

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



12th Sunday after Pentecost  
August 11th, 2024  
9:30 am



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

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Facebook: [goodsoillutheranministries](https://www.facebook.com/goodsoillutheranministries)  
Instagram: [goodsoilchurch](https://www.instagram.com/goodsoilchurch)  
YouTube: [Good Soil Lutheran Ministries](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

### Welcome

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or anything that too often divides us. Our unity is in Christ.

### For Parents with Children

Good Soil loves kids and the "holy noise" they bring! Your children are warmly welcome in worship. Sing, pray, and respond; your children will learn by worshiping with you. There's also a "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.

## 12th Sunday after Pentecost

*Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like--this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.*

### Gathering

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

#### Prelude and Welcome

*In the Confession and Forgiveness, we are drawn by God's mercy to prepare to assemble around the Word and Sacrament. It may be seen as a return to the gift of Baptism through repentance.*

#### † Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. **Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

#### † Gathering Hymn: As We Gather at Your Table (ELW 522)

1 As we gather at your table,  
as we listen to your word,  
help us know, O God, your presence;  
let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story  
till we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet  
how to make Love's vict'ry known.

2 Turn our worship into witness

in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you,  
bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion  
to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image  
in the world you died to save.

- 3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon  
other guests to share that feast  
where triumphant Love will welcome  
those who had been last and least.  
There no more will envy blind us  
nor will pride our peace destroy,  
as we join with saints and angels  
to repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr. b. 1944 © 1989 Hope Pub Co Carol Stream IL 60188 All rights reserved Used by permission

*The assembly and  
presiding minister  
greet one another.  
(scripture 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.**

### † Hymn of Praise: Now the Feast and Celebration (ELW 167)

*Refrain:* Now the feast and celebration,  
all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom;  
praise and glory forevermore!

- 1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
whose blood has freed and united us  
to be one great people of God. *Refrain*
- 2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,  
all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain*
- 3 For God has come to dwell with us,  
to make us people of God;  
to make all things new. *Refrain*

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

## † Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us & we in him, & that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. **Amen.**

## The Word

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

### First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

To put this reading into context:

*First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the Lord is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.*

Hear now the reading.

<sup>4</sup>[Elijah] went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."<sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat."<sup>6</sup>He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you."<sup>8</sup>He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

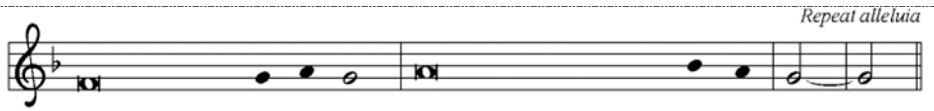
Thanks be to God.

*We welcome the gospel by singing the Gospel Acclamation. We rise, if able, in anticipation of Christ being*

## † Gospel Acclamation:

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

*revealed to us through the Living Word of the Gospel.*



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

*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 Reading: John 6:35, 41-51**

To put this gospel reading into context:

*After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.*

The holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to [the crowd,] “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

<sup>41</sup>Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” <sup>42</sup>They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” <sup>43</sup>Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. <sup>44</sup>No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. <sup>45</sup>It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. <sup>46</sup>Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Children’s Sermon**

*Sunday School is on summer break! Young children are welcome to remain in the sanctuary during the sermon or go to the “learn and grow in faith” area (nursery room at the end of the hall on the east side of the building). Children must be supervised by an adult.*

**Sermon: The Rev. Jim Kulma**

*Silence for Reflection.*

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

*Think about a favorite meal from your early years.*

*What was the food? Who did the cooking? Where did you eat it?*

*The Hymn of the Day is the assembly's proclaimed response to the sermon—making the sermon event a mutual conversation of faith.*

**† Hymn of the Day: Blessed Assurance (ELW 638)**

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*Refrain:* This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior, all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
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*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**

Calling on the spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, & all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Reignite the prayer of the church. By your Spirit root your church around the globe in prayer and spiritual practices. We especially pray for Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and Bishop Laura Barbins. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We rely on the goodness of your creation in everything we do. We

