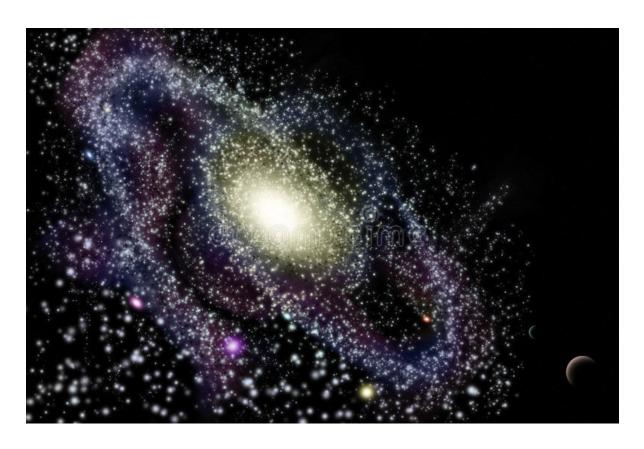
Good Soil Lutheran Ministries Growing Together in Christ



"Praise him you highest skies." - Psalm 148:1

4th Sunday of the Season of Creation Universe Sunday September 25, 2022 9:30 a.m.



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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.

For Parents with Children

Good Soil loves kids and the "holy noise" they bring! Your children are warmly welcome in worship. Sing, pray, and respond; your children will learn by worshiping with you. There's also a "prayground" area in the back of the sanctuary and a nursery/cry room behind that on the back left side. We pray that worshiping together as a family is a meaningful experience!

For Those Needing Hearing Assistance

Please ask an usher about our hearing assistance devices to enhance your worship experience.

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 those who are vulnerable, <u>masking is strongly</u> <u>recommended.</u> In addition, the first four rows of pews on the left side of the sanctuary are reserved as a "masking only" section (for those who wish to be in close proximity only with others who are masking).

4th Sunday of the Season of Creation Universe Sunday

Today is the final Sunday in the Season of Creation—a time when the global church unites to intentionally reflect on God's presence in creation and our calling to care for it. We give thanks, we pray, we lament, we hope, and we recommit ourselves to healing our relationship with our sacred home. We worship today with the entire universe, conscious that the universe is a vast sacred space of which we humans on Earth are a such a small but privileged part. We join the Psalmists and call on the sky above and the deep below to shout with songs of praise. We celebrate the wondrous spiritual force called Wisdom which permeates, activates, and unifies the web of worlds that is our universe.

Gathering The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.		
Prelude and Welcome		
† Call to Worship		
In the name of the Risen Christ whose presence fills the universe, In the name of the Cosmic Christ whose presence pulses through all galactic space, In the name of the Living Christ who is ever-present across light years of time, including this very moment. Amen.		
P: We invite all creation to worship with us. C: Glittering galaxies high in the sky, radiating the splendor of God's presence.		

- P: We call distant domains of space to celebrate with us.
- C: The nebula, nova, and red giant stars, thanking God for their formation in the universe.
- P: We summon that domain of stardust called Earth,
- C: Pulsing with the rhythm of God's presence and celebrating God's glory in this planet garden.
- P: We invite millions of living species to dance with life,
- C: The turtle, the toad and the elephant, the earthworm, the ant and the dragonfly.
- P: We invite every creature in the web of creation,
- C: All connected in this cosmic community called the universe, dancing with life and cosmic energy!

† Invitation to Remembrance

Describe a time when you were especially aware that you were intricately connected with a vast world of time and space.

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

repentance.

Baptism

through

† Confession and Forgiveness

We are conscious of our place in the universe, remembering moments of wonder, sensing the infinite world of space, connecting with endless networks of time, feeling the mystery of the moment.

And even as we remember, we confess that we have often been selfish, polluting our atmosphere and ignoring the needs of others, human and non-human alike, with whom we are closely connected in this part of the web of creation called planet Earth.

We have polluted Earth's atmosphere

We have created a hole in the ozone layer.

