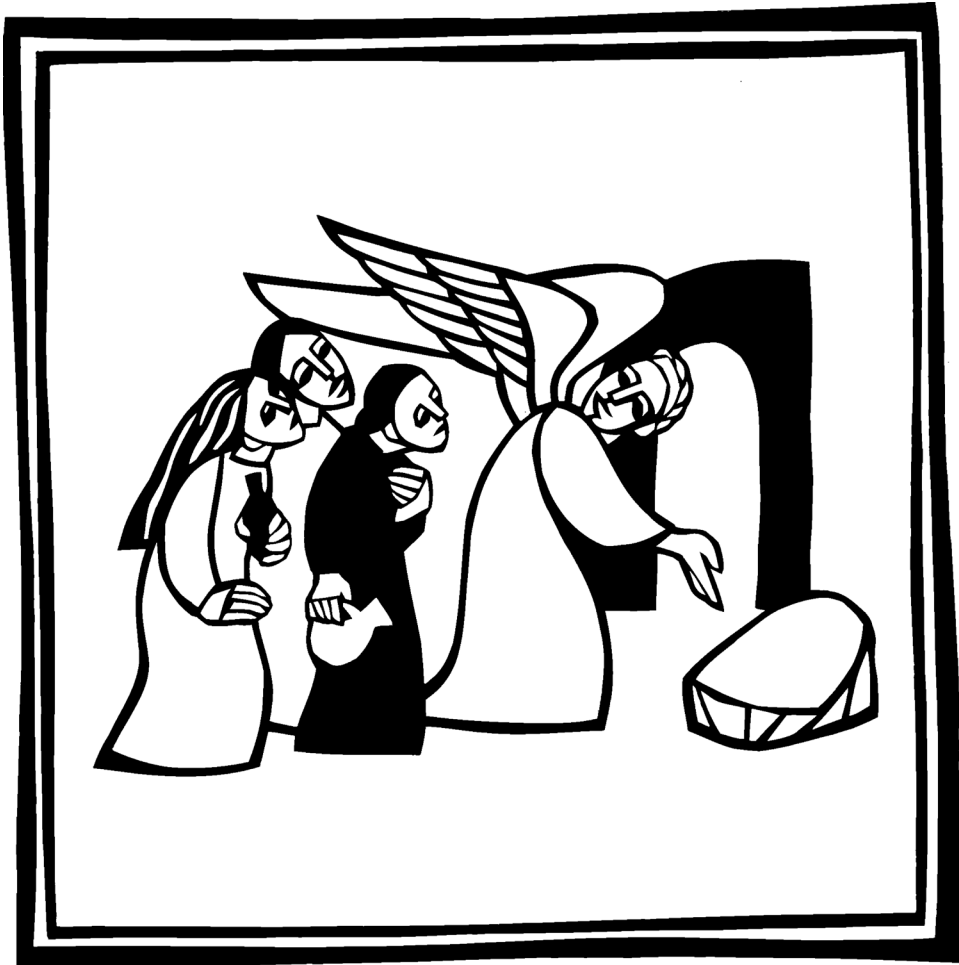


Good Soil Lutheran Ministries
Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve



Resurrection of Our Lord
Easter Day
March 31, 2024
9:30 am



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Rocky River, OH 44116
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Instagram: [goodsoilchurch](https://www.instagram.com/goodsoilchurch)
YouTube: [Good Soil Lutheran Ministries](https://www.youtube.com/GoodSoilLutheranMinistries)

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.

Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending, living love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome

† Call to Worship

They went to the cross,
And watched you breathe your last.

So they ran to the upper room,
And locked the door in fear.

Some women went to the tomb,
But you were not there.

You were already loose in the world,
Spreading your living love.

People of God: Jesus is risen and love is alive!
Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen.

Children's Sermon and the Return of the Alleluia

*In
Thanksgiving
for Baptism,
we recall how
God has joined
us to Christ*

† Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,

*through
baptism and
clothes us with
mercy and
forgiveness.*

*The
thanksgiving
praises God for
all of God's
saving actions
through water
and the word,
praying and
trusting that
this assembly
will be
renewed by
the Holy Spirit
in forgiveness,
grace, and
love.*

the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.
Amen.

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the Red Sea
into freedom's land.

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

Amen.

† Gathering Hymn: Jesus Christ is Risen Today - ELW 365

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4

*The assembly
and presiding
minister greet
one another.
(scriptural
reference:
2 Corinthians)*

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

† Prayer of the Day

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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 John 4:7-19 (The Message translation)

To put this reading into context:

We love God and others because God first loved us. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love. This love is most clearly expressed through the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection for all people.

Hear now the reading:

⁷⁻¹⁰ Beloved, let us love each other, since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn't know the first thing about God, because God *is* love—so you can't know God if you don't love.

