

Good Soil Lutheran Ministries

Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve



Maundy Thursday

Joint Worship with Bethesda on the Bay

April 17th, 2025

7:00 pm



20300 Hilliard Blvd
Rocky River, OH 44116
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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 "playground" 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

Ask an usher about 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.

Maundy Thursday

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

Gathering

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

Prelude and Welcome

On Ash Wednesday, we participated in a lengthy rite of confession—acknowledging our mortality and all the ways we fall short of being the people God made us to be. Now—6 weeks later—we experience this pronouncement of forgiveness along with Jesus' new commandment to love and forgive one another as he loves and forgives us.

† Confession and Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

	<p>By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. Amen.</p>
	<p>† Gathering Hymn: Where Charity and Love Prevail (ELW 359) v. 1, 3, 5</p> <p>1 Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.</p> <p>3 Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son; as members of each body joined, in him we are made one.</p> <p>5 Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess, that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.</p> <p><small>Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt. Text © 1960 World Library Publications. 3708 River Rd., Suite 400, Franklin Park, IL 60131. All rights reserved.</small></p>
<p><i>The assembly and presiding minister greet one another. (2 Corinthians)</i></p>	<p>† Greeting</p> <p>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.</p>
<p><i>The Prayer of the Day highlights themes from the scripture readings we are about to hear.</i></p>	<p>† Prayer of the Day</p> <p>Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.</p>

The Word

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

First Reading: Exodus 12:1, 3, 11-14

To put this reading into context:

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

Hear now the reading.

¹ The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ³ “Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD. ¹² I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ “This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.”

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19



¹ I love the Lord, who has ¹ heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹ supplication,

² for the Lord has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.

¹² How shall I re- | pay the Lord
for all the good things God has | done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup | of salvation
and call on the name | of the Lord.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord
in the presence of | all God's people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your | sight, O Lord,
is the death | of your servants.**

¹⁶ O Lord, truly I | am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed
me | from my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving
and call upon the name | of the Lord.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord
in the presence of | all God's people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of | the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

To put this reading into context:

In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

Hear now the reading.

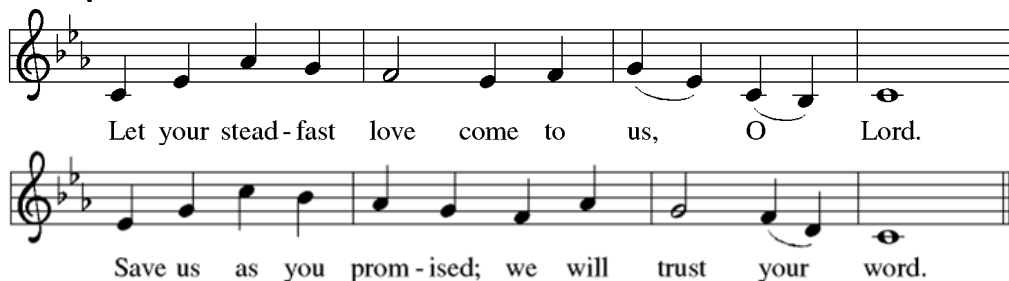
²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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 in the Living Word of the Gospel.

† Gospel Acclamation



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 13:1-17, 31b-35

To put this gospel reading into context:

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

The holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had

	<p>reclined again, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”</p> <p>^{31b} “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jewish people so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”</p> <p>The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.</p>
	<p>Homily: The Rev. Marissa Harrison</p> <p><i>Silence for Reflection.</i></p> <p><i>Thinking theologically is a spiritual practice. You’re invited to reflect on the following question:</i></p> <p><i>Who has shown you Jesus’ servant love? Where have you seen it at work in the community or wider world? How can you be a vessel of Jesus’ servant love in the context of your family, neighborhood, workplace, community, and/or public sphere?</i></p>
	<p>† Hymn of the Day: Great God, Your Love Has Called Us (ELW 358)</p> <p><i>Sealed with the cross, we are sent out to serve. During the Hymns of the Day, all are invited to come forward to be anointed for service (just like Ash Wednesday—on the forehead or back of your hand).</i></p> <p>1 Great God, your love has called us here as we, by love, for love were made. Your living likeness still we bear,</p>

though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.


