

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



11th Sunday after Pentecost
August 13th, 2023
9:30 am



20300 Hilliard Blvd
Rocky River, OH 44116
(440) 331-1773

The Rev. Marissa Harrison
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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.

11th Sunday after Pentecost

When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God’s presence to others.

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: Eternal Father Strong to Save - ELW 756**

- 1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
- 2 O Savior, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm didst sleep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
- 3 O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
and bid its angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
- 4 O Trinity of love and pow'r,
all trav'lers guard in danger's hour
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825-1878, 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 (v. 1, 2, 4)

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,



Refrain

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

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

† Prayer of the Day

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your children from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The Word

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

First Reading: Romans 10:8b-15

To put this reading into context:

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation of Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in Jesus. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

Hear now the reading.

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have

never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

We welcome the gospel by singing the Gospel Acclamation. We rise, if able, in anticipation of Christ being revealed to us through the Living Word of the Gospel.

† Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Before and after the reading of the Gospel, we give thanks and praise to Jesus Christ, who is revealed to us through the Gospel reading.

† Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

To put this gospel reading into context:

Matthew’s gospel typically portrays Jesus’ disciples as people of “little faith,” who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

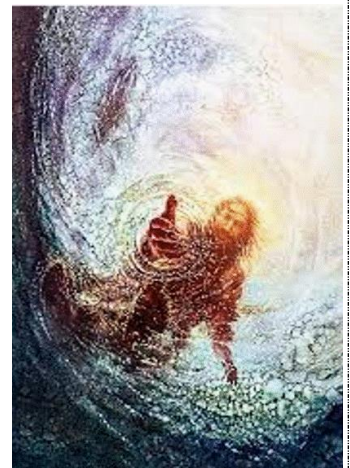
Children’s Sermon

Sermon: The Rev. Marissa Harrison

Silence for Reflection.

*Thinking theologically is a spiritual practice.
You’re invited to reflect on the following
question:*

*What motivated Peter to think he could
get out of the boat? What would have to
happen in order for you to feel like that?
What shape does “stepping out of the
boat” take in your life this week?*



† Hymn of the Day: What a Friend We Have in Jesus - ELW 742

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear--
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

*As the church,
we pray for
those in our
community
and around the
world. The
prayers are*

† Prayers of Intercession

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

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*

God of grace, your faithfulness is never-ending, and your righteousness becomes ours through Christ Jesus. Send the church to proclaim the gospel both near and far, in church buildings and on street corners, in person and through digital means. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**


God of sky and sea, the plants, animals, mountains, and plains proclaim your glory. Prosper the work of ecologists as they teach us new ways to care for the environment. Bring relief to areas recovering from natural disasters and wildfires, especially Canada and Hawaii. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of peace and justice, you call us to live as your beloved community throughout the world. Instill in local, regional, national, and global political and civic leaders a desire to work for the well-being of all people. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of care and compassion, you bring assurance when we are afraid. Bring calm to any who are anxious or fearful. Bless the work of therapists, nurses, and other health care providers. Comfort all who grieve and soothe any who are sick. Today we especially pray for: Peter, Helen, Andrew, Martha and Jamie, Willie, Char, Keyla, Marlon, Rich, Marie, Anna, Jeanette, Jane, Archer, Steve, Dick and family and friends of Joan in the wake of her recent passing, Khams and his people and family in Manipur, India, ... and all those we name aloud or silently in our hearts. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, you send people to renew both church and society. We give you thanks for their lives of faithful service as examples of following your call. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

<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></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><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 for God's blessings.</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; we are an offering.</p> <p>Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours; we are an offering.</p>

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

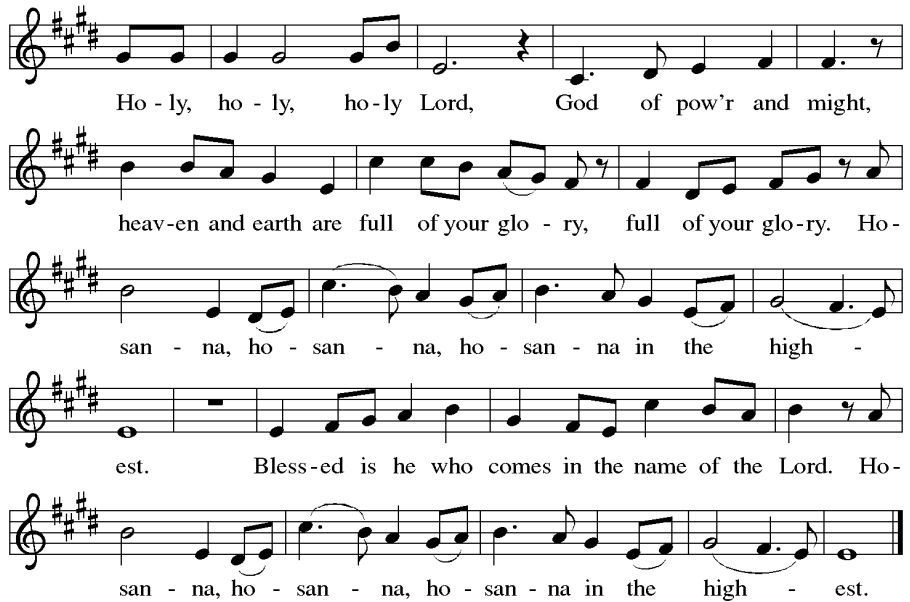
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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: 10,000 Reasons - Matt Redman