This is how God showed God's love for us: God sent God's only Son into the world so we might live through him...God loved us and sent God's Son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they've done to our relationship with God.

¹¹⁻¹² My beloved friends, if God loved us like this, we certainly ought to love each other. No one has seen God, ever. But if we love one another, God dwells deeply within us, and God's love becomes complete in us—perfect love!

¹³⁻¹⁶ This is how we know we're living steadily and deeply in God, and God in us: God's given us life from God's life—from God's very own Spirit. We've seen for ourselves and continue to state openly that the Father sent his Son as Savior of the world.

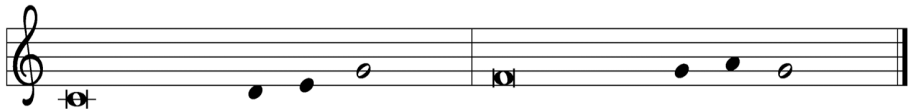
Everyone who confesses that Jesus is God's Son participates continuously in an intimate relationship with God. We know it so well, we've embraced it heart and soul, this love that comes from God.

¹⁷⁻¹⁹ For God is love. When we take up permanent residence in a life of love, we live in God and God lives in us. We love because God first loved us.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-15, 22-24.



¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;
God's mercy en- | dures forever.

²Let Israel | now declare,
"God's mercy en- | dures forever."

¹⁴The LORD is my strength | and my song,

and has become | my salvation.

¹⁵Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:

“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!

²²The stone that the build- | ers rejected has become the chief | cornerstone.

²³By the LORD has | this been done; it is marvelous | in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the | LORD has made; let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

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

† **Gospel Acclamation: Halle Halle Halle ELW 172**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Traditional Caribbean

The Gospel is announced. Following the reading of the Gospel, we give thanks and praise to Jesus Christ, who is revealed to us through the Gospel reading.

† **Gospel: Mark 16:1-8**

To put this gospel reading into context:

The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us

from the entrance to the tomb?” ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

Easter Sermon: The Rev. Marissa Harrison

Thinking theologically is a spiritual practice.

You're invited to reflect on the following question:

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus—not even death. How have you experienced God's living love springing forth in unexpected ways? When have you been surprised by God's love expressed through another person or situation? What impact did that have on you?

† Hymn of the Day: The Day of Resurrection!- ELW 361 v. 1, 3, & 4

1 The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad,
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.

3 Now let the heav'ns be joyful,
let earth its song begin,
the round world keep high triumph

and all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen,
their notes of gladness blend;
for Christ the Lord has risen,
our joy that has no end!

- 4 All praise to God the Father,
all praise to Christ the Son,
all praise to God the Spirit,
eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number
fall down before the throne,
and honor, pow'r, and glory
ascribe to God alone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

*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*

† Prayers of Intercession

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, the church. Guide us all to embody Christ's living love in the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, we pray for the earth, your good creation. Join our prayers with the praise of all of creation, that together we may proclaim Easter hope. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice, and empower peacemakers to end violence and strife. Be especially with the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, and Haiti. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity

*+ This faith community
+ The great cloud of witnesses/those now resting with God*

and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for this community of faith. Feed us at your Easter table, that we may serve and care for others. Today we especially pray for: family & friends of Diane, Helen, Carl, Pam, Joe, Tanya, Joe, Frank & Vicki, Gary, Willie, Char, Susan, Rich, Gus & Michele, Archer, Ruth, Steve, Dick, family & friends of Gwendolyn, Sandy, family & friends of Jim Warrick, family & friends of Jim Weber, Jeanette, Khams & his people and family in Manipur, ... and all those we name aloud or in our hearts. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal God, we remember those who have gone before us in death. Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **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 by using the QR code to the right or at www.goodsoillutheran.org/support



*Aim your phone camera at the QR code, but don't take a picture.
A link will appear that will take you to Good Soil's support page.*

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

† Offering Hymn: Alleluia! Jesus is Risen ELW 377 vs 1

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain: Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

† Offering Prayer

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

† Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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, Lord God of pow'r 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.

† Eucharistic Prayer and 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

We pray together 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

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

Standing is considered "the posture of resurrection."
 Additionally,

† 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.

the wine and grape juice are sparkling today to further celebrate the joy of Easter!

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 down the center aisle to the front in a single-file line. We will be observing standing processional communion, rather than kneeling at the rail.

Gluten-free bread is available upon request. The wine is in the outer rings, the grape juice is in the center. Communion cups can be returned at the end tables on your way back to your seat.

Communion Hymn: I Know That My Redeemer Lives! – ELW 619

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my ever-living head!
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
he lives eternally to save;
he lives exalted, throned above;
he lives to rule his church in love.
- 3 He lives to grant me rich supply;
he lives to guide me with his eye;
he lives to comfort me when faint;
he lives to hear my soul's complaint.
- 4 He lives to silence all my fears;
he lives to wipe away my tears;
he lives to calm my troubled heart;
he lives all blessings to impart.
- 5 He lives to bless me with his love;
he lives to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed;
he lives to help in time of need.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;

he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

Communion Hymn: At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing - ELW 362

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious king,
who has washed us in the tide
flowing from his wounded side. Alleluia!