- 2 We come with self-inflicted pains
of broken trust and chosen wrong,
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,
by social forces swept along,
by powers and systems close confined
yet seeking hope for humankind.
- 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name
and then receive us as your own
not through some merit, right, or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
and find you kneeling at our feet.
- 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread,
and humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed,
and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings,
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
- 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free
your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
to turn from guilt and dull despair,
and offer all that faith can do
while love is making all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936 Text © 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission

† Hymn of the Day: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (ELW 659)

- 1 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.
- 2 We are pilgrims on a journey,

	<p>we are trav'lers on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.</p> <p>3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.</p> <p>4 I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.</p> <p>5 Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.</p> <p>Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953 Text © 1977 Scripture In Song (c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music) /ASCAP, c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.</p>
<p><i>As the church, we pray for those in our community and around the world. The prayers are also responsive, emphasizing our own participation.</i></p> <p><i>Each petition addresses a different topic, often in the same pattern:</i></p> <p><i>+ The Church + Creation + Nations and leaders</i></p>	<p>† Prayers of the Church</p> <p>Holy God, we come to you in prayer for the church, your good creation, and all who are in need. <i>A brief silence.</i></p> <p>Heal the wounds of your church, O God. As we remember your commandment to love one another, guide us toward reconciliation within the body of Christ. Bless all who gather around the world for these holy three days. God of grace, receive our prayer.</p> <p>Renew the life of your creation. Restore lands suffering from chronic drought or flood, and protect fragile habitats from destruction. Encourage all who strive to build more sustainable systems for life and thriving. God of grace, receive our prayer.</p> <p>Bring peace and justice among your people. Where there is oppression or fear, bring liberation and hope. Instill wisdom and humility in local and national leaders, and guide them to serve their communities in the way of Jesus. We also pray for war-torn areas across the world, especially in Ukraine, Russia, the Middle East and places in Africa. God of grace, receive our prayer.</p>

<p><i>+Those in need + This faith community + The great cloud of witnesses/those now resting with God</i></p>	<p>Console all who suffer. We pray especially for all who are lonely and yearning for community. Assure them of your loving presence. We pray especially for Helen, Jane, Gail, Patricia, Mary Lou, Frank, Sara, Donna, Toni, Kate, Stan and Ann, Bill, Susan, Cherubim, Sally, Thomas, Ruth, Rich, Diane, Khams and his community in Manipur, ... for our home-bound members: Diane, Steve, Audrey, Ed and Verna, Kay, Joyce, Else, Kristina, & Jeanette, and those we name aloud or in our hearts. God of grace, receive our prayer.</p> <p>In the bread and cup we share, you show us the way of love poured out for the whole world. Nourish all who hunger in body or in spirit, that they experience the life abundant that flows from you. God of grace, receive our prayer.</p> <p>We remember the saints who rest in you. We give thanks for all our beloved dead. Confident of your steadfast love, we commend them to your eternal care. receive our prayer.</p> <p>Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. Amen.</p>
<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 keep making an impact by giving today using the QR code or at https://pushpay.com/g/goodsoillutheran</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> 

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

† Offering Hymn: I Love to Tell the Story, v. 1 & refrain (ELW 661)

1 I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911.

From God's Story on Our Hearts: Lenten Liturgy by The Rev. Tina Crog, used with permission.

† Offering Prayer

Faithful God, you have entrusted us with your story: a story of promise, grace, and abundant love. As we offer these gifts, we remember that everything we have comes from you. Bless these offerings, that they may carry your story into the world and bear witness to your faithfulness. **Amen.**

