$10,000 as an initial contribution to Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's Breaking New Ground. Good Soil now

has an opportunity to expand its impact: the Endowment Fund will match individual contributions dollar-for-dollar up to \$10,000 from now through the end of 2021. This means members and friends of Good Soil can pool our collective resources to contribute as much as \$30,000 to Breaking New Ground! Use the QR code to learn more.

**The Livestream Team is looking** for your feedback. Find the feedback form link in the November "Seeds" Newsletter, email us at [GoodSoilAV@gmail.com](mailto:GoodSoilAV@gmail.com) or use the QR code to submit your feedback now!



| <b>Calendar of Upcoming Events</b> |  |  |
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| <b>Day</b>                         | <b>Event</b>   | <b>Time</b>  |
| Sat, Dec 4                         | Ladies' Breakfast at Gene's Place  | 9:00 a.m.  |
| Sun, Dec 5                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-Person and Livestream Worship</li> <li>• Sunday School</li> <li>• Budget Q and A Session via zoom</li> </ul> | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br><b>10:30 a.m.</b><br><b>12:00 p.m.</b> |
| Sun, Dec 12                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-Person and Livestream Worship</li> <li>• Congregation Meeting</li> <li>• Sunday School</li> </ul>            | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br><b>10:30 a.m.</b>                      |
| Tues, Dec 14                       | Good Soil Council Meeting  | 7:30 p.m.  |
| Sun, Dec 19                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-Person and Livestream Worship</li> <li>• Sunday School</li> </ul>  | <b>9:30 a.m.</b><br><b>10:30 a.m.</b>                      |
| Tues, Dec 21                       | The Longest Night Service (in-person and livestreamed)   | 7:00 p.m.  |
| Fri, Dec 24                        | <b>CHRISTMAS SCHOOLS</b><br>Christmas Eve Worship (in-person and livestreamed)   | 7:00 p.m.  |
| Sun, Dec 26                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lessons and Carols Worship (in-person and livestreamed)</li> <li>• NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</li> </ul>                  | 9:30 a.m.  |
| Sun, Jan 2                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-Person and Livestream Worship</li> <li>• NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</li> </ul>   | 9:30 a.m.  |