

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



18th Sunday after Pentecost
October 1st, 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.

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. In the 1st reading, when God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

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 God,
the one who forms us,
† Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice,

yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

† **Gathering Hymn: Take My Life That I May Be - ELW 583**
(v. 1-3)

Refrain

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

1 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain*

- 2 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain*
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee. *Refrain*

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adap.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955

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.



† Hymn of Praise: Glory Be to God in Heaven, v. 1



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, throned on high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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

† Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Word

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

First Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

To put this reading into context:

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

Hear now the reading.

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when

dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

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: Celtic Alleluia – ELW 174**

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

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

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

† **Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16**

To put this gospel reading into context:

Jesus tells a parable about God’s generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

*revealed to us
through the
Gospel
reading.*

The holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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:

When have you experienced abundance you did not deserve? Or, when have you been on the receiving end of unexpected generosity? What impact did that have on you? How was God present?

† 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

† **Apostle's Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

*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**

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for
the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops,
pastors, deacons, and lay leaders the gifts of wisdom and
discernment. Be with them in bold truth and faithful witness.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*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*

Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**


Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way including on this day: Peter, Helen, Jane, Carl, Phyllis, Andrew, Joe, Willie, Pat, Char, Keyla, Marlon, Rich, Marie, Anna, Jeanette, Archer, Steve, Dick, Khams and his people and family in Manipur, India, ... and all those we name aloud or silently in our hearts. Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Teach us your ways of abundance and generosity. Help us to steward your blessings with giving and compassionate hearts, especially for our neighbors in need. We pray for the ministry of Trials for Hope. Unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who died in faith, with their hope placed in your salvation. Keep us certain of your resurrection. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

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 above, but don't take a picture. A link will appear to take you to our 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: Let the Vineyards be Fruitful Lord - ELW 184</p> <p>Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.</p> <p><small>Text © 1978 <i>Lutheran Book of Worship</i>, admin. Augsburg Fortress.</small></p>

† Offering Prayer

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.
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-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

	<p>† Words of Institution</p>
<p><i>The Lord's Prayer is Jesus' response to his disciples when they asked him to teach them how to pray.</i></p>	<p>† Lord's Prayer</p> <p>Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus first taught us:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Amen.</p>
	<p>† Invitation to the Table</p> <p>Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.</p> <p>Amen.</p>
	<p>Communion</p> <p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>When you receive the elements, you are invited to respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God."</i></p> <p><i>Please wait for the usher to release your row before proceeding up front. You are invited to stand or kneel at the altar rail.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>

Communion Hymns

Give Me Jesus - ELW 770

1 In the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise,
give me Jesus.

Refrain

Give me Jesus,
give me Jesus.
You may have all the rest,
give me Jesus.

2 Dark midnight was my cry,
dark midnight was my cry,
dark midnight was my cry,
give me Jesus. *Refrain*

3 Just about the break of day,
just about the break of day,
just about the break of day,
give me Jesus. *Refrain*

4 Oh, when I come to die,
oh, when I come to die,
oh, when I come to die,
give me Jesus. *Refrain*

5 And when I want to sing,
and when I want to sing,
and when I want to sing,
give me Jesus. *Refrain*

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy - ELW 587

- 1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment giv'n.
- 2 There is welcome for the sinner,
and a promised grace made good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.
- 3 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make this love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.
- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Jesus;
it is something more than all:
greater good because of evil,
larger mercy through the fall.
Make our love, O God, more faithful;
let us take you at your word,

and our lives will be thanksgiving
for the goodness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt

† **Post-Communion Table Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

† **Presentation of Multiplying Ministry Check to Trials for Hope**

The Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

† **Blessing**

The God of glory,
‡ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

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

† **Sending Hymn: The Lord Now Sends Us Forth - ELW 538**

The Lord now sends us forth
with hands to serve and give,
to make of all the earth
a better place to live. *Repeat*

The angels are not sent
into our world of pain
to do what we were meant
to do in Jesus' name;

that falls to you and me
and all who are made free.
Help us, O Lord, we pray,
to do your will today. *Repeat*

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 English text © 1998 Augsburg Fort.

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. God is at work in you.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

You are warmly invited to gather in the upstairs lounge area for coffee fellowship immediately following worship.

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Today's Worship Servants:

Livestream: Michael Wancata	Reader: Bill Fink
Ushers: Sharon Hollowell Amanda Inman	Counters: Barbara Munch Michael Wancata
Online Usher: Kathy Berkshire	Acolyte: Alexandra Inman



Announcements from Good Soil for Sunday, Sept 24, 2023

For those in need of healing, comfort, or strength: Peter Alexander, Helen Andrews, Jane Beese, Carl Bruns, Phyllis Clapper, Andrew Evatt, Willie Lee, Pat Lukas, Char Mattson, Keyla Mercado, Marlon Naylor, Archer Oster, Steve Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Dick Schluep, Marie Sternad, Anna Sykaluk, Jeanette Weidlich, Khams Zotal and his family and people of Manipur, India.

For those celebrating their anniversary: Bill and Darlene Wahl (10/6), and William and Charlotte Meyer (10/7).

For those celebrating the anniversary of their baptism: Brenna Connor (10/1).

For those celebrating their birthday: Loxi Verdova (10/3), Otto Mitterholzer (10/4), and Bill Fink (10/5).

The flowers adorning the altar today are given to the Glory of God in memory of Dorothy Wallace.

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 on October 21 and November 18. *Please bring in extra plastic bags to help support this ministry or place in the bin in the upstairs hallway.*

Online Flower Sign-Up- Interested in signing up to adorn Christ's altar with flowers for worship? Now you can sign up online! Scan the QR code to the next page to access the sign-up sheet!

Please note: The physical flower sign-up sheet is still in effect on the bulletin board at the church and outranks the digital one. Best efforts will be made to ensure the digital calendar reflects the physical one, but if you happen to digitally sign up for a date that is already taken on the physical sheet, you will be contacted about rescheduling. A digital calendar may be viewed via a link in the sign-up sheet.



Growing in Faith courses - Beginning this Fall the Northeastern Ohio Synod will be offering courses for lay people who want to be more deeply rooted and grounded in love. These courses (such as worship, Old and New Testament, Lutheran theology, etc.) will be taught by pastors and offered online throughout the Fall. You can read more about the classes and register for them by using the QR code to the right.



Newsletter- Want to keep up with the latest Good Soil news? Sign up for our newsletter *Seeds* with this URL: <https://tinyurl.com/bddjk7yp> or the QR code to the left.

Coffee Fellowship Returns Today! - Fellowship over coffee returns to the first-floor kitchenette space with seating in the lounge following worship **today!** Please consider volunteering to host and/or provide healthy snacks or baked goods.



Volunteers can sign-up using Ministry Scheduler Pro, the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board outside of the Lounge, or by contacting the church office.

Coffee volunteers aren't expected to provide snacks or baked goods – but can if they would like. Anyone can donate ready to serve healthy snacks or baked goods. Please use the sign-up sheet in the hallway or <https://secure.rotundasoftware.com/30/enrollment/goodsoil> to let others know your plans. You may also use the QR code to the left. **Questions about hosting/volunteering? Stop in for Fellowship TODAY to see our new Coffeemaker system (thank you Tom Molnar!) and ask any questions.**

Community Pet Blessing with Pr. Marissa, 10/14 at 3pm: Our animal friends reflect the unconditional love of God for us in so many ways. Pastor Marissa will be officiating a Community Pet Blessing service on West Clinton Ave (near where Steve Brocker used to live and where Pr. Marissa currently lives). Bring your pets for a fun, meaningful 30min worship service where we will praise God and thank God for animal love. Each pet will also be blessed individually by Pr. Marissa. RSVP to pastormarissa@goodsoillutheran.org. Location coming soon.

Update for Families: Good Soil Sunday School to begin TODAY!

DURING WORSHIP

Pray Ground

A special place to worship in the sanctuary- while being a kid! In addition to books, crayons, small toys etc., a “casually intentional” group activity will be available.

“Learn and Grow” time for children Gr. 1 and younger during the sermon

Children move down the hall to a classroom after the Children’s Sermon. They return to the Sanctuary during the Passing of the Peace or Offering collection at the latest.

FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Sunday School for Grades 1 – 6 in Room 1

Junior Sunday School for Preschool/Kindergarten in Room 2

Multiplying Ministry Tithes- Today, Trials for Hope Executive Director Jonathan Gray is with Good Soil to accept the "multiplying ministry" tithe designated for TFH in the amount of **\$2,769!** We're grateful to be able to "multiply ministry" in meaningful ways because of the generosity and legacy gift of Gary Dennison. And we're grateful for the ministry of Trials for Hope! Jonathan will also be leading an adult forum after worship to share more about TFH. Hope to see you there!

Gather Together 20's and 30's event -- Dinner Church- The next Gather Together event will be a dinner church event on **October 14th at 5pm.** Over a meal and in community with one another, Dinner Church attendees follow an order of worship including prayers, readings, communion, discussion, and singing. RSVP to Pastor Marissa by October 8th. The main dinner (a taco bar!) will be provided, but help with sides, toppings, salads, desserts, and drinks would be helpful! If you would like to bring something, please mention what you’d like to bring when you RSVP.

Acolyte Training - The word “acolyte” comes from a Greek word that means helper or companion. When you serve as an acolyte you are helping people feel a sense of God’s presence with the light of Christ in worship. Acolytes help set a joyful and

reverent tone for worship and bring a sense of celebration and anticipation to the service. Children from 2nd grade through 8th grade and their guardians are invited to attend acolyte training on **October 15th after Sunday School**. Training is required for new acolytes or anyone who hasn't attended formal acolyte training before, but returning acolytes are encouraged to attend for a refresher.

Good Soil members Laura and Shawn O'Neil discovered the faith community of Good Soil through our online services. Both of them live with significant visual impairment. On New Year's Day 2023, they took a big leap of faith and attended Good Soil in-person for the first time. Since then, they've grown in faith and relationships here with this community. We've been so grateful for the group of volunteers who have been willing to drive them to worship each week in a rotation since neither of them drive and public transportation can be challenging to rely on. Laura and Shawn have recently moved from Westlake to Lakewood, so we are looking for some additional people from our faith community to serve in that driving rotation (especially if you live in Cleveland or Lakewood). The O'Neil's new home is: 11820 Edgewater Dr., Apt 709, Lakewood, OH 44107. Laura and Shawn have shared that Good Soil lifts their spirits and helps them feel connected to God and others here, and they'd like to attend worship in-person every week, if possible.

If you are willing to participate in a ride rotation (once a month, once a quarter, even once a year), please email admin@goodsoillutheran.org and Cara will add you to the driving rotation. Thanks for your consideration and helping Good Soil to continue to be the welcoming community that we are!

Calendar of Events		
Date	Event	Time
Sun, Oct 1	In-Person and Livestream Worship & Tithe Giveaway to Trials for Hope	9:30 am
Sat, Oct 7	Ladies Breakfast @ Gene's Place to Dine	9:00 am
Sun, Oct 8	In-Person and Livestream Worship & Tithe Giveaway to Lutherans Restoring Creation	9:30 am
Mon, Oct 9	Indigenous Peoples' Day – Church Office Closed	
Sat, Oct 14	ELCA Anti-Racist Zoom Mtg	10:30 am
Sat, Oct 14	Community Pet Blessing	3:00 pm
Sat, Oct 14	Gather Together 20's and 30's Dinner Church	5:00 pm
Sun, Oct 15	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Sun, Oct 15	Acolyte Training	11:30 am