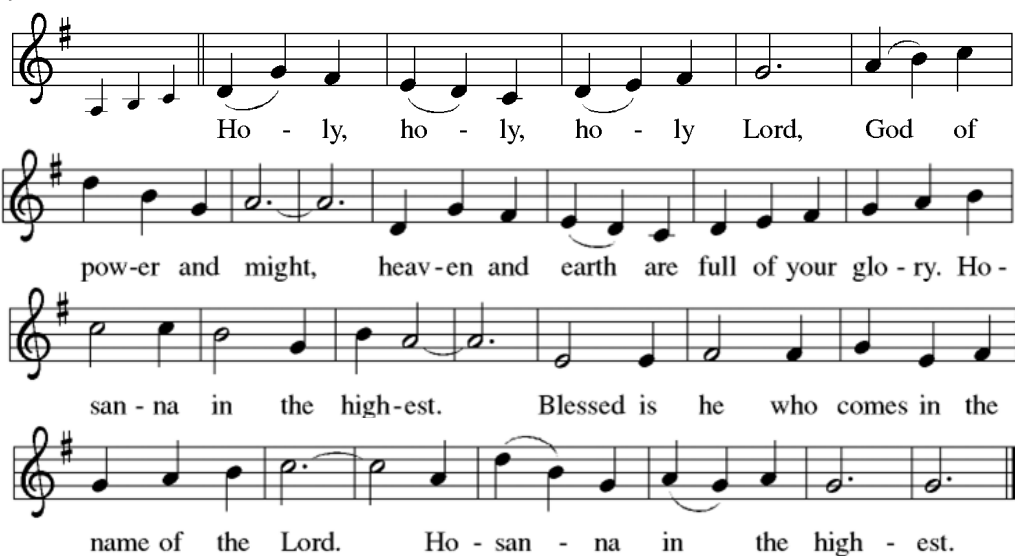
† Great Thanksgiving

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.

	<p>† Preface</p>
	<p>† Sanctus</p>  <p>Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.</p>
<p><i>From God's Story on Our Hearts: Lenten Liturgy by The Rev. Tina Crog, used with permission.</i></p>	<p>† Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution</p> <p>Blessed are You, O God, Author of life and Keeper of promises...</p> <p>...Remembering his life, death, and resurrection, we proclaim the mystery of faith:</p> <p>Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.</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>All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.</p>

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: Lord, Whose Humble Service (ELW 712)

- 1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.
- 2 Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power
to our world to make it whole.
- 3 As we worship, grant us vision,
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,

making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service,
your abundant life to share.

- 4 Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984 Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

Communion Hymn: Before the Waters Nourished Earth

- 1 Before the waters nourished earth
or night imagined morning,
a Love conceived the universe
and reveled in its forming.
- 2 This Love remained as time revealed
the loss of Eden's glory
and, grieving, holds in memory
each tragic human story.
- 3 Despair, so deep it bears no name,
or sorrows paralyzing
cannot revoke Love's faithful claim
to dwell within our dying.
- 4 The Love that called creation good
all goodness still is bringing.
This Love turns death again to life
and silence into singing.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961 Text © 1996 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress

† Post-Communion Table Blessing

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

<p><i>There is no dismissal. Maundy Thursday is the beginning of one worship service that spans the Triduum (the great Three Days), continuing with Good Friday, and concluding with Easter.</i></p>	<p>Stripping of the Altar</p> <p><i>Please remain seated while the altar is stripped bare—symbolizing Jesus’ humiliation and suffering by Roman captors. Psalm 22 will be intoned by a single voice.</i></p> <p><i>Please leave in silence when the psalm concludes and the altar has been stripped. Go in the peace of Christ Jesus. The service resumes tomorrow, Good Friday, 7:00pm at:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran 28607 Wolf Rd, Bay Village, OH 44140</i></p>
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Today’s Worship Servants:

Presider: The Rev. Angela Freeman	Preacher: The Rev. Marissa Harrison
Ushers: Stan Zeager & Bill Fink	Readers: Anne Paine & Laura English
Cantor: William Eversole	Acolyte: Ryan Williamson
Counters: Becky Williamson & Jessica Berkshire	Communion Bread: Chris Jacobson
Online Usher: Kathy Berkshire	Livestream: Trey Harrison
Altar Care: Anne Paine, Sharon Hollowell & Darlene Wahl	



Announcements from Good Soil for Thurs, Apr 17, 2025

Especially in our prayers: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Barbins of the Northeastern Ohio Synod, Helen Andrews, Jane Beese, Gail Boggs, Patricia Boegner, Mary Lou Busby, Frank Dunaway, Sara Gresh, Donna Handy, Toni Kulma, Kate Labuda, Stan & Ann Layman, Bill Meyer, Susan Omerod, Cherubim Pate, Sally Pate, Thomas Pate, Ruth Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Diane Traxler, & Khams Zotal & his people in Manipur. We also pray for our homebound members: Diane Bennett, Steve Bugosh, Audrey Dorin, Ed & Verna Fink, Kay Eaton, Joyce Miller, Else Rolland, Kristina Seeley, & Jeanette Weidlich.

