

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



12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 20th, 2023
9:30 am



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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. 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.

12th Sunday after Pentecost

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

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: All Are Welcome - ELW 641

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain*

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain*

- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain*
- 5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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*The assembly is
greeted with
words used by
Paul in 2nd
Corinthians to
greet churches.
The assembly also
greet 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,



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

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The Word

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

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

To put this reading into context:

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

Hear now the reading.

¹Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;


for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

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: Matthew 15:10, 17-28

To put this gospel reading into context:

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

*Gospel
reading.*

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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:

How have you grown in your understanding of the “wideness” of God’s mercy or what “welcome” means to you? What has changed for you over the course of your journey in understanding what it means to be affirming of all people with the unconditional love of God? Who helped to inspire that transformation in you?

† Hymn of the Day: My Faith Looks Up to Thee - ELW 759, v. 1-3

- 1 My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away,
oh, let me from this day
be wholly thine!
- 2 May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me,
oh, may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire!
- 3 While life's dark maze I tread
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,

nor let me ever stray
from thee aside.

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

*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

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.

O God, your Spirit gathers the church. Breathe life into ecumenical and inter-religious endeavors, and support missionaries throughout the globe. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You created the earth and all its inhabitants and declared it good. Clean polluted skies, seas, and soil, provide nourishment to plants and animals, and make us aware of our impact on the environment. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call leaders to bridge differences and practice generosity. Inspire all in authority to protect people in harm's way, deliver those in bondage, support fair elections, provide care for military personnel and veterans, and show mercy to those for whom they have responsibility. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You provide for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Embrace people who have been rejected because of difference, heal trauma caused by racism or prejudice, shield any who are persecuted, console the dying, and heal the 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 wonder, you accompany us in both joys and sorrows. We pray for children and adults preparing for a new school year. Make your presence known in our work and play, in lively conversation and in quiet rest. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for those who now rest from their labors. Motivate us by their lives of dedication to the gospel, until that day when we join with them in our eternal home. 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.**

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.

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

The Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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 today at www.goodsoillutheran.org/support or by using this QR code:

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.



If you would like to contribute to the love offering for Maui, enter your donation amount on the Lutheran Disaster Response line and indicate Maui in the memo box.

The offering is brought forward to the altar to signify our gratitude for God's blessings.

† Offering Hymn: We Are an Offering – ELW 692

We lift our voices,
we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to You;
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

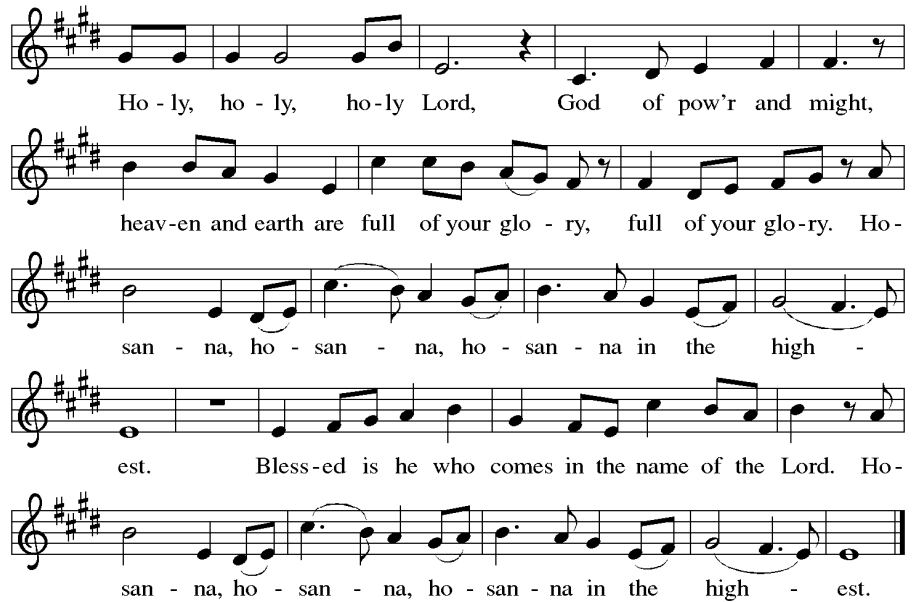
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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: One Bread One Body - ELW 496

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. Refrain
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. Refrain
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939 Text © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

† 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.

Back to School Blessing

† 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: Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing - ELW 886
v. 1, 3, 4

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

3 The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace.

4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

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: Sean Lanter	Reader: Abbie Blocksom
Ushers: Stan Zeager Joan Zeager	Counters: Joe Lanter Michael Wancata
Online Usher: Dave Blocksom	Acolyte: TJ Lanter



**Announcements from Good Soil
Sunday, August 20th, 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: Alexandra Inman, Amanda Inman, and Larry Jacobson (8/21).

For those celebrating the anniversary of their baptism: Cadence Mattson (8/21) and David Connor (8/26).

The flowers adorning the altar today are given to the Glory of God in honor of Larry Jacobson's birthday.

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: September 16, October 21, and November 18.

Worship Servant Training/Info session TODAY – 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.

Love Offering for Maui – The wildfires on Maui have been the deadliest in all of the United States in over a century. For the next three weeks, Good Soil will be collecting love offerings for Lutheran Disaster Response's efforts in Maui. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. They will work in collaboration to provide for immediate needs and recovery amid the widespread destruction. Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to accompanying recovering communities in the years ahead. 100% of donations go directly to help relief efforts for the wildfires.

The Season of Creation Begins in September - The Season of Creation is an annual global movement where Christian communities pray and act to care for God's creation, beginning September 1. During September, each Sunday will be themed around an aspect of nature.

- September 3rd will be Forest Sunday
- September 10th Will be Land Sunday*
- September 17th will be River Sunday
- September 27th will be Wilderness Sunday

**Land Sunday will be outdoor worship; thus, it will not be livestreamed.*

Gather Together - "Tavern Talk" on August 31st - Bethany's Gather Together group, along with other West Side ELCA young adults, will host our next event on August 31 at 6:30 pm at Brewdog (1956 Carter Rd, Cleveland). As the event name suggests, we'll use this time not only to socialize but to explore our faith through discussion and a unique spiritual practice. Gather Together is a self-organized young adult group focused on building affirming community through meaningful engagement with one another, with God, and with our wider world. Brewdog offers a family-friendly environment and provides a wide selection of both alcoholic and non-alcoholic refreshments. Contact Mary.Washburn@outlook.com for questions.

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 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	Council Mixer/Meeting @ Good Soil	6:00 pm
Sat, Aug 26	Produce Giveaway (last one in 2023) at New Covenant	8:00 am
Sun, Aug 27	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Thurs, Aug 31	Gather Together Tavern Talk @ Brewdog	6:30 pm