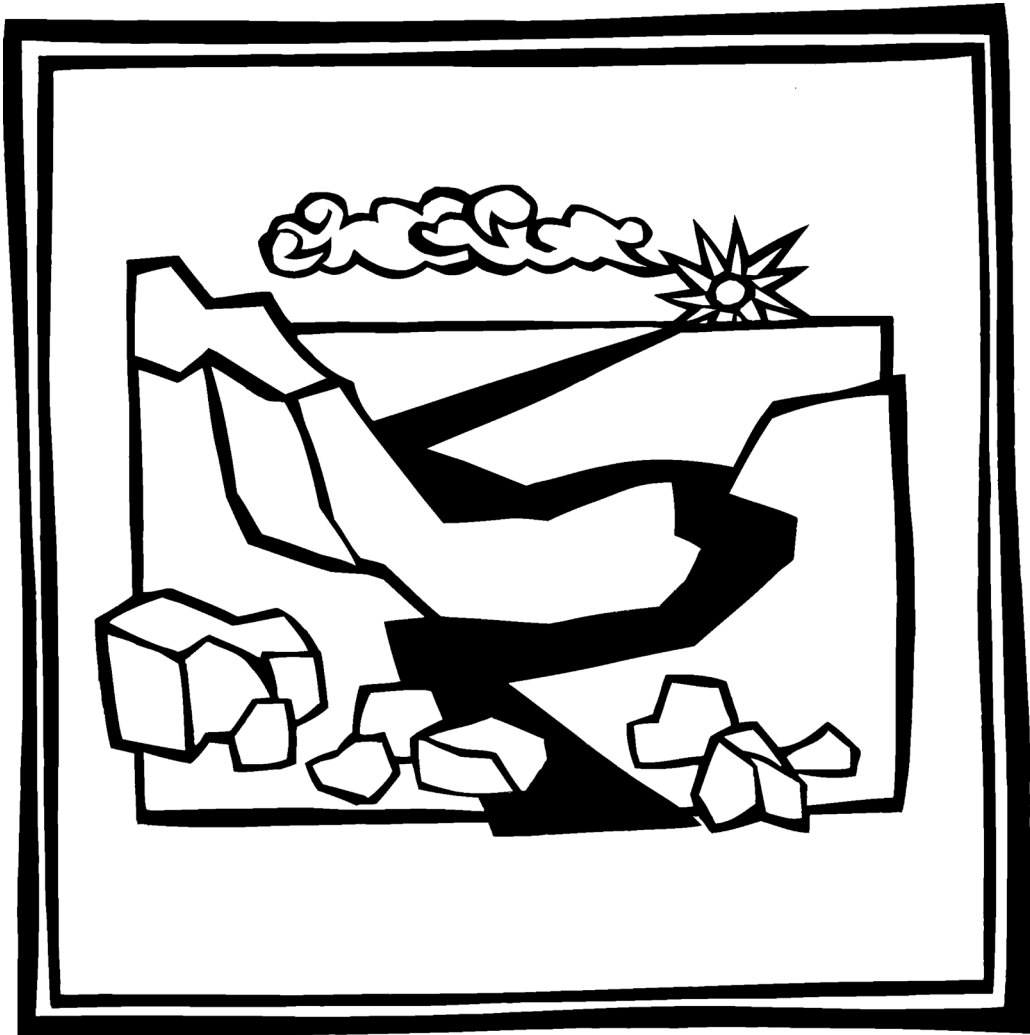


Good Soil Lutheran Ministries
Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve



2nd Sunday of Advent
December 8th, 2024
9:30 am



20300 Hilliard Blvd
 Rocky River, OH 44116
 (440) 331-1773 | GoodSoilLutheran.org

The Rev. Marissa Harrison
pastormarissa@goodsoillutheran.org
 Cell Phone: 813-494-6507

Church Administrator
 Sean Kennedy, admin@goodsoillutheran.org

Worship and Music Coordinator
 Brynna Bailer Mango, brynnabailermango@gmail.com

Communications and Community Life Coordinator,
 Cara Rovella, CCLC@goodsoillutheran.org

Facebook/Instagram: goodsoillutheranministries
 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

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.

2nd Sunday of Advent

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

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,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

We confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,

We confess that we have sinned.

We have turned away from our neighbors.

