

Good Soil Lutheran Ministries
Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve



4th Sunday after Pentecost
June 25, 2023
9:30 am



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Rocky River, OH 44116
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The Rev. Marissa Harrison
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Website: GoodSoilLutheran.org
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Instagram: [goodsoilchurch](https://www.instagram.com/goodsoilchurch)
YouTube: [Good Soil Lutheran Ministries](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

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 "prayerground" 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. Children may commune with elements or receive a blessing depending on parent/guardian preference. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice 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.

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Story is a part of our universal experience as human beings. Our stories are all a part of God's larger story—of life, of redemption, of hope. Today we hear from Pastor Jim Kulma as he shares his gift of biblical storytelling. God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world, continuing the story of Christ's never-ending love for all.

Gathering

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

Prelude

Welcome

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 greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.

**We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked the courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of † Jesus Christ.
Amen.

† Gathering Hymn: How Firm a Foundation ELW 796

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."
- 3 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."
- 4 "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.


The assembly is greeted with words used by Paul in 2nd 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.

† Kyrie

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

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

† Prayer of the Day

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Word

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

Biblical Storytelling from The Rev. Jim Kulma

† Hymn of the Day: Lord of All Hopefulness ELW 765

- 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy:
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
- 2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
- 3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
- 4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901-1953
Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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

*Each petition
addresses a
different topic,
often in the
same pattern:*

*+ The Church
+ Creation
+ Nations and
leaders
+ Those in need
+ This faith
community
+ The great
cloud of
witnesses/those
now resting
with God*

† Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

Remind us, O God, that our stories are all a part of your wider story. Empower us to share the good news of Christ's death and resurrection, that we are compelled to share this life-giving story with all the world. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**


Safeguard plant and animal habitats threatened by melting glaciers, rising oceans, and receding coastlines. Amplify the voices of those calling for responsible stewardship of the earth's resources. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Rescue your people in nations experiencing conflict or crisis. Thwart the efforts of those who sow chaos and terror, and guide those working to bring about peace and reconciliation. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Reassure anyone experiencing poverty, homelessness, unemployment, or exploitation. Assist all who struggle especially Peter, Helen, Andrew, Martha and Jamie, Willie, Char, Marlon, Rich, Dick and Joan, Marie, Anna, Patricia, Jeanette, Archer, Steve, Khams and his people and family in Manipur, India, ... and all those we name aloud or silently in our hearts. Answer us, for your steadfast love is good. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Lift up anyone who feels shunned or excluded on account of their gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or any other human distinction. Make your people one. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

All who have died with Christ also live with him. We give thanks for all the saints whose faithful confession inspired our own

	<p>discipleship, and raise us, with them, to eternal life. God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.</p> <p>Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.</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>† Passing of the Peace</p> <p>The Peace of Christ be with you always And also with you.</p> <p><i>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.</i></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 style="text-align: center;"><u>The Meal</u> <i>God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.</i></p> <p>Offering</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 www.goodsoillutheran.org/support or by using this QR code:</p> <p><i>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.</i></p> 
<p><i>The offering is brought forward to the altar to signify our gratitude</i></p>	<p>† Offering Hymn: We Are an Offering ELW 692</p> <p>We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You;</p>

*for God's
blessings.*

we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices,
Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are Yours;
we are an offering.

All that we have
All that we are
All that we hope to be
We give to You
We give to You

We lift our voices
We lift our hands
We lift our lives up to You
We are an offering
We are an offering

† Offering Prayer

God of field and forest, sea and sky,
you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,
that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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.

† Preface

† Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

† Words of Institution

*The Lord's
Prayer is Jesus'
response to his
disciples when
they asked him
to teach them
how to pray.*

† Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus first taught us:

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.

† Invitation to the Table

All people are called to Christ's table.
Come, eat what is good. **Amen.**

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. Children are welcome to come to the Lord's table for communion or for a blessing, depending on parent/guardian's preference.

When you receive the elements, you are invited to respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God."

Please wait for the usher to release your row before proceeding up front. You are invited to stand or kneel at the altar rail.

Gluten-free bread is available upon request. The wine (red) is in the outer rings of the tray, the grape juice (white) is in the center. Communion cups can be returned at the end tables on your way back to your seat.

Communion Hymn: Come, Ye Disconsolate ELW 607

- 1 Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish;
come to the mercy-seat, fervently kneel.
Here bring your wounded hearts,
here tell your anguish;
earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot heal.
- 2 Joy of the desolate, light of the straying,

hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure;
here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,
"Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot cure."

- 3 Here see the Bread of life; see waters flowing
forth from the throne of God, pure from above.
Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing
earth has no sorrow but heav'n can remove.

Text: Thomas Moore, 1779-1852, sts. 1-2; Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872, st. 3

† 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 sends us in mission to the world.

† Blessing

The God who calls across the cosmos
and speaks in the smallest seed
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you
now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

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

† Sending Hymn: Will You Come and Follow Me ELW 798

- 1 "Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?"

- 2 "Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?"
- 3 "Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?"
- 4 "Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"
- 5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The dismissal sends us out as Christ's Body—fed, nourished, and ready to serve. Worship has ended, and our service begins! The dismissal is based on Good Soil's Purpose Statement.

† Dismissal

Go in peace as the people of Good Soil:
Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve!

Postlude

Coffee Hour is currently paused for the summer.

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Today's Worship Servants:

Presiding: Rev. Jim Kulma	Reader: JoAnne Wancata
Ushers: Barbara Demko-Werner Alexandra and Amanda Inman	Counters: Jessica Berkshire Barbara Munch
Online Usher: Kathy Berkshire	Acolyte: Alexandra Inman
Livestream: Jessica Berkshire	



Announcements from Good Soil Sunday, June 25, 2023

For those in need of healing, comfort, or strength: Peter Alexander, Helen Andrews, Andrew Evatt, Martha and Jamie Lanter, Willie Lee, Char Mattson, Marlon Naylor, Archer Oster, Steve Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Dick and Joan Schlupe, Marie Sternad, Anna Sykaluk, Patricia Wancata, Jeanette Weidlich, and Khams Zotal and his family and people of Manipur India.

For those celebrating their baptism:

Vivienne Smith (Jun 26)

The flowers adorning the altar today are presented to the glory of God in memory of Sunny Christensen, by his daughter Joy Christensen.

Food ministry volunteer opportunities to help feed our neighbors:

- 1) New Covenant (1424 Hayden Ave, Cleveland) - on the fourth Saturday from 8am-12pm, through August. Please bring in extra plastic bags to help support this ministry or place in the bin in the upstairs hallway. Upcoming dates: July 22, August 26
- 2) Trinity Lutheran at Lakewood Congregational Church (1375 W Clifton Blvd, Lakewood) - on the third Saturday from 9am-12pm, through November. Upcoming dates: July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 18

Please welcome Good Soil's new Church Administrator Cara Rovella! Cara began serving this past week in the church office. She graduated from CSU with her Bachelor's of Music in Vocal Performance and most recently served as school secretary at Stepstone Academy in Cleveland. We are grateful for her gifts and experience! The church office email address will continue to be admin@goodsoillutheran.org. Please consider dropping off or mailing cards of welcome (or emails of welcome) to her at the church office. Welcome Cara!

Calendar of Events		
Date	Event	Time
Sun, Jun 25	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Sat, Jul 1	Ladies' Breakfast – Gene's Place	9:00 am
Sun, Jul 2	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Tues, Jul 4	Independence Day – Office Closed	
Sat, Jul 8	Northeast Ohio Synod Anti-Racist Zoom Mtg	10:30 am