We have turned our greed into global warming.

We have exploited the poor and the vulnerable.

We have ignored our crucial connection with those parts of creation where we live.

We have loved progress more than the planet.

We are sorry.

We are sorry.

Silence for reflection.

Christ hears your confession and forgives your sins against creation, inviting us to celebrate Earth as our home, a precious part in the universe's web of creation. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: Earth and All the Stars! ELW 731

Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm!
 Sing to the Lord a new song! Refrain

Refrain

God has done marvelous things. I too sing praises with a new song!

- Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos!
 Sing to the Lord a new song! Refrain
- 3 Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Limestone and beams! Loud building workers!
 Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

- 4 Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!
 Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*
- 5 Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom! Sing to the Lord a new song! Daughter and son! Loud praying members! Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Text © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

† 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.

† Hymn of Praise: For the Fruit of All Creation ELW 679 v 3

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

† Prayer of the Day

God, our Creator, as we reflect on the mysteries of the universe, we celebrate the wondrous design of creation and the Wisdom that guides its course. Help us to discern how we are connected with living members of the cosmic community. Teach us to sense the presence of the cosmic Christ, whose presence fills and reconciles all forces in creation. Amen.

The Word

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

First Reading: Proverbs 8:22-31

To put this reading into context:

Wisdom is personified as a woman speaking. She describes existing before God created the universe and was a partner with God in the design of each part of the universe.

A reading from Proverbs:

²²The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.

²³Ages ago I was set up,

at the first, before the beginning of the earth. ²⁴When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. ²⁵Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth— ²⁶when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. ²⁷When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, ²⁸when he made firm the skies above. when he established the fountains of the deep, ²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, 30then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, ³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

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

Colossians 1:15-20

To put this reading into context:

Christ is here introduced as the Cosmic One who is not only a force before all things existed but also one who is now the unifying impulse in all creation.

A reading from Colossians:

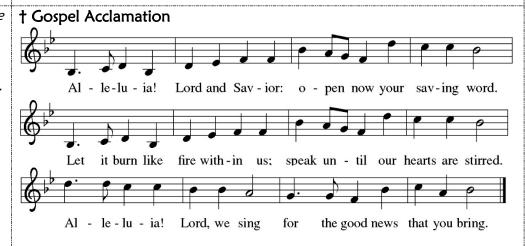
¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head

of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

We welcome the gospel by singing the Gospel Acclamation.



The Gospel reading is announced. 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: John 6:41-51

To put this gospel reading into context:

Jesus claims to be have been sent by the Father, the creator of the universe. As such, Jesus is that bread from another realm who offers life to those on Earth.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me

unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

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: Scott Wylie, TEEM (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) Candidate for Word and Sacrament Ministry in the ELCA

Silence for Reflection

The Hymn of the Day invites the Assembly's participation in the sermon event—it is a response to the proclaimed Word of God.

† Hymn of the Day: This is My Father's World ELW 824

1 This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

- This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise; the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
 This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev'rywhere.
- 3 This is my Father's world;
 oh, let me not forget
 that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
 God is the ruler yet.
 This is my Father's world;
 why should my heart be sad?
 The Lord is king, let heaven ring;
 God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

† Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith together:

We believe that God creates all things, renews all things and celebrates all things. We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with our kin.

We believe that God became flesh and blood, became a part of Earth, a human being called Jesus Christ, who lived and breathed and spoke among us, suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation. We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation

reconciling all things to God, renewing all creation and filling the universe.

We believe the Spirit renews life in creation groans in empathy with a suffering creation, and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation. Amen.

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

† Prayers of Intercession

We thank you, O God, for our wondrous planet home, connected with a web of worlds we call the universe. Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Remind us of your imminent and transcendent presence with us: vast as the universe, yet intimately caring about every living thing. Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Hold in your great compassion those in any need, including: Max, Jae, Jeff, Oakley, Andrew, Jamie, Willie, Char, Jen, Rich, Jerry, Marie, Tony, Jeanette, Wardell, Gloria . . . and those whom we lift up in our hearts silently or aloud. Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

We pray, O Christ, that you would teach us to empathize with Earth:

Make our spirits sensitive to the cries of creation, cries for justice from the land, the seas, and the skies.

Make our faith sensitive to the groans of the Spirit in creation, groans of longing for restoration and renewal.

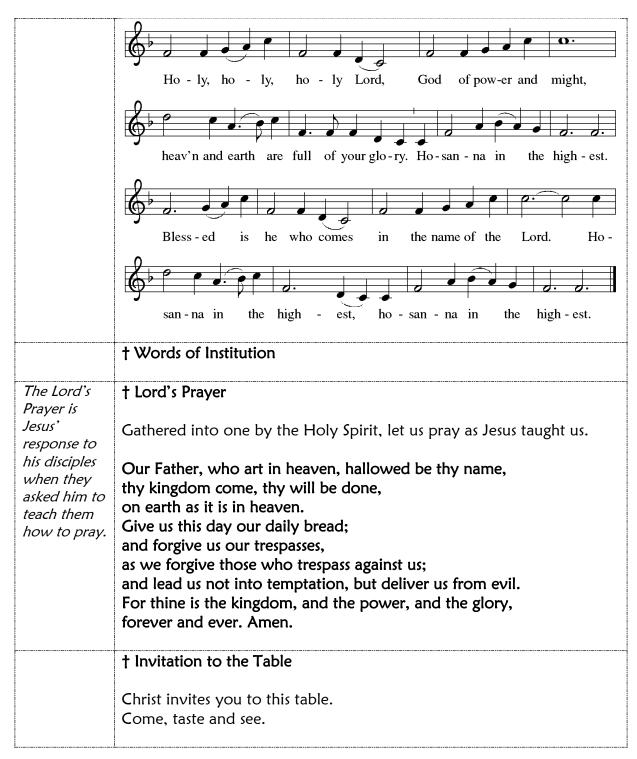
Make our hearts sensitive to the songs of our kin, songs of celebration echoing around us.

Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

	Gathered together with all of creation in the communion of the Holy Spirit, we offer these and all our prayers to you. Amen.			
A practice of the ancient church, where we recognize Christ's peace in one another and share it together.	The Peace of Christ be with you always, And also with you. The people greet one another saving "Peace" or "Peace be with you"			
iogether.	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	God's ministry through Good Soil makes a difference, and your offering makes that possible. Help Good Soil continue making an			
thanks to God and support the ministry of the church.	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.			
	Special Music During the Offering: God of Wonders by Third Day (Choir Anthem)			
	CCLI Song # 3118757 Marc Byrd Steve Hindalong © 2000 Never Say Never Songs (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) New Spring (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Meaux Mercy (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Storm Boy Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com			

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The offering is brought forward to the altar to signify our gratitude for God's blessings.	† Offering Hymn: All Creatures, Worship God Most High! ELW 835 v 1 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! Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. composite Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.
	† Offering Prayer
	God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks and our concern for those in need, including our fellow creatures on planet Earth. Amen.
	† Great Thanksgiving
	The Lord be with you. And also with you.
	Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.
	† Sanctus
	It is indeed right, our duty and our joy we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Communion Hymn: Around You, O Lord Jesus ELW 468

- 1 Around you, O Lord Jesus, your own you gather still to share the feast you give us with grace our lives to fill. You say to us so lovingly, "Take, eat! This is my body! Take, drink! This is my blood!"
- We hear your invitation, and heed, O Lord, your call; your word of consolation is spoken here to all. It draws us to your loving heart; it brings to us your blessing, which never will depart.
- 3 We are your own forever; until our final breath we will be true and never in joy, in grief, in death depart from you, for you are still among your people dwelling, as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. composite Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. 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.

