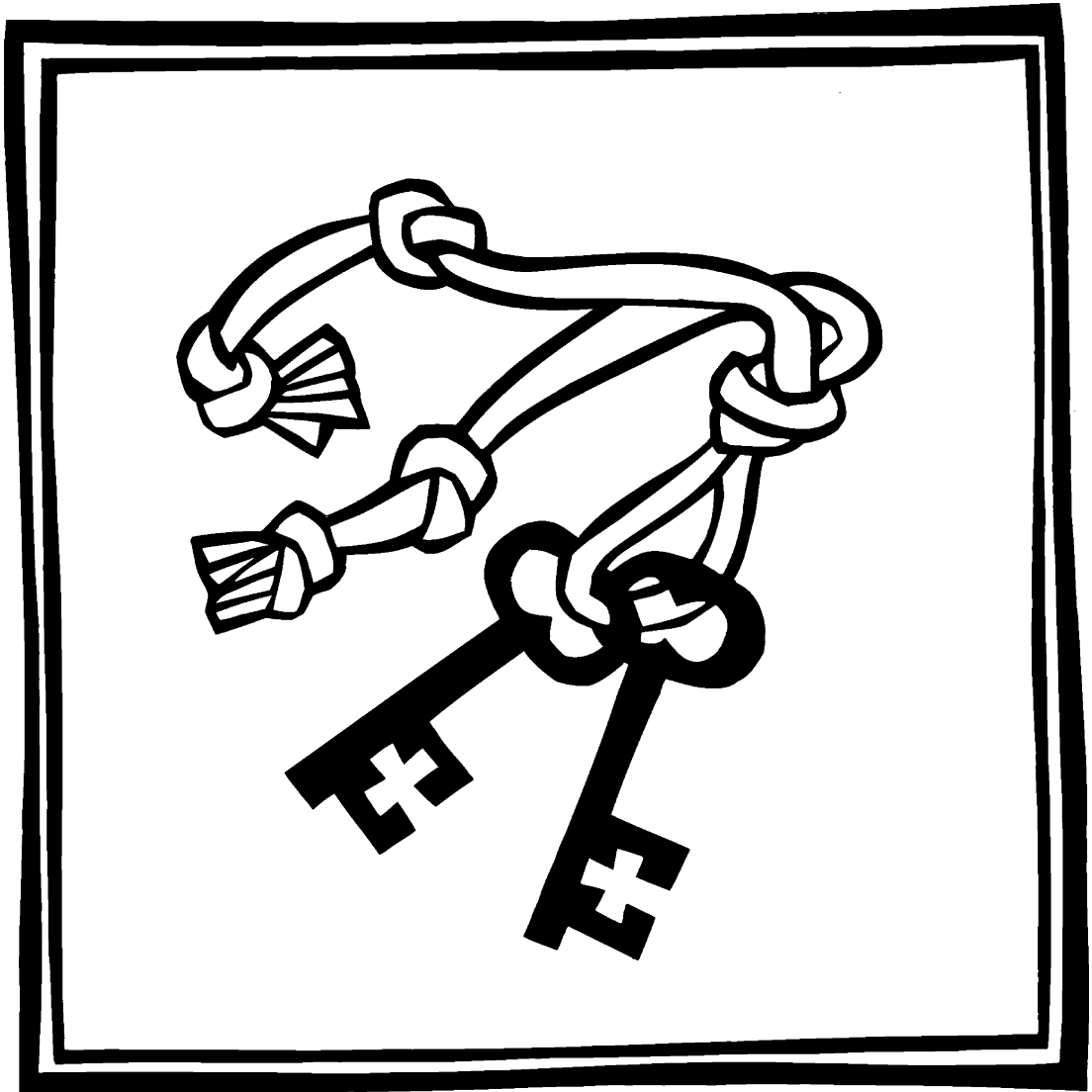


Good Soil Lutheran Ministries
Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve



13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 27th, 2023
9:30 am



20300 Hilliard Blvd
Rocky River, OH 44116
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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.

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

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: Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation - ELW 645
v. 1, 2, & 4**

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ, our head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever
and our confidence alone.

2 To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your lovingkindness,
hear your people as they pray;
and your fullest benediction
shed within these walls today.

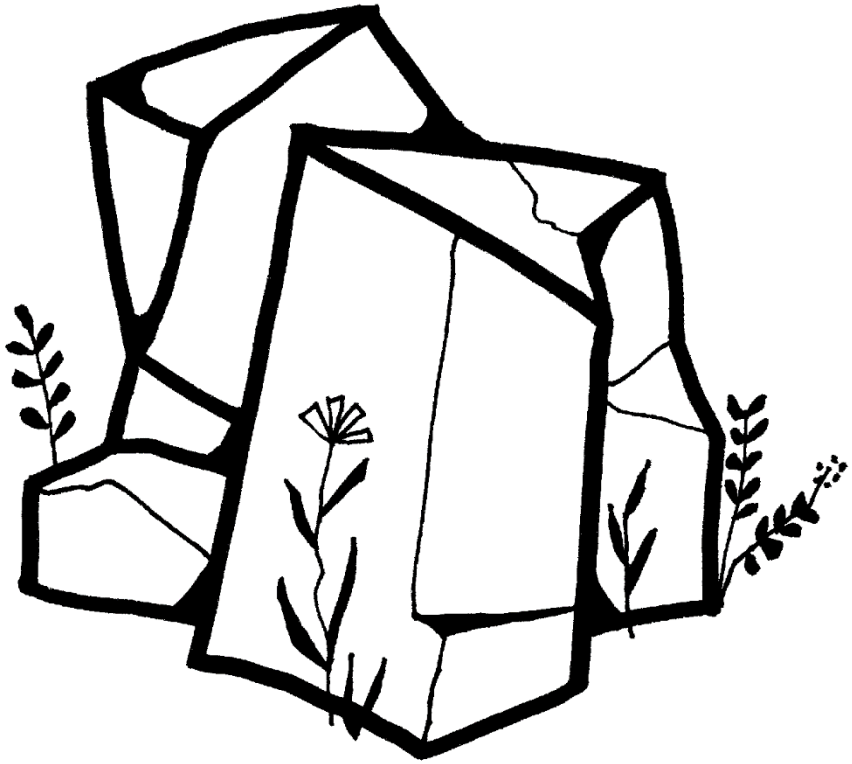
4 Praise and honor to the Father,
praise and honor to the Son,
praise and honor to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory
while unending ages run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, 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, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The Word

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

First Reading: Romans 12:1-8

To put this reading into context:

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

Hear now the reading.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God— what is good and acceptable and complete.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are

members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the encourager, in encouraging; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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 16:13-20

To put this gospel reading into context:

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

*Gospel
reading.*

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

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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:

Peter witnesses to the life-giving God he has experienced through Jesus. How have you observed or experienced Jesus? Who do you understand him to be? What role is he playing in your life? What difference does that make for you?

† Hymn of the Day: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less - ELW 596
v. 1, 2, & 4

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

- 2 When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

- 4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

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

† 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.

God of our ancestors, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that unites us as one family of faith. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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*

Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness, especially Hawaii. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance where there is oppression. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**


Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize us as a congregation so we may be transformed in sharing your grace. We also pray for the upcoming process of interviewing for a new Worship and Music Coordinator at Good Soil. Receive our Prayer, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You provide for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Today we especially pray for: Peter, Helen, Andrew, Martha and Jamie, Willie, Char, Keyla, Marlon, Rich, Marie, Anna, Jeanette, Jane, Archer, Steve, Dick, 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 all the saints, death is overcome in Christ's resurrection. We rejoice with the faithful departed. Sustain us in hope until we at last see you face to face. 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>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.</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,</p>

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: The Church's One Foundation – ELW 654

- 1 The church's one foundation
 is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
 she is his new creation
 by water and the word.
 From heav'n he came and sought her
 to be his holy bride;
 with his own blood he bought her,
 and for her life he died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
 yet one o'er all the earth,

her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

4 Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

† **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: Rise, Shine, You People! - ELW 665**

1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.

2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
he brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
now are forgiven.

3 Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
of Jesus' glory.

4 Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
God's new creation.

	Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt. Text © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
<i>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.</i>	† 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: Michael Wancata	Reader: JoAnne Wancata
Ushers: Sharon Hollowell Amanda Inman	Counters: Ellen Young Michael Wancata
Online Usher: Kim Wylie	Acolyte: Ryan Williamson



Announcements from Good Soil Sunday, August 27th, 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, Marie Sternad, Anna Sykaluk, Jeanette Weidlich, Jane Welsh, and Khams Zotal and his family and people of Manipur, India.

For those celebrating their birthday: Charlotte Meyer (9/1), William Meyer (9/2), Donna Michalski (9/2), and Barbara Munch (9/2).

For those celebrating the anniversary of their baptism: TJ Lanter (8/31) and Jason Mattson (8/31).

For those celebrating their anniversary: Alin and Sarah Sburlea (8/29) and David Connor and Paula Maeder Connor (9/1).

Food ministry volunteer opportunities to help feed our neighbors: 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.

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. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket with you for worship. And grab some invitations to hand out to friends, neighbors, and colleagues to invite them to worship with you!*

20's & 30's "Tavern Talk" on August 31st – ELCA West Side 20's & 30's group "Gather Together" will host its next event on August 31 at 6:30 pm at Brewdog (1956 Carter Rd, Cleveland). We'll enjoy fellowship and 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 27	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Thurs, Aug 31	Gather Together 20's & 30's Tavern Talk @ Brewdog	6:30 pm
Sat, Sept 2	Ladies' Breakfast @ Gene's Place to Dine	9:00 am
Sun, Sept 3	In-Person and Livestream Worship: Season of Creation begins! – Forest Sunday & Tithe Giveaway to Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio	9:30 am
Mon, Sept 4	Labor Day – Church Office Closed	
Sat, Sept 9	ELCA Anti-Racist Zoom Meeting	10:30 am
Sun, Sept 10	Season of Creation – Land Sunday Outdoor Worship (not livestreamed) & Outdoor Coffee Hour	9:30 am