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



Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday March 2nd, 2025 9:30 am



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<u>Welcome</u>

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

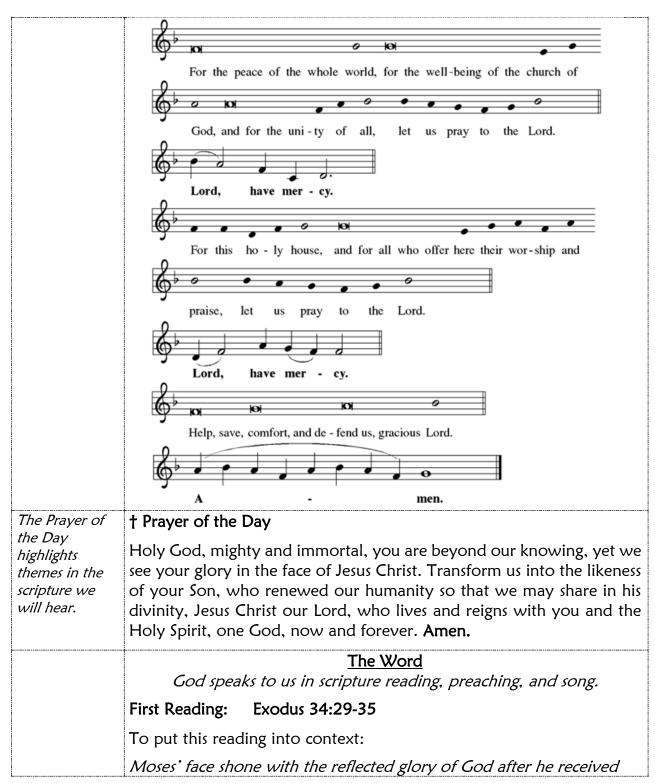
Bold Font – Spoken by the Congregation Regular Font – Spoken by the Pastor or Worship Assistant † – Please stand as you are able, in body or spirit.

Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

	<u>Gathering</u> The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.		
	Prelude and Welcome		
In the Confession and	† Confession and Forgiveness		
Forgiveness, we are drawn by God's mercy to prepare to assemble around the Word and	Blessed be the holy Trinity, 🕂 one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. Amen.		
	Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.		
Sacrament. It may be seen as	Silence is kept for reflection.		
may be seen as a return to the gift of Baptism through repentance.	Merciful God, you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.		
	God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. Amen.		

† Gathering Hymn: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW 815				
 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. 				
<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.				
 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> 				
 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> 				
Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Text © 1970, 1975 Celebration.				
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 a - bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.				



the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

Hear now the reading.

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99:1-7,9

¹The LORD is king; let the people tremble.

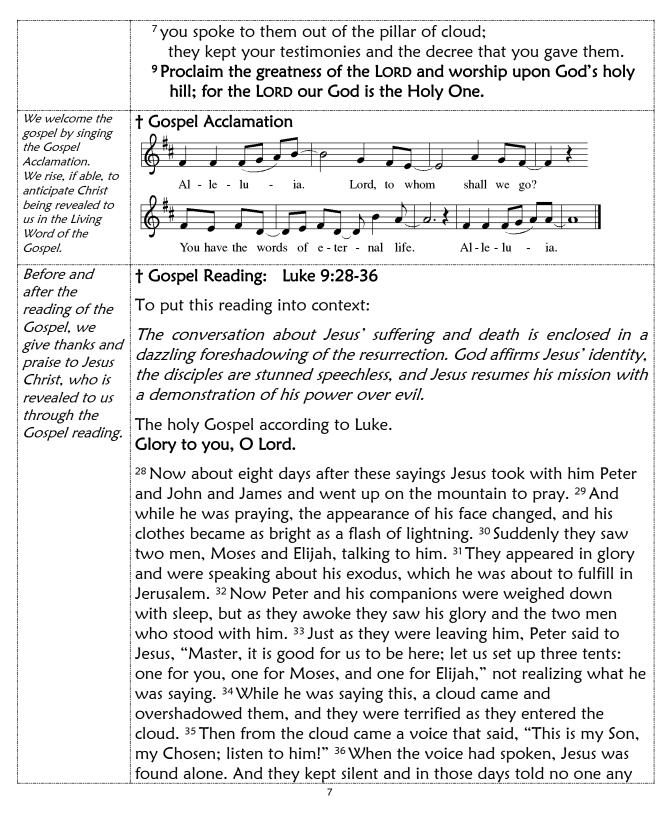
The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