Welcome to Holy Week 2025

Holy Week is the center of the church year where we relive the central story of our Christian faith: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. By participating in the ancient practices and rituals of Holy Week, we are spiritually strengthened and connected to Christians throughout the generations and around the world who are doing the same:

Palm/Passion Sunday (April 13, 9:30 am at Good Soil) We remember Jesus' descent into Jerusalem and rejoice with the crowds waving palms and shouting "Hosanna!" Then there is a deliberate shift as we hear the passion narrative—the story of Jesus' crucifixion—from Luke. This pivot is a reminder of how quickly the crowds change from shouting "Hosanna" to shouting "crucify him."

Maundy Thursday (April 17, 7 pm at Good Soil) "Maundy" comes from the latin word for commandment as we remember Jesus' command to love one another. This service marks the official end of Lent as we receive forgiveness and remember the institution of the Lord's Supper. A particularly moving part of Maundy Thursday comes when we experience the stripping of the altar and depart in silence. Maundy Thursday is also the beginning of one continuous worship service called the "Triduum" or the great Three Days which spans Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and concludes with Easter.

Good Friday (April 18, 7 pm at Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran) Marks the day when Jesus gave his life for the sake of the world. We hear again the story of Jesus' crucifixion and his love poured out for the world.

Easter Sunday (April 20, 9:30 am at Good Soil) This is the day of resurrection—a joyous celebration of God's victory over sin and death and the most important festival day in the entire church year. Jesus is alive and we, too, are given new life through him. Get ready to break out the Alleluias and celebrate! An Easter Egg hunt for children will be offered immediately after worship.

EVERYONE is invited to share in celebratory fellowship after worship on Easter Sunday morning! Stop in for Cake and Coffee Fellowship in the upstairs Lounge/Library and Coffee Room - stay a few minutes before dashing off to brunch, stay longer to enjoy the company of your Good Soil community; stop by after the Egg Hunt for one more treat! AND, Don't forget the Egg Hunt! Children are invited to participate in GSLM's traditional Easter Egg Hunt on the front lawn. (Fellowship Hall "Hunt" in case of rain.)



Bethesda Staff Partnership- Scan the QR code to learn more about how Good Soil and Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran are exploring a potential staff partnership for faith formation! Please hold our joint call committee in your prayers as they begin their journey together. The call committee will be installed during worship in the coming weeks.



2026 Sabbatical FAQ Sheet- Thank you for participating in the sabbatical questionnaire. The Renewal planning team along with Pastor Marissa has put together an FAQ sheet to summarize those responses and answer questions that were proposed. Scan the QR code to the left for that document and/or reference the bulletin board for a printed version.

Coffee Hour Fellowship- We need volunteer hosts to set-up, brew, and clean-up the coffee/tea service &/or bring snacks/baked goods. The Coffee Hour volunteer sign-up is on the bulletin board by the lounge. Contact JoAnne Wancata (cell: 440-655-3674) w/ questions.

MOW looking for Drivers- West Shore Rocky River-Lakewood Meals on Wheels is in search of drivers to deliver meals to our recipients, especially Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Please contact 440-333-6298 or rrlwcoordinator@westshoremow.org for further info.

Newsletter- Want to keep up with news at Good Soil or share the e-news with friends? Sign up or share our newsletter using the QR code or URL to the right: <https://tinyurl.com/bddjk7yp>



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. Each vase costs \$20. You may also bring your own flowers instead of buying them through Good Soil, but please do still sign up.