2 Praise we Christ, whose love divine
gives his sacred blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured
death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
paschal victim, paschal bread;
with sincerity and love
eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

5 Mighty victim from the sky,
hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
you have conquered in the fight,
you have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,

now no more the grave enthrall;
you have opened paradise,
and your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy,
this alone can sin destroy!
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-1868, alt.

Communion Hymn: That Easter Day with Joy was Bright- ELW 384

1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!

2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.

3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.

4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

	<p>† Post-Communion Table Blessing</p> <p>Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.</p>
	<p>† Blessing</p> <p>Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!</p> <p>The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always. Amen.</p>
<p><i>Through the sending hymn we are sent out into the world to follow Jesus.</i></p>	<p>† Sending Hymn: Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing – ELW 389</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die. 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time. 3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died. 4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all. 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,

till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936 Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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*The dismissal
sends us out as
Christ's Body—
fed, nourished,
and ready to
serve. Worship
has ended, and
our service
begins!*

† **Dismissal**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

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You are warmly invited to stay after worship for special Easter Fellowship and an Easter Egg Hunt outside for the kids! In the event of inclement weather, the Easter Egg Hunt will be held downstairs in the fellowship hall.
The Risen Christ's peace be with you!

Today's Worship Servants:

Livestream: Trey Harrison	Readers: Sharon Bechtel & Jim Kulma
Ushers: Sharon Hollowell, Bill & Darlene Wahl, & Anne Paine	Brass: Dave Paine, William Eversole, and Erik Bogen
Online Usher: Ellen Young	Acolyte: George Young
Cantor: Brenna Connor	Counters: Eric Carlson & Kristin Reading



Announcements from Good Soil Sunday, March 31, 2024

For those in need of healing, comfort, or strength: Family & Friends of Diane Alusheff, Helen Andrews, Carl Bruns, Pam Bruns, Tanya Calcote, Joe Forshey, Joe Gray, Frank & Vicki, Gary Kaiser, Willie Lee, Char Mattson, Susan Omerod, Archer Oster, Ruth Patrick, Steve Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Gus & Michele Robles, Dick Schluep, friends & family of Gwendolyn Snell, Sandy Towberman, family & friends of Jim Warrick, family & friends of Jim Weber, Jeanette Weidlich, Khams Zotal & his family & people of Manipur, India, & the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, and Haiti.

For those celebrating their birthday: Pr. Marissa Harrison (4/3), Pam Lanter (4/4), & Kaitlyn Regan (4/4).

For those celebrating the anniversary of their baptism: Sharon Regan (4/4) & Becky Williamson (4/4).

Easter Egg hunt after worship TODAY! Rain plan in fellowship hall!

The flowers adorning the altar today are given by members of the Good Soil faith community to the glory of God in celebration of the Resurrection:

Linda Beebe
The Blocksoms
The Carlsons
Brenna & Lily Connor
Paula & David Connor
Louise DeBell
Barbara Demko-Werner
The Finks
The Forsheys
Sharon Hollowell
The Inmans
The Jacobsons

Jeanne Livingood
Jim Mattson
The Molnars
The Murmans
The Paines
Natalie Tasseff & Evan Paine
The Regans
The Sburleas
The Smiths
The Wahls
The Williamsons
The Wylies

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. Please note: The physical flower list 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 to reschedule.



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 e-news with a friend? Sign up for or share our newsletter *Seeds* with this QR code to the right or this URL: <https://tinyurl.com/bddjk7yp>



Lenten Sermon Series: "The ReLENTless Love of God"

Ash Wednesday: Relentless Love

Lent 1: Adoptive Love

Lent 2: Sacrificial Love (Agape Love)

Lent 3: Justice-Seeking Love

Lent 4: Expansive Love

Lent 5: Eternal Love

Palm/Passion Sunday: Saving Love

Mauudy Thursday: Servant Love

Easter Sunday: Living Love

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time
Sun, Mar 31	In-Person and Livestream Worship- Easter Sunday <i>Easter Egg Hunt</i>	9:30 am 10:30 am
Mon, Apr 1	Easter Monday--Church Office Closed	
Sat, Apr 6	Ladies Breakfast @ Gene's Place to Dine	9:00 am
Sun, Apr 7	In-Person and Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Thurs, Apr 11	Confirmation Class @ Bethesda	5:45 pm
Sun, Apr 14	In-Person and Livestream Worship <i>RIC Discussion event: One-on-One's with Small Groups</i>	9:30 am 11:00 am