² The LORD, great in Zion,

is high above all peoples.

- ³ Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.
- ⁴O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- ⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.
- ⁶ Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD,

they called upon you, and you answered them,



	of the things they had seen.
	The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.
	Children's Sermon
	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.
	Sermon: The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
	Silence for Reflection.
The Hymn of	† Hymn of the Day: How Good, Lord, to be Here! (ELW 315) v. 1-3, 5
the Day is the assembly's response to the sermon— making the sermon event a mutual faith conversation.	 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night; your face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light. How good, Lord, to be here!
	2 How good, Lord, to be here! your beauty to behold where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old.
	3 Fulfiller of the past and hope of things to be, we hail your body glorified and our redemption see.
	5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain; but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.
	Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

As the church,	† Prayers of the Church
we pray for those in our community and	With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
around the world. The	A brief silence.
prayers are also responsive, emphasizing our own participation.	Transfiguring God, through the glory of your presence, you transform us. Move the church from complacency to boldness in sharing the good news with others. We pray for leaders across the church, especially for Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and Bishop Laura Barbins. God of grace, receive our prayer.
Each petition addresses a different topic,	We pray for your creation. As seasons change, give patience and skill to all who tend to animals and crops. God of grace, receive our prayer .
often in the same pattern:	We pray for all in leadership, especially for those who lead states, counties, and town councils. Give them wisdom to protect local resources so that all will flourish both now and in the years to come.
+ The Church + Creation	God of grace, receive our prayer.
+ Nations and leaders +Those in need + This faith community + The great cloud of witnesses/those now resting with God	Bring your healing grace and speak comfort to those who need your mercy. We pray especially for Helen, Fred, Jane, Gail, family and friends of Carl, Mary Lou, Frank, Sara, Donna, Irene, Toni, Kate, Stan and Ann, Bill, Susan, Cherubim, Sally, Thomas, Ruth, Rich, Diane, Jeanette, Khams and his community in Manipur, for our home-bound members—Diane, Steve, Audrey, Ed and Verna, Kay, Joyce, Else, and Kristina—and those we name aloud or in our hearts. God of grace, receive our prayer.
	God of our past, present, and future, lead us into new beginnings, trusting in the promise of new life in Christ. Accompany congregations needing to close, and give courage to congregations starting new ministries. God of grace, receive our prayer .
	Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people. We give thanks for their example & pray we carry it forward. God of grace, receive our prayer .
	We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. Amen.

A practice of the	† Passing of the Peace		
ancient church, we share in Christ's peace & recognize it in each other.	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	The Meal God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.		
way we give thanks to God and support	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 <u>https://pushpay.com/g/goodsoillutheran</u>		
the ministry of the church.	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.		
Offertory Special Music: Good Soil Choir Ensemble			
The offering is	† Offering Hymn: One Bread, One Body (ELW 496) Refrain		
brought forward to the altar to signify our gratitude for God's	One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless, and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.		
blessings.	Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939 Text © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used with permission.		
	† Offering Prayer		
	God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.		
	† Great Thanksgiving		
	The Lord be with you. And also with you.		
	Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.		