*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*

pray for trees that offer shade and for our fellow creatures that depend on the trees for shelter and food. Sustain the work of all who advocate for forests and wilderness areas. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Guide our leaders and nations with a spirit of justice and mercy. Let no evil come out of our mouths, but rather let us extend grace. We pray for our enemies. We pray for all impacted by war, especially in Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, Haiti, and India. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sustain feeding ministries and organizations such as ELCA World Hunger and our local food pantries, especially West Shore Rocky River-Lakewood Meals on Wheels. We work and pray for a day when hunger is no more. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and for all who are gathered. Be present among anyone who cannot be with us today. Be with all who are hurting, grieving, or ill. Today we pray especially for Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and Bishop Laura Barbins, Kathy, Helen, Gail, Carl, Pam, Mary Lou, Tim, Brenna, Bruce, Frank D., Jonathan, Madeline, Kate, Ann, Chuck, family & friends of Pauline, especially Dione, Susan, Rich, Rowen, Shawn, Archer, Ruth, Steve, Dick, Mindy, Kristina, family & friends of Steve, especially Rose, Jeanette, Khams & his people and family in Manipur... & all those we name aloud or in our hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We remember the saints who have gone before us in faith. Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we find hope in your communion of saints of all times and all places. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God, and trust that you receive them into your holy keeping. **Amen.**

*A practice of the ancient church, we recognize Christ's peace in each other 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 or at <https://tinyurl.com/drtvut77>

*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 brought forward to the altar to signify our gratitude for God's blessings.*

### † Offering Hymn: Praise to You O God of Mercy, ELW 208 v. 1 & 2

- 1 Praise to you, O God of mercy:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
thanks be to you forever!
- 2 From of old you loved and sought us:  
thanks be to you forever!  
Truth and justice you have taught us:  
thanks be to you forever!

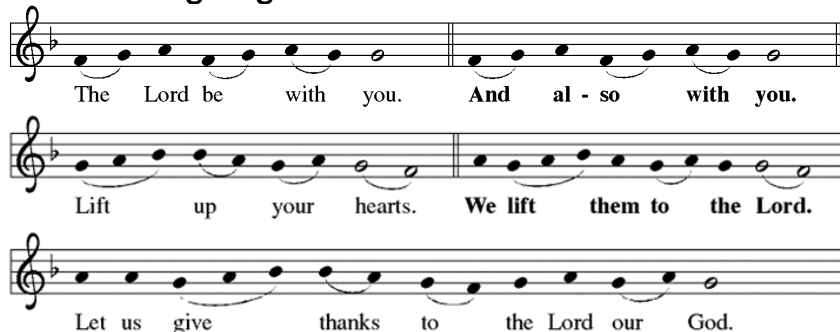
*Ending:* Thanks be to you forever!

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### † Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

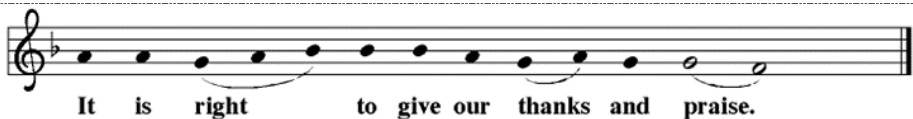
### † Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

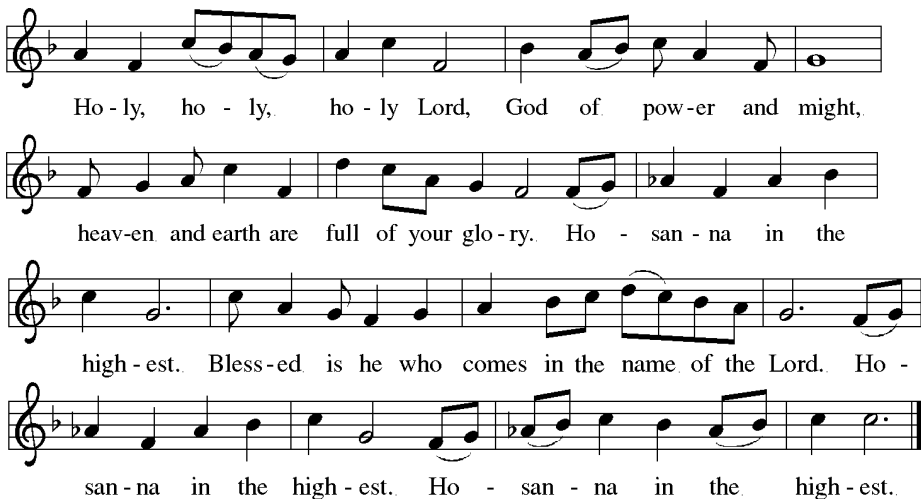
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