We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,

We confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:

it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,

in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

receive the grace and forgiveness of God

through † Christ Jesus,

whose day draws near. **Amen.**

† Gathering Hymn: All Earth is Hopeful (ELW 266) v. 1, 3, 4

- 1 All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:
this, the labor of people who struggle to see
how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.
- 3 Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;
new highways opened, new protocols declared.
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!
- 4 We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.
This same Lord Jesus today has come to live
in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see
our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946 Spanish text © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Liturgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

*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.

† Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

The Prayer of the Day highlights themes in the scripture we will hear.

† Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; 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.

New Testament Reading: Philipians 1:3-11

To put this reading into context:

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love & knowledge.

Hear now the reading.

³I thank my God for every remembrance of you, ⁴always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy ⁵for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it

until the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Luke 1:68-72, 76-79



⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,
you have come to your people and | set them free.

⁶⁹ **You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,
born of the house of your | servant David.**

⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save
us | from our enemies,

⁷¹ from the hands of | all who hate us,

⁷² **to show mercy | to our forebears,
and to remember your | holy covenant.**

⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,

⁷⁷ **to give God's people knowledge | of salvation
by the forgiveness | of their sins.**

⁷⁸ In the tender compassion | of our God
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,

⁷⁹ **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad-|low of death,
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace.**

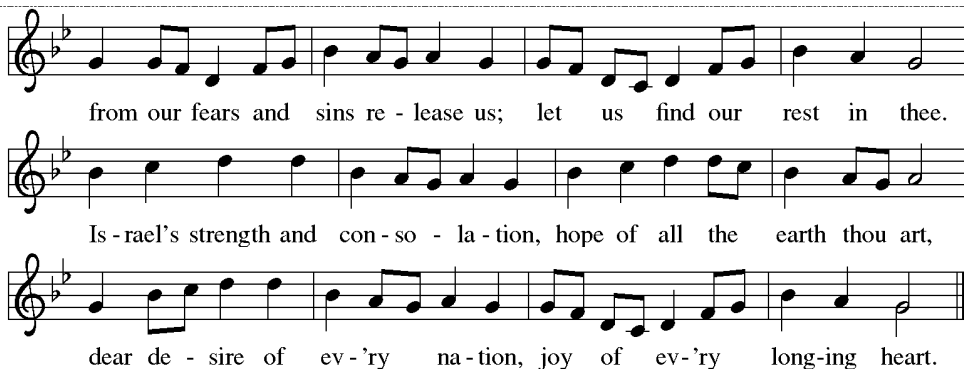
*We welcome
the gospel by
singing the
Gospel
Acclamation.*

† Gospel Acclamation: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus- ELW 254



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;

*We rise, if able,
in anticipation
of Christ being
revealed to us
through the
Living Word of
the Gospel.*



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.

*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: Luke 3:1-6**

To put this reading into context:

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

The holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

	<p>Children’s Sermon</p>
	<p>† Advent Wreath Hymn: Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah, ELW 240 (v. 1 & 2)</p> <p>1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.</p> <p>2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.</p> <p>Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954 Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.</p> <p><i>Children grade 4 and younger are invited to step out with our Sunday School teachers for a “Learn and Grow in Faith” class during the sermon. They will return during the Passing of the Peace.</i></p>
	<p>Sermon: 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>What “rough ways” have you experienced in your life (in this current season or in the past)? How has God been present? How has the Holy Spirit helped to smooth or soften those rough experiences?</i></p>
<p><i>The Hymn of the Day is the assembly’s response to the sermon—making the sermon event a mutual faith conversation.</i></p>	<p>† Hymn of the Day: Prepare the Royal Highway (ELW 264) v. 1, 2, 4</p> <p>1 Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near! Let ev’ry hill and valley a level road appear! Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:</p> <p><i>Refrain:</i> Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!</p> <p>2 God's people, see him coming:</p>

your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*

4 His is no earthly kingdom;
it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Welcome of New Members

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation. Please review the bulletin insert and greet them to get more acquainted as we joyfully welcome today.

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Address and Questions

P: In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to:

- ❖ Live among God’s faithful people,
- ❖ Hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper,
- ❖ Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- ❖ Serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and
- ❖ Strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Siblings in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God’s people in this place?

New members: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

Congregation: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Welcome

P: Let us welcome these siblings in Christ to this community of faith.