Refrain

Bless the Lord oh my soul
Oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name

The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
When the evening comes *Refrain*

You're rich in love
And You're slow to anger
Your name is great
And Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness
I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons
For my heart to find *Refrain*

Bless You Lord

And on that day
When my strength is failing
The end draws near
And my time has come
Still my soul will
Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years
And then forevermore
Forevermore *Refrain (x2)*

Yes I'll worship Your Holy name
I'll worship Your Holy name

Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name
Jesus I will worship Your Holy name
Worship Your Holy name

† 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 and Godspeed for Julia Alexander

† 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: My Life Flows On In Endless Song - ELW 763

1 My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

2 Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

3 What though my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. *Refrain*

4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,

a fountain ever springing!
 All things are mine since I am his!
 How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

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:

Livestream: Trey Harrison	Reader: Barbara Munch
Ushers: Kim Wylie Darlene Wahl	Counters: Becky Williamson Barbara Munch
Online Usher: Dave Blocksom	Acolyte: Luke Williamson



Announcements from Good Soil Sunday, August 13th, 2023

For those in need of healing, comfort, or strength: Peter Alexander, Helen Andrews, Andrew Evatt, Martha and Jamie Lanter, Willie Lee, Char Mattson, Keyla Mercado, Marlon Naylor, Archer Oster, Steve Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Dick Schluep and family and friends of Joan in the wake of her passing, Marie Sternad, Anna Sykaluk, Jeanette Weidlich, Jane Welsh, and Khams Zotal and his family and people of Manipur, India.

For those celebrating their birthday: John Shumaker (8/19).

For those celebrating the anniversary of their baptism: David David (8/14) and Pr. Marissa Harrison (8/19).

The flowers adorning the altar today are given to the Glory of God by Paula Maeder Connor.

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.* **Final** date: 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: August 19, September 16, October 21, and November 18.

RIC Brunch and Conversation – Join us for brunch after worship TODAY to learn about the RIC (“Reconciling in Christ”) process and have conversation together about what it means to be a welcoming faith community. We’ll share stories of welcome from our own lives and hear firsthand from folks from Trinity who have gone through that RIC process before. RIC = a process/training churches can go through to earn a designation as a safe and welcoming faith community for LGBTQIA+ and people of color. Good Soil is exploring beginning that process in 2024.

Julia Alexander’s Last Sunday is Today – It has been a joy and blessing to have Julia with us as our Worship & Music Coordinator since May of 2021! Help us to wish her Godspeed on her next chapter ahead. Cards of thanks and gifts of appreciation for her can be mailed to:

Julia Alexander
 280 Marcho Rd
 Etna, ME 04434

Worship Servant Training/Info session 8/20 – There are many ways to serve in worship and share your spiritual gifts with this faith community. You’re invited to attend an information session/training on the various worship servant roles (reader, greeter, usher, livestream operator, communion bread baker, etc.) as well as how to become familiar with Good Soil’s Ministry Scheduler Pro platform (using the scheduling platform is not required in order to serve, but many people find it helpful). If you have served in the past, thank you! You are strongly encouraged to attend for a refresher and updates for the 2023-2024 program year.

Suburban Cooperative Nursery School is currently enrolling 3 and 4 yr olds for the fall school year. For more information, please email suburbancoop@gmail.com, call 440-331-9929, or visit the website at <http://www.suburbancooperative.com>

Calendar of Events		
Date	Event	Time
Sun, Aug 13	In-Person and Livestream Worship (Julia’s last Sunday)	9:30 am
Sun, Aug 13	RIC Brunch and Conversation	10:30 am
Sun, Aug 20	In-Person and Livestream Worship (including Back to School Blessing)	9:30 am
Sun, Aug 20	Worship Servant Training/Info Session	10:30 am
Thurs, Aug 24	In-Person Council Mixer / Council Meeting	6:00 pm
Sat, Aug 26	Produce Giveaway (last one in 2023) at New Covenant	8:00 am