### † Preface

### † Sanctus



### † 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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

### 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 on 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: O Living Bread from Heaven (ELW 542)**

- 1 O living Bread from heaven,  
how well you feed your guest!  
The gifts that you have given  
have filled my heart with rest.  
O wondrous food of blessing!  
O cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing,  
in thankful song o'er flows.
- 2 My Savior, you have led me  
within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me  
with treasures of your grace;  
for you have freely given  
what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven,  
that now I shall not die.
- 3 You gave me all I wanted;  
this food can death destroy.  
And you have freely granted  
the cup of endless joy.  
My Lord, I do not merit  
the favor you have shown;  
and all my soul and spirit  
bow down before your throne.
- 4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened  
with heav'nly food, while here  
my course on earth is lengthened,

to serve you, free from fear;  
and bring me home to praise you  
where none can peace destroy,  
where I will ever raise you  
glad songs in endless joy.

**Communion Hymn: Oh Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts (ELW 658)**

- 1 O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,  
the fount of life, the light of all:  
from ev'ry bliss that earth imparts  
we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.
- 2 We taste you, ever-living bread,  
and long to feast upon you still;  
we drink of you, the fountainhead;  
our thirsting souls from you we fill.
- 3 For you our restless spirits yearn,  
where'er our changing lot is cast;  
glad, when your smile on us you turn,  
blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
- 4 O Jesus, ever with us stay!  
Make all our moments fair and bright!  
Oh, chase the night of sin away!  
Shed o'er the world your holy light.

1. Text: Johann Rist, 1607-1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.  
2. Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.

**† Post-Communion Table Blessing**

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

**Amen.**

**The Sending**

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

**† Blessing**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with  
us, † be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

<p><i>Through the sending hymn we are sent out into the world to follow Jesus.</i></p>	<p><b>† Sending Hymn: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW 815)</b></p> <p>1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.</p> <p><i>Refrain:</i> In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.</p> <p>2 I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Text © 1970, 1975 Celebration.</p>
<p><i>The dismissal sends us out as Christ's Body: fed, nourished, &amp; ready to serve. Worship has ended, and our service begins!</i></p>	<p><b>† Dismissal</b></p> <p>Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. <b>Thanks be to God.</b></p>
	<p><b>Postlude</b></p>

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*Coffee hour is on summer break!*

**Today's Worship Servants:**

Livestream: Trey Harrison	Reader: JoAnne Wancata
Ushers: Larry Jacobson & Sharon Hollowell	Counters: Michael Wancata & Donna Handy
Online Usher: Karen Sperli	Acolyte: Amelia Forshey



## Announcements from Good Soil for Sunday, August 11, 2024

**Especially in our prayers:** Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Barbins of the NEO Synod, Kathy Aloï, Helen Andrews, Gail Boggs, Carl Bruns, Pam Bruns, Mary Lou Busby, Tim Chiang, Brenna Connor, Bruce Crosby, Frank Dunaway, Jonathan Gray, Madeline Kelly, Kate Labuda, Ann Layman, Chuck Mosberger, family & friends of Pauline Neff, especially Dione, Susan Omerod, Shawn O'Neil, Archer Oster, Ruth Patrick, Steve Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Rowen, Dick Schlupe, Mindy S., Kristina Seeley, family & friends of Steve Tewell, especially Rose, Jeanette Weidlich, Khams Zotal & his family & people of Manipur, & the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, Haiti & India.