SUNDAY SCHOOL- Weekly Sunday faith formation for kids includes Learn & Grow and Experience & Grow opportunities during Sunday services. Additionally, kids will participate in special activities during planned monthly congregational events after worship. (Event updates will be announced, ongoing.) Contact JoAnne Wancata (cell: 440-655-3674) with questions OR to join the weekly rotation of Learn & Grow teachers/helpers.

Learn & Grow time during the worship service: Coloring, crafts, Bible stories, sharing, light snack, etc., in the classrooms on the first floor during the sermon & reflection time for adults in the sanctuary. For children in Preschool/Kindergarten through 4th grade.

Experience & Grow time participating in the worship service: Participating in the worship experience, including sermon & reflection time. Access to special materials on the "Experience & Grow" stand in the Prayground. For Grade 5 through Confirmation.

More online ushers needed! Online ushers are a vital part of helping folks experience a sense



of God's wide welcome and hospitality through Good Soil, even from afar. You are welcome to attend in-person while serving as the online usher if you keep your phone/tablet on silent. You can also serve from home. If you're interested in serving as an online usher, sign up using the QR code to the left or this link <https://secure.rotundasoftware.com/30/enrollment/goodsoil>

WELCA (Women of the ELCA) Sleep in Heavenly Peace Spring Rally: Saturday, May 3, 2025
Registration, Breakfast, and Fellowship 8:30 a.m. Meeting & Program 9:30 a.m. Lunch 12:00
"Silent Night, Holy Night" Presentation from Sleep in Heavenly Peace of Cuyahoga County
Registration: \$5.00– Includes breakfast & box lunch. (Indicate Wrap: Chicken Caesar, McAllister's Club, or Veggie. Includes chips, pickle & cookie) R.S.V.P. deadline April 28:
Sherryweber@verizon.net or phone 914-924-4451 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
(Handicap Accessible) 28455 Center Ridge Road, Westlake Ohio 44145

Learn more about Sabbaticals with Pr. Mitch Phillips, Sun 5/4 After worship, Pr. Mitch Phillips, Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership, will host a presentation with Q&A session about sabbaticals & how they contribute to the health of both pastors & congregations. Good Soil & Pr. Marissa are planning for a time of Renewal Leave for Summer 2026. Bring your questions & see the posted sign-up sheets for proposed congregational renewal activities.

The Northeastern Ohio Synod Assembly will be held online on Sat, 5/17, 9 am-12 pm. This business meeting gives voting members the opportunity to engage in synod decisions, participate in discussions, & connect with fellow members across the synod. Visitors may watch the livestream or attend a watch party to observe the Assembly's operations & decision-making process. Bill Fink, Martha Panek, & Pr. Marissa are attending as Good Soil reps this year, but anyone may join the watch party at Bethesda on the Bay. To attend the watch party as a guest, email admin@goodsoillutheran.org. Good Soil will cover the \$25

registration fee for the first 10 guests who are interested.

Pre-RIC Vote Survey Outcome The RIC Team is celebrating the results of the recent pre-RIC vote survey. Thanks to all who participated and shared their thoughts. Scan the QR code to the right for a written update from the RIC Team that also addresses some of the questions received from the survey (ex: "If our old welcome statement already said we're welcoming, why do we need to update it?" or, "How do I access additional scriptural engagement resources on this topic?"). The vote will take place during our Annual Meeting after worship on **June 8th**. Thanks for your prayers and engagement!



Calendar of Events		
Date	Event	Time
Thurs, Apr 17	In-Person & Livestream Worship: Maundy Thursday	7:00 pm
Fri, Apr 18	Good Friday Service @ Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran	7:00 pm
Sun, Apr 20	In-Person & Livestream Worship: Easter Sunday	9:30 am
Mon, Apr 21	<i>Easter Monday: Church Office Closed</i>	
Sun, Apr 27	In-Person & Livestream Worship: Earth Day	9:30 am
Sat, May 3	Ladies' Breakfast @ Gene's Place to Dine	9:00 am
Sun, May 4	In-Person & Livestream Worship Adult Forum with Pastor Mitch Phillips: Sabbaticals for the Health of Pastors and Congregations	9:30 am
Sun, May 11	In-Person & Livestream Worship, Mother's Day	9:30 am
Sun, May 18	In-Person & Livestream Worship	9:30 am