† Prayer for LBW Hymnals being sent to our siblings in Christ at Canaan Lutheran Church in Creston. OH

	The Sending			
	God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.			
With the blessing of	† Blessing			
God, we go out to live as Christ's body in the world.	May the Spirit of God, who is the cosmic power above all and in all and through all, fill you with an awareness of Christ's presence permeating the universe and pulsing within you. Amen.			
† Sending Hymn: God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens ELW 771				
	1 God, who stretched the spangled heavens			
	infinite in time and place,			
	flung the suns in burning radiance			
	through the silent fields of space:			
	we, your children in your likeness,			
	share inventive pow'rs with you;			
	great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.			
	2 We have ventured worlds undreamed of			
	since the childhood of our race;			
	known the ecstasy of winging			
	through untraveled realms of space;			
	probed the secrets of the atom,			
	yielding unimagined pow'r,			
	facing us with life's destruction			
	or our most triumphant hour.			
	3 As each far horizon beckons,			
	may it challenge us anew:			
	children of creative purpose,			
	serving others, hon'ring you.			
	May our dreams prove rich with promise;			
	and and accommodification.			

each endeavor well begun; great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.

	Text: Catherine Cameron, b. 1927 Text © 1967 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
The dismissal sends us out	† Dismissal
into the world as Christ's Body—fed, nourished, and ready to serve. Worship has ended, and our service begins!	Go in peace, with Christ beside you. Thanks be to God.
	Postlude

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Season of Creation liturgy adapted from the Season of Creation Ecumenical Resource (United States). Accessed here: http://www.letallcreationpraise.org/united-states-ecumenical/wisdom-series-c Used by permission.

Today's Worship Servants:

Preacher: Scott Wylie	Reader: Barbara Munch	
Ushers: Amanda and Alexandra Inman	Counters: Jessica Berkshire	
Larry Jacobson	Joe Lanter	
Online Usher: Kathy Berkshire	Acolyte: TJ Lanter	



Announcements from Good Soil Sunday, September 25, 2022

For those in need of healing, comfort, or strength: Max Bechtel; Jae, Jeff, and Oakley; Andrew Evatt; Ed Fink; Wardell Griggs; Jamie Lanter; Willie Lee, Char Mattson; Jen Mitterholzer; Rich Petrusky; Jerry and Marie Sternad; Tony Sykaluk; Jeanette Weidlich; Gloria Weidlich

For those celebrating birthdays:

JoAnne Wancata (Sept 26), Bill Wahl (Sept 28), Luke Williamson (Sept 28), Ryan Williamson (Sept 28)

For those celebrating the anniversary of their baptism: Amelia Forshey (Sept 26)

The flowers adorning the altar today are given to the glory of God by the Williamsons to celebrate Luke and Ryan's birthdays.

Christ in Our Home devotional booklets for Oct/Nov/Dec are here. Large and regular print copies are available at the top of the stairs by the parking lot entrance. Copies have been mailed to our homebound members, but if you also want one mailed to you or a someone you know, please contact Deborah in the office at 440-331-1773.

Good Soil Calendar				
Date	Event	Time		
Sun, Sept 25	Sun, Sept 25 Season of Creation Universe Sunday			
	In Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 a.m.		
	Sunday School Resumes!	10:30 a.m.		
	Coffee Hour	10:30 a.m.		
Sat, Oct 1	Ladies' Breakfast – Gene's Place	9:00 a.m.		
Sun, Oct 2	Stewardship Campaign kickoff: "Everyday	9:30 a.m.		
	Saints"	10:30 a.m.		
	In Person and Livestream Worship	10:30 a.m.		
	Sunday School			
	Coffee Hour			
Thurs, Oct 6	Confirmation Class at Bethesda on the Bay	5:30 p.m.		
	on Wolf Rd in Bay Village			
Sun, Oct 9	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 a.m.		
	Sunday School	10:30 a.m.		
	Coffee Hour	10:30 a.m.		
Tues, Oct 11	GS Executive Team Meeting	7:30 p.m.		