	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.			
	† Preface			
	+ Sanctus Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho			
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who				
	comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.			
	† Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution			
The Lord's Prayer is Jesus' response to his disciples when they asked him to teach them how to pray.	† Lord's Prayer 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			
	The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.			
	Communion			
	Christ is with us in this meal. All who are hungry for the presence of Jesu 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: Beautiful Savior (ELW 838)
 Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!
Text: <i>Gesangbuch</i> , Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

Communion Hymn: Oh Wondrous Type of Vision Fair (ELW 316)			
1 Oh, wondrous image, vision fair of glory that the church may share, which Christ upon the mountain shows, where brighter than the sun he glows!			
2 With Moses and Elijah nigh the'incarnate Lord holds converse high, and from the cloud, the Holy One says, "This is my beloved Son."			
3 With shining face and bright array, Christ deigns to manifest today what glory shall be theirs above who joy in God with perfect love.			
4 And faithful hearts are raised on high by this great vision's mystery; for which in joyful song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.			
 5 O Father, with the eternal Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one, we pray you, bring us by your grace to see your glory face to face. Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, 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.			
<u>The Sending</u> God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world. † Blessing The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy,			
anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. Amen.			

We say	† Farewell to the Alleluia
farewell to the "alleluia" at the	We are an Easter people. And Alleluia is our song.
conclusion of today's	Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
liturgy. This word of praise and joy is omitted during the	The author of Ecclesiastes writes: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted.
repentant season of	A time to break down and a time to build up. A time to weep and a time to laugh.
Lent and will be sung again at Easter.	A time to mourn and a time to dance. A time to keep silence and a time to speak.
	As a sign of our repentance, we now say farewell to the Alleluia until our rejoicing at the resurrection of our Lord.
Through the	† Sending Hymn: Alleluia, Song of Gladness (ELW 318)
sending hymn we are sent out into the world to follow Jesus.	 Alleluia, song of gladness, voice of joy that cannot die; alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high; in the house of God abiding thus they sing eternally.
	2 Alleluia you are sounding, true Jerusalem and free; alleluia, joyful mother, bring us to your jubilee; here by Babylon's sad waters mourning exiles still are we.
	 Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below; alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forgo; for the solemn time is coming

	 when our tears for sin shall flow. 4 In our hymns we pray with longing: Grant us, blessed Trinity, at the last to keep glad Easter with the faithful saints on high; there to you forever singing alleluia joyfully. Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
The dismissal sends us out as Christ's Body: nourished, fed, & ready to serve. Worship has ended, & our service begins!	† Dismissal Go in peace. Live in hope. Thanks be to God. Postlude

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Today's Worship Servants:

Ushers: Stan Zeager & Kim Wylie	Livestream: Jessica Berkshire	
Reader: William Eversole	Acolyte: Amelia Forshey	
Counters: Stan Zeager & Jessica Berkshire	Altar Care: Evan Paine	
Online Usher: Kathy Berkshire	Communion Bread: Jessica Berkshire	
Cantor: Brenna Connor		



Announcements from Good Soil for Sunday, Mar 2, 2025

Especially in our prayers: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Barbins of the NEO Synod, Helen Andrews, Fred Ayers, Jane Beese, Gail Boggs, family & friends of Carl Bruns, Mary Lou Busby, Frank Dunaway, Sara Gresh, Donna Handy, Irene Krankowski, Toni Kulma, Kate Labuda, Stan & Ann Layman, Bill Meyer, Susan Omerod, Cherubim Pate, Sally Pate, Thomas Pate, Ruth Patrick, Rich Petrusky, Diane Traxler, Jeanette Weidlich, and Khams Zotal and 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, and Kristina Seeley.

For those celebrating birthdays this week: Tom Molnar (3/6) & Scarlett Smith (3/8).

For those celebrating the anniversary of their baptism this week: Sarah Sburlea (3/8).

For those celebrating their wedding anniversary this week: Kim & Scott Wylie (3/3).