**The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God in celebration of Brenna and Lily Connor's birthdays.**

**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.



**For all the ways we marvel at God's creation,** September is our special Season of Creation celebration at Good Soil. Each Sunday we'll look at the different ways God shows His love for us through His creation. Please mark your calendars for 9/1 & 15. On these Sundays, Good Soil will celebrate services outdoors under the big cottonwood tree in the parking lot (in the Sanctuary if weather doesn't permit). Please bring a folding chair! Also, as part of the month-long celebration, you're invited now to drop off or email Cara in the church office up to 5 of your favorite photos reflecting all the glory with which God's creation surrounds us; flowers, trees, clouds, sunsets, sunrises, rivers, lakes, oceans, birds, bees, butterflies, mountains, animals, etc. We'll incorporate them in our worship. See you then!

**Lakewood Community Outreach Every 3rd Sat-** Want to share God's love in a tangible way and help feed neighbors in our community? Our friends in Lakewood are seeking additional volunteers to assist with their summer produce distribution. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 9am to help prep food in the parking lot of Lakewood Congregational Church (1375 W Clifton Blvd). You can also help by donating plastic bags (bin located under the coat rack in the hallway) and praying for this ministry. Thanks for your support!



**Save the Date:** Sun, 8/25, Good Soil's RIC team is hosting a Lunch & Learn on *Welcome to All – Living Out God's Hospitality on Sunday Morning*. Join us after worship in the lounge for a presentation by Pr. Eric Bodenstab. We'll discuss why

we welcome, how to welcome, and the problem with “All are Welcome”. Scan the QR code to the left for the Zoom link.

**Newsletter-** Want to keep up with news at Good Soil or share the e-news with a friend? Sign up or share our newsletter *Seeds* with the QR code to the right or this URL: <https://tinyurl.com/bddjk7yp> The e-news is currently on summer break.



**Gather Together Hike-** Gather Together will hold a spiritual hike 8/29 at 5:45 PM. We’ll meet at the Bain Park Cabin Gazebo (21077 N Park Dr, Fairview Park, OH 44126) for time in nature, incorporating a spiritual practice, a walk through the woods, and time together. Parents with children are welcome to bring little ones along—we’ll take a mid-point break for discussion at a nearby playground where kids can play. Contact Mary Washburn to RSVP or if you have any questions: 210-241-8455 or [mary.washburn@outlook.com](mailto:mary.washburn@outlook.com).

**Meals on Wheels is looking for drivers!** West Shore Rocky River-Lakewood Meals on Wheels needs drivers to deliver meals to our recipients, especially M-W-F. Please contact Kathy Blackwell @ 440-333-6298 or [rrlwcoordinator@westshoremow.org](mailto:rrlwcoordinator@westshoremow.org) for more info.

**Suburban Cooperative Nursery School** has been successfully educating westside preschoolers since 1961. They’re now enrolling for Fall with openings in the age 3 preschool program and the age 4 Pre-K program. For more info or to schedule a tour, call 440-331-9929, email [suburbancoop@gmail.com](mailto:suburbancoop@gmail.com), or visit [www.suburbancooperative.com](http://www.suburbancooperative.com)

Calendar of Events		
Date	Event	Time
<b>Sun, Aug 11</b>	<b>In-Person and Livestream Worship</b>	9:30 am
Sat, Aug 17	Produce Distribution @ Lakewood Congregational Church 1375 W Clifton Blvd, Lakewood, OH 44107	9:00 am
<b>Sun, Aug 18</b>	<b>In-Person and Livestream Worship</b>	9:30 am
Sat, Aug 24	Produce Distribution, New Covenant Lutheran Church, 1424 Hayden Avenue, East Cleveland	8:00 am
Sat, Aug 24	Gather Together Hike- Bain Park Cabin Gazebo, 21077 N Park Dr, Fairview Park, OH 44126	5:45 pm
<b>Sun, Aug 25</b>	<b>In-Person and Livestream Worship</b> <i>Back to School Blessing</i> <i>Blessing and Dedication of Parking Lot</i>	9:30 am
Sun, Aug 25	"How to be a Welcoming Church" by Pr. Eric Bodenstab	10:30 am

