

Seventh Sunday After Epiphany



Good Soil Lutheran Ministries

Growing Together in Christ

Feb 20, 2022

9:30 a.m.

Good Soil Lutheran Ministries

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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.

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, **masking are required in the building**. Masking of young children is up to the discretion of parents. Council continues to monitor the situation.*

Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome to Worship

In the Confession and Forgiveness, we are drawn by God's mercy to prepare to assemble around the Word and Sacrament. It may be seen as a return to the gift of Baptism through repentance.

† **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.
We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.
Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:
In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.
Amen.

**Gathering Hymn: All Creatures, Worship God
Most High
ELW 835 vs 1, 2, & 4**

- 1 All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
Sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
Still make your song amid the tears:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. composite
Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

*The presiding
minister greets the
assembly with the
words used by
Paul in 2nd
Corinthians to
greet churches.*

† Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you
all.
And also with you.

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.

The Prayer of the Day highlights themes from the scripture readings we are about to hear.

† Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

The Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

To put this reading into context:

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Word of God. Word of Life
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel reading is announced by the pastor. We rise to our feet, if able, as a sign of respect and anticipation for the Gospel that reveals Jesus Christ to us.

† Gospel Reading: Luke 6:27-38

To put this reading into context:

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

The holy gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend,

expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

Children’s Sermon

Children aged Pre-K through 3rd grade are invited to leave the service after the Children’s Sermon and attend the first part of Sunday School instruction (2nd part to resume in classes after worship.)

Sermon: The Rev. Marissa Harrison

Silence for reflection.

† Hymn of the Day: Light Dawns on a Weary
World ELW 726

1 Light dawns on a weary world
when eyes begin to see
all people's dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world:
the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with
singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

2 Love grows in a weary world
when hungry hearts find bread
and children's dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world:
the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain*

3 Hope blooms in a weary world
when creatures, once forlorn,
find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain*

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

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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 participation.

† Prayers of the Church

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance, so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and gardens. Give favorable weather, an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Look upon our world with mercy, that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest. Amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled especially . . . and those we lift up in our heart silently or aloud. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another and to resolve conflicts with humility and patience. Bless families of all shapes and sizes, and show love to those who are lonely or grieving. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom. As you have raised them to imperishable and eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

A practice of the ancient church, where we recognize Christ's peace in one another and share it together.

† Passing of the Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always,
And also with you.

The people greet one another saying, "Peace" or "Peace be with you" sharing the peace of Christ with one another in a no-touch or low-touch way, such as a wave, peace sign, or elbow bump.

The Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

God entrusts us with everything we have. Our offering is one way we give thanks to God and support the ministry of the church.

Offering

God's ministry through Good Soil makes a difference, and your offering makes that possible. Help Good Soil continue making an impact by giving at www.goodsoillutheran.org/support. This QR code will take you directly to Good Soil's online giving page.

Aim your phone camera at the QR code, but don't take a picture. A link will appear to click on that will take you to Good Soil's support page:



† Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God,
Sovereign of the universe.
You offer us new beginnings
and guide us on our journey.
Lead us to your table,
nourish us with this heavenly food,
and prepare us to carry your love
to a hungry world,
in the name of Christ our light. **Amen.**

	<p>† Great Thanksgiving</p> <p>The Lord be with you. And also with you.</p> <p>Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.</p> <p>Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.</p>
	<p>† Words of Institution</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>† Lord's Prayer (prayed by all)</p> <p>Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p>Communion</p> <p><i>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</i></p>

*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: Oh, Praise the Gracious Power
ELW 651**

1 Oh, praise the gracious pow'r
that tumbles walls of fear
and gathers in one house of faith
all strangers far and near:

Refrain

We praise you, Christ!
Your cross has made us one!

2 Oh, praise persistent truth
that opens fist'd minds
and eases from their anxious clutch
the prejudice that blinds: *Refrain*

3 Oh, praise inclusive love,
encircling ev'ry race,
oblivious to gender, wealth,
to social rank or place: *Refrain*

4 Oh, praise the word of faith
that claims us as God's own,
a living temple built on Christ,
our rock and cornerstone: *Refrain*

- 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace
that laps at ev'ry shore
with visions of a world at peace,
no longer bled by war: *Refrain*
- 6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.
Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*
- 7 Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!
Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945
Text from *New Hymns for the Lectionary* © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

† Post-Communion Table Blessing

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

The Sending

God blesses us and send us in mission to the world.