The flowers adorning the altar today are given to God's Glory and His commandments to love Him first and most and to love others as much as we love ourselves, and in honor of ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

California Wildfires Partner Church: The Northeastern Ohio Synod is inviting congregations to extend care and compassion to our neighbors in the Southwest California Synod. Through this effort, we hope to facilitate direct connections with congregations potentially affected by the wildfires, sharing messages of encouragement and support during this challenging time. <u>Congregations in our synod have each been paired with a congregation in the Southwest California Synod</u>. We encourage you to reach out with handwritten notes, cards, or creative gestures like artwork or messages from your church community. This is an opportunity to remind these congregations that they are being thought of and prayed for here in Ohio as they face the long journey of recovery. There are prayer cards available in the hallway. Good Soil's assigned Partner Congregation is:

Emmanuel Lutheran Church 117 North 7th Street Santa Paula, CA 93060-2615



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!

Lenten Devotionals- Looking for a devotional for Lent 2025? Scan the QR code to the right for a devotional developed by pastors around Ohio and North Carolina, including Pr. Marissa!



ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton is visiting Good Soil today! We are honored to welcome ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton who is visiting Good Soil as a part of a special filming project, including some of the congregations in Northeastern Ohio where her faith journey has roots (Bethany English Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church). Please welcome her today and thank her for her leadership.

RIC Pre-Vote Survey- Good Soil has been engaging the RIC process (to become a designated safe and affirming place for LGBTQIA+ people and people of color) over the past year with learning opportunities, congregational discussions and activities. The RIC process includes a "pre-vote" survey to get a preview of how the congregation may vote before the official vote to become RIC is scheduled.



Responses are anonymous, unless you indicate that you need information about whether or not you are a voting member. Thank you for your input! You may fill out the survey using the QR code to the right, or the physical forms on the welcome table.

Ash Wednesday at Bethesda on the Bay: 11:00am – Spoken worship with ashes and Holy Communion, 6:00pm – soup supper, 7:00pm – Traditional worship with ashes and Holy Communion Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5, 2025. You are invited to worship together with Good Soil Lutheran Ministries and Bethesda on the Bay Lutheran to begin the season of prayerful reflection & preparation once again for the good news at the empty tomb.

Stories and Scriptures: Lent is a time to grow deeper in our faith. This year Good Soil will be offering 5 mid-week gatherings called "Stories and Scripture" led by Pastor Marissa and Pastor Jim Kulma. The gatherings will take place at 6:30 pm on the following dates: 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, & 4/9. All meetings will be held in the lounge, in-person only. Questions? Contact <u>admin@goodsoillutheran.org</u>. Grow in faith with one another, Pastor Marissa and

Pastor Jim this Lenten season as we explore stories from scripture and our lives. We are also looking for volunteers to bring snacks for each meeting! Use the QR code to the right to access the sign up sheet, call 440-331-1773, or email cclc@goodsoillutheran.org.





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: <u>https://tinyurl.com/bddjk7yp</u>

Flower Sign-Up- Interested in signing up to adorn Christ's altar with flowers for worship? You

can sign up with the flower list on the bulletin board in the hallway or online using this QR code. <u>Please note</u>: The physical flower 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.

<u>Learn & Grow time during the worship service</u>: 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.

<u>Experience & Grow time participating in the worship service</u>: 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.

Calendar of Events		
Date	Event	Time
Sun, Mar 2	In-Person & Livestream Worship with Bishop Elizabeth Eaton	9:30 am
	Transfiguration Sunday and Farewell to Alleluia	
Wed, Mar 5	Ash Wednesday Morning Service @ Bethesda on the Bay	11:00 am
Wed, Mar 5	Soup Supper @ Bethesda on the Bay before worship	6:00 pm
Wed, Mar 5	Ash Wednesday Evening Service @ Bethesda on the Bay	7:00 pm
Thurs, Mar 6	Confirmation Class @ Bethesda on the Bay	6:00 pm
Sun, Mar 9	In-Person & Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Wed, Mar 12	Scriptures and Stories Week 1 Gathering	6:30 pm
Sun, Mar 16	In-Person & Livestream Worship	9:30 am
Wed, Mar 19	Scriptures and Stories Week 2 Gathering	6:30 pm