Congregation: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world. [Applause]

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

† **Prayers of the Church**

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God’s presence. *A brief silence.*

Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict, especially Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Haiti, India, Syria, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who

<p>+ <i>Creation</i> + <i>Nations and leaders</i> + <i>Those in need</i> + <i>This faith community</i> + <i>The great cloud of witnesses/those now resting with God</i></p>	<p>are suffering. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. We especially pray for Helen, Fred, Mildred, Gail, Carl, Pam, Mary Lou, Bruce, Frank, Sara, Donna, Madeline, Kate, Ann, Susan, Sally, Ruth, Rich, Mindy, Kristina, Jeanette, Khams and his community in Manipur... and all those we name aloud or in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.</p> <p>Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by congregational committees, musicians, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.</p> <p>Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.</p> <p>Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.</p>
<p><i>A practice of the ancient church, we recognize Christ's peace in each other 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;">The Meal</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, & 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>
<p><i>The offering is brought forward to the altar to signify our gratitude</i></p>	<p>† Offering Hymn: O Come O Come Emmanuel- ELW 257 v. 1</p> <p>1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.</p>



for God's
blessings.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

† Offering Prayer

Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

	<p>† Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution</p>
<p><i>The Lord's Prayer is Jesus' response to his disciples when they asked him to teach them how to pray.</i></p>	<p>† Lord's Prayer</p> <p>Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus first taught us: 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.</p>
	<p>† Invitation to the Table</p> <p>God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.</p>
	<p>Communion</p> <p><i>Christ is with us in this meal. All who are hungry for the presence of Jesus are welcome to commune here at Good Soil.</i></p> <p><i>Children are welcome to come to the Lord's table for communion or for a blessing, depending on parent/guardian's preference.</i></p> <p><i>When you receive the elements, you are invited to respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God."</i></p> <p><i>Please wait for the usher to release your row before proceeding up front. You are invited to stand or kneel at the altar rail.</i></p> <p><i>Gluten-free bread is available 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.</i></p>
	<p>Communion Hymn: Hark, the Glad Sound (ELW 239)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long; let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song. 2 He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held. The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Communion Hymn: Oh Lord, How Shall I Meet You (ELW 241)

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you,
how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you,
my hope, my heart's delight!
Oh, kindle, Lord most holy,
your lamp within my breast
to do in spirit lowly
all that may please you best.

2 I lay in fetters, groaning;
you came to set me free.
I stood, my shame bemoaning;
you came to honor me.
A glorious crown you give me,
a treasure safe on high
that will not fail or leave me
as earthly riches fly.

3 Love caused your incarnation;
love brought you down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation
procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling,
that led you to embrace
in love, all love excelling,
our lost and fallen race.

4 Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted,

who sit in deepest gloom,
who mourn your joys departed
and tremble at your doom.
All hail the Lord's appearing!
O glorious Sun, now come,
send forth your beams so cheering
and guide us safely home.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite

† 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

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
† bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

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

† Sending Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (ELW 631) v. 1, 3, 4

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,

glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

*The dismissal
sends us out as
Christ's Body:
nourished, fed,
and ready to
serve. Worship
has ended, & our
service begins!*

† Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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 sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright 2024. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SA5020986 Music reprinted under One License #A-719034 or CCLI license #3013830. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Please take a 5-minute break and return to the sanctuary for Good Soil's congregation meeting.

Today's Worship Servants:

Ushers: Bill Fink & Bill Wahl	Livestream: Jessica Berkshire
Reader: Michael Wancata	Acolytes: Edward & Alexandra Inman
Counters: Michael Wancata & Jessica Berkshire	Altar Care: Darlene Wahl
Online Usher: Karen Sperli	Communion Bread: Sarah Sburlea
Cantor: Brenna Connor	

Announcements from Good Soil for Sunday, Dec 8, 2024



Especially in our prayers: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Barbins of the NEO Synod, Helen Andrews, Fred Ayers, Mildred Baehr, Gail Boggs, Carl Bruns, Pam Bruns, Mary Lou Busby, Bruce Crosby, Frank Dunaway, Sara Gresh, Donna Handy, Madeline Kelly, Kate Labuda, Ann Layman, Susan Omerod, Sally Pate, Ruth Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Mindy S., Kristina Seeley, Jeanette Weidlich, Khams Zotal & his people in Manipur, the

people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Haiti, India, Syria, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The flowers adorning the altar today are given to the Glory of God for Jesus' mother Mary and all the mothers in our lives.