*With the blessing
of God, we go out
to live as Christ's
body in the world.*

† Blessing

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
† bless your going out and your coming in,
today and forever. **Amen.**

*Through the
sending hymn we
are sent out into
the world to
follow Jesus.*

† **Sending Hymn: God, When Human Bonds are
Broken ELW 603 vs 1, 2, & 5**

- 1 God, when human bonds are broken
and we lack the love or skill
to restore the hope of healing,
give us grace and make us still.

- 2 Through that stillness, with your Spirit
come into our world of stress,
for the sake of Christ forgiving
all the failures we confess.

- 5 Give us faith to be more faithful,
give us hope to be more true,
give us love to go on learning:
God, encourage and renew!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

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*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!*

† **Dismissal**

Go with Christ into a weary world.
Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Announcements from Good Soil Sunday, Feb 20, 2022

For those in need of healing, comfort, or strength: Jane Beese, Jerry and Marie Sternad, Tony Sykaluk, Mary Wahl

For those celebrating birthdays:

Jerry Sternad (Feb 26), Stan Zeager (Feb 26)

For those celebrating wedding anniversaries:

Matt and Amanda Inman (Feb 26)

For those celebrating the anniversary of their baptism:

Sean Lanter (Feb 20), Jeanette Weidlich (Feb 20)

The flowers adorning the altar today are given to the glory of God by the Blocksoms to celebrate family birthdays.

“Preparing for Ash Wednesday” today: Curious to learn more about the meaning and spiritual practices of Ash Wednesday? Willing to participate in a mini service project with Pastor Marissa to prepare Good Soil’s “Ashes-To-Go!” bags for this year? If yes to either (or both), come to the Lounge immediately following worship today. Hope to see you there!

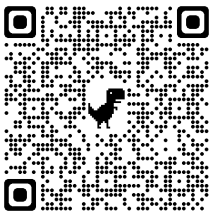
Acolyte training for kids 2nd grade and up will be held on Sunday, Feb 27th at 11:15 a.m. Being an acolyte is an excellent way for children to serve God and serve as leaders in their faith community. *“And a little child shall lead them...”* -- Isaiah 11:6

Lenten Small Groups: Hungry for deeper connection with God and your faith community? So are we! All members and friends of Good Soil are invited and encouraged to participate in small groups during the Lenten season.

Each group will meet once a week for 5 weeks to deepen relationships and grow in faith together. Each group will be led by a lay leader and meet at a different time of the week, so join the group that works best for you:

Monday Evening via Zoom
Tuesday at Noon via Zoom
Wednesday Evening Zoom
Thursday Morning In-Person
Saturday Morning In-Person

Use this QR code to sign up:



Want to serve God and our neighbors in need? Meals on Wheels is looking for people to deliver meals on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. You can sign up for one day, two, or all three. Drivers arrive at 11:30 a.m. and usually complete their deliveries between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m. If you want to help, call 440-333-6298 M-F from 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and ask for Kathy.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS		
DAY	EVENT	TIME
Sun, Feb 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In-Person and Livestream Worship ● Sunday School ● Adult Forum – Preparing for Ash Wednesday (Lounge) ● Confirmation Class 	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
Sun, Feb 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In-Person and Livestream Worship ● Sunday School ● Acolyte Training (2nd grade and up) 	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.
Tues, Mar 1	Hybrid Church Zoom – “Online and Social Media Work to Reach New People” (Contact Pastor M for Zoom link)	7:00 p.m.
Wed, Mar 2	ASH WEDNESDAY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In-Person and Livestream Worship 	7:00 p.m.
Sat, Mar 5	Ladies’ Breakfast – Gene’s Place	9:00 a.m.
Mon, Mar 7	Lenten Small Groups Begin	