



# Friday Bulletin

**Good Shepherd E-News**

23 December 2022

The Episcopal Church of the  
Good Shepherd in Athens, Ohio

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## This Upcoming Sunday

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Eucharist B

25 December 2022, 10:30 a.m.

[Order of Worship \(Bulletin\)](#)

**Service:** Holy Eucharist II-B

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

**Lector:** Lynn Graham

**Eucharistic Minister/Acolyte:** Lynn  
Graham

**Eucharistic Minister/Prayer Leader:**  
Allyn Reilly

**Altar Guild:** Lynn Graham

**Coffee Hour Host:** Lois Wagner

### LESSONS for Christmas Day

Old Testament – Isaiah 52: 7-10

Psalm 98 (Said)

New Testament – Hebrews 1: 1-12

Gospel – John 1: 1-14



<https://www.lectionarypage.net>

# CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 7:00 p.m. (prelude 6:45)  
Holy Eucharist Rite II-B

## Order of worship Christmas Eve

Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey  
Thurifer: Peter Buckley  
Lector: Alex Buckley  
Eucharistic Minister/Prayer Leader: Lynn Graham  
Eucharistic Minister/Acolyte: Owen Buckley

**LESSONS** for Christmas Eve: Isaiah 62: 6-12; Psalm 96 (Sung), Titus 3: 4-7, Luke 2: 1-20

<https://www.lectionarypage.net>

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## Coming up on the Calendar

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**Saturday, December 24, 6:00 p.m. - - Choir Rehearsal**

**Saturday, December 24, 7:00 p.m. - - Christmas Eve** (Preservice rehearsal for Christmas Eve will be at 6:00 p.m. on December 24. Prelude music will begin at 6:45 p.m.)

**Sunday, December 25, 10:30 a.m. - - Holy Eucharist (Christmas Day)**

**Wednesday, December 28, 9:30 a.m. - - Prayer Shawl Christmas breakfast celebration at IHop**

**Monday, December 26 - - The Church Office is closed.**

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## Events Looking Forward

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**Saturday, December 24, 6:45 p.m. - - Organ Prelude music**

**Saturday, December 24, 7:00 p.m. - - Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist**

**Sunday, December 25, 10:30 a.m. - - Christmas Day Holy Eucharist**

## Schedules

### Coffee Hour Schedule

Jan. 1 Danna Carlson  
Jan. 8 David Burton  
Jan. 15 Anne Walker  
Jan. 22 Alex Buckley  
Jan. 29 Lynn Graham

**Open Dates for Altar Flowers**  
(to be determined)

[To Altar Flowers Procedure](#)

## Notes & Announcements



### Christmas Services

**Please join us in celebrating the joyful  
birth of our savior.**

Christmas Eve 7:00 pm December 24 (Prelude  
Music 6:45)

Christmas Day 10:30 am December 25  
Both services include Holy Eucharist.

### Weather and Church Services

Because the Church employs a service to keep the parking lot, sidewalks, and stairs clear of snow and ice, and because the Rector has experience, clothing, and the vehicle to handle snow, wind, and freezing temperatures, you can expect church services at Church of the Good Shepherd to go on as planned.

You can decide for yourself if you are able or comfortable to come to the church service in inclement weather.

The only thing that could cause services to be canceled is power outage. If services are canceled, a church email will go out. So, if you are in doubt, check your email.

## **We Will Have Church Service on Sunday, December 25**

We will continue our practice of having a church service on Christmas Day. Because Christmas Day is on Sunday, the time of the service is 10:30am. After the service please join us for a festive coffee hour to continue the celebration.

Even if it is cold outside, we'll have the Love of God to keep us warm (and good hot coffee and Christmas tea).



### **Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Christmas message:**

**"Love came down at Christmas. Love always, because love is the way."**

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**The Church Administrative Office will be closed  
on Monday, December 26.**

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December 19, 2022

**Dear Parishioner and Friend of Church of  
the Good Shepherd,**

There is a lovely Austrian Christmas carol sometimes called *Christmas Lullaby*, or *Still, Still, Still*. Dