# Good Soil Lutheran Ministries

Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve



2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 9:30 am



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

# The Rev. Marissa Harrison pastormarissa@goodsoillutheran.org

Cell Phone: 813-494-6507

Church Administrator Cara Rovella admin@goodsoillutheran.org

Worship & Music Coordinator Brynna Bailer Mango brynnabailermango@gmail.com

Website: GoodSoilLutheran.org Facebook: goodsoillutheranministries

Instagram: goodsoilchurch

YouTube: Good Soil Lutheran Ministries

#### 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 are available upon request.

#### **Bulletin 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.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.				
	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.	Welcome † Confession and Forgiveness  Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.  Amen.  Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  Silence is kept for reflection.  God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you.  We have known you but have not always loved you.  We have wounded one another and sinned against you.  We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.  Remember your covenant.  Renew your creation.  Restore us,			
	that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.			

	The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved. Amen.
	† Gathering Hymn: Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult- ELW 696 v. 1, 3-5
	Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea, day by day his clear voice sounding, saying, "Christian, follow me":
	Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store, from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."
	In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."
	Jesus calls us! By your mercy, Savior, may we hear your call, give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.
71	Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895
The assembly is greeted with words used by Paul in 2 Corinth. to greet churches. The assembly also greets the presiding minister in return. It is a moment of mutuality signifying	† 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.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

trust, love, mutual service, and a shared hope in God.	
The Prayer of the Day highlights themes from the scripture readings we are about to hear.	† Prayer of the Day  Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  Amen.
	The Word
	God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.
	First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10
	To put this reading into context:
	At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the Lord comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.
	Hear now the reading.
	¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.  ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of
	the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. 8The LORD called Samuel

again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

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



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: John 1:43-51

To put this gospel reading into context:

In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."

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

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." <sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup>When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup>Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup>Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God!

You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup>And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

#### Children's Sermon

Children grade 1 and younger are invited to step out with one of our Sunday School teachers to join the "learn and grow in faith" class during the sermon. They will return during the Passing of the Peace. Sunday School classes for all children (nursery school – grade 6) meet after worship.

#### Sermon: The Rev. Marissa Harrison

Silence for Reflection.

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

Who has been an "Eli" for you in your walk of faith, someone who has helped you listen for and recognize the presence of God? How have you been an "Eli" for others? Who could you be a faith mentor for over the next few weeks?

# † Hymn of the Day: Will You Come and Follow Me - ELW 798

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

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

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

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

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let us be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all of the church's resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace, receive our prayer.

Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. We especially pray for leaders in war-torn areas such as Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Palestine, that peace will prevail. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration. We pray for especially, Helen, Carl, Pam, Tanya, family and friends of Betty, Joe, Frank & Vicki, Willie, Bill, Char, Rich, Jeanette, Archer, Steve, Dick, Khams and his people and family in Manipur, India, ... and all those we name aloud or in our hearts. God of grace, receive our prayer.

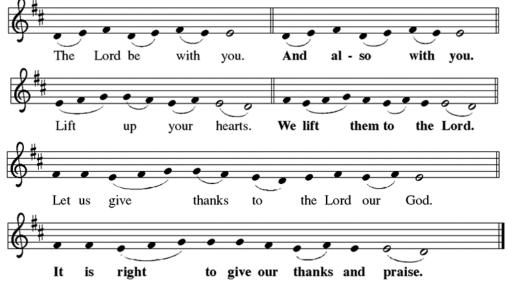
Give this congregation the anticipation and excitement of Samuel—inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, God of unity. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace, receive our prayer.

Trusting God who raised Jesus and will also raise us in spirit and truth, we remember all who have died and are at peace among the

saints, especially the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. whose faithful advocacy for peace and justice continues to embolden the church. God of grace, receive our prayer. Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen. A practice of the † Passing of the Peace ancient church. The Peace of Christ be with you always where we recognize Christ's And also with you. peace in one The people greet one another saying, "Peace" or "Peace be with another and share it together. 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. The Meal God entrusts us with everything God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ. we have. Our Offering offering is one way we give God's ministry through Good Soil makes a difference, thanks to God and your offering makes that possible. Help Good Soil and support the continue making an impact by giving today at ministry of the www.goodsoillutheran.org/support or by using the QR church. code to the right. 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. The offering is † Offering Hymn: Let the Vineyards be Fruitful Lord - ELW 184 brought forward Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, to the altar to signify our and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. gratitude for Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown. God's blessings. 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.

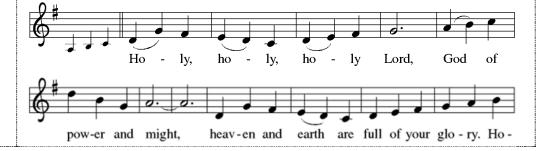
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

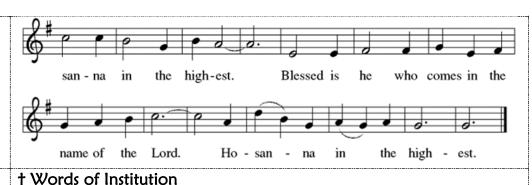
# † Offering Prayer Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen. † Great Thanksgiving



#### † Preface

# † Sanctus





#### T 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

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

#### 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: Take My Life that I May Be- ELW 583

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*
- 4 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine; take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. *Refrain*

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

#### Communion Hymn: Here I Am, Lord- ELW 574

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" Refrain

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" Refrain

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946 Text © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by 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.

#### † Blessing

God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
H bless you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Through the sending hymn	† Sending Hymn: Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak- ELW 676	
we are sent out into the world to follow Jesus.	Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in living echoes of your tone; as you have sought, so let us seek your straying children, lost and lone.	
	Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.	
	Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the precious truths which you impart; and wing our words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.	
	Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord, until our very hearts o'erflow in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.	
	Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, 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	† Dismissal Go in peace. You are God's beloved. Thanks be to God.	
Purpose Statement.	Postlude	
1	1 0311440	

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. Worship texts are from <u>sundaysandseasons.com</u>. Copyright 2024. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS020986 Music reprinted under One License #A-719034 or CCLI license #3013830. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

#### Today's Worship Servants:

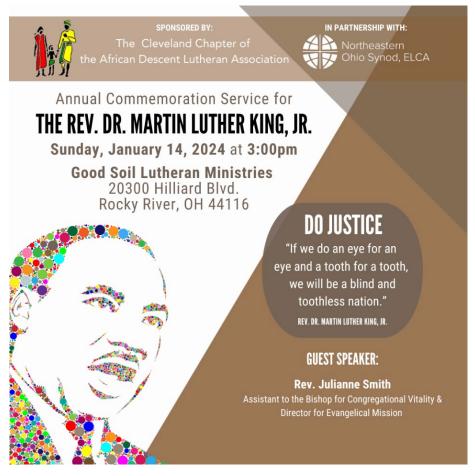
Livestream: Trey Harrison	Reader: Bryan McGucken
Ushers: Anne Paine & Dave Blocksom	Counters: Kirsten Reading & Ellen Young
Online Usher: Karen Sperli	Acolyte: Edith Young



# Announcements from Good Soil for Sunday, Jan 14th, 2023

For those in need of healing, comfort, or strength: Helen Andrews, Carl Bruns, Pam Bruns, Tanya Calcote, Joe Gray, Frank and Vicki, family and friends of Betty Holcomb, Willie Lee, Bill Leek, Char Mattson, Archer Oster, Steve Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Dick Schluep, Jeanette Weidlich, and Khams Zotal and his family and people of Manipur, India.

For those celebrating their birthday: Carl Bruns (1/17) and Jeanette Weidlich (1/20).



Blessing of RIC Team, 1/21- Next Sunday, we will be holding a blessing of the Reconciling in Christ team during worship. 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 will be engaging that process with bible studies, learning opportunities, small group discussions, and other congregational activities in 2024.

New Member Welcome 1/28- During worship on Sunday, January 28th, we will officially welcome anyone who wishes to become a member of Good Soil! Please submit new member form, photo, and introduction paragraph to <a href="mailto:admin@goodsoillutheran.org">admin@goodsoillutheran.org</a> by Sunday, Jan 21st. There will also be a new member orientation (adult forum) on Sunday, Jan 21st after worship. Please RSVP for the adult forum to <a href="mailto:pastormarissa@goodsoillutheran.org">pastormarissa@goodsoillutheran.org</a>

Altar Care Rotations- We are working to set up two altar care rotations: 1) to prepare/provide communion bread (monthly), and 2) to set up the communion elements before worship each Sunday (weekly). Serving on the altar care team is a great way to serve God and help people encounter a tangible experience of God's love during worship through communion. If you're interested in participating, please reach out to admin@goodsoillutheran.org.

**Flower Sign-Up-** Interested in signing up to adorn Christ's altar with flowers for worship? You can sign up with the flower list on the bulletin board in the hallway or online using this QR code.

<u>Please note</u>: The physical flower sign-up sheet on the bulletin board has first priority. 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.

Coffee Fellowship Volunteers Needed! - Please consider volunteering to host and/or

provide healthy snacks or baked goods. Volunteers can sign-up using the Ministry Scheduler Pro platform, 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 the QR code to the left.

**Newsletter-** Want to keep up with the latest Good Soil news or share the enews with a friend? Sign up for or share our newsletter *Seeds* with this QR code to the right or this URL: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/bddjk7yp">https://tinyurl.com/bddjk7yp</a>



Calendar of Events				
Date	Event	Time		
Sun, Jan 14	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am		
	MLK Jr. Commemoration Service @ Good Soil	3:00 pm		
	With fellowship to follow downstairs			
Mon, Jan 15	Regional MLK Jr. Confirmation Service Project @ Lee	9:00 am		
	Miles Hunger Center, 16718 Miles Ave, Cleveland			
Sun, Jan 21	In-Person and Livestream Worship & Blessing of RIC	9:30 am		
	Team	10:30 am		
	Adult Forum: New Member Orientation			
Sun, Jan 28	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am		
	Welcome of New Members during worship			
Sun, Feb 4	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am		
Sun, Feb 11	In-Person and Livestream Worship: Transfiguration of	9:30 am		
	Our Lord Sunday			
Wed, Feb 14	Ash Wednesday	6:30 pm		
Sun, Feb 18	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am		