Help make 2025 ministry dreams a reality! Submit your Intent Card for 2025- Join the 44 households who have submitted their intents for our Generosity Emphasis, "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"! Scan the QR code to the left to access the digital intent form.

Coffee Hour Fellowship- We need volunteer hosts to set-up, brew, & 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) with questions.



Summer 2026 Pastoral Renewal/Congregational Renewal: We are in the early stages of crafting a renewal experience (sabbatical) in summer 2026 for Pastor Marissa and the congregation. The experience is designed to be a time of intentional renewal for *both* the pastor and congregation. The Renewal Planning Team needs your input! Please fill out this 5-question survey using the QR code to the left. More information about this opportunity will be shared at the 12/8/24 congregation meeting.

Introducing PushPay- Good Soil has transitioned to a new contribution & accounting software called PushPay, replacing Vanco. If you had an account through Vanco, you've received an email to set up an account on PushPay & migrate your recurring offering if you have one. Scan the QR code to the right or in the *Offering* section of the bulletin to visit our new PushPay giving page!



Advent Devotionals- If you're looking for an Advent devotional (Advent began 12/1), check out options from Kate Bowler using this URL: <https://katebowler.com/advent/> or the QR code to the left.

Holiday Schedule- Advent is here! Below is a schedule of this season's events!

12/15 - Live Nativity, Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran, 5-7pm

12/21 - Longest Night service, 7pm, Bay United Methodist

12/22 - Children's Christmas Pageant, Good Soil, 9:30am

12/24 - Candlelight Christmas Eve, Good Soil, 6:30pm

Christmas and the Children's Pageant are Coming! Good Soil's Children's Christmas Pageant is set for December 22nd during the weekly service. Please contact Director Pam Lanter to let her know if your child(ren) will or will not participate and whether they can have a speaking part. Please also let her know if your tweens/teens would like to assist as narrators, stagehands, costumers, etc. Rehearsals are tentatively scheduled as follows -- don't worry if kids can't make all sessions.

- Sunday 12/8 (Fellowship Hall) and 12/15 (Sanctuary) following worship (approximately 11:00 a.m. to Noon)
- Saturday 12/21 (approximate 9 or 9:30 a.m. start TBD)

Socks “Plus” Giving Tree for Trials for Hope! Please join in decorating our Advent Giving Tree with gifts of comfort and joy for those served by Trials for Hope.

Sunday 12/8 thru Sunday 12/29 in the upstairs coffee kitchen across from the Lounge. SUGGESTED GIFTS: Warm Socks - USB Charging Blocks - Multi-charging Power Cords - Hats-Gloves-Individual Packets of Starkist Tuna Creations and/or Spam Single Classics. *Ongoing items requested by Trials for Hope (e.g., Diapers size 6, canned meats, personal hygiene products, etc.) can be placed in the box beneath the tree.)*

MOW Volunteer Coordinator Opening- West Shore Meals On Wheels is looking for an enthusiastic person to support volunteer coordination efforts. The Coordinator is responsible for various related tasks that assist with the effective and efficient operation of the Rocky River-Lakewood Kitchen. This position interacts with Unit and Executive Board Members, recipients, volunteers, donors, staff and vendors. The Coordinator is also responsible for managing data, scheduling volunteers, assisting with fundraisers, and attending all Unit Board meetings. MOW's current Coordinator will provide training. This paid position averages 16-24 hours per week. For more information please email executiveboard@westshoremow.org.

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.

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.



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>



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 Playground. For Grade 5 through Confirmation.

Calendar of Events		
Date	Event	Time
Sun Dec 8	In-Person & Livestream Worship: Welcome of New Members	9:30 am
Sun, Dec 8	Congregational Meeting	10:30 am
Sun, Dec 15	In-Person & Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Sund, Dec 15	Live Nativity @ Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran	5-7 pm
Sat, Dec 21	Longest Night Service @ Bay United Methodist	7:00 pm
Sun, Dec 22	In-Person & Livestream Worship <i>Children's Christmas Pageant during worship</i>	9:30 am
Tue, Dec 24	In-Person & Livestream Worship: Christmas Eve	6:30 pm
Sun, Dec 29	In-Person & Livestream Worship	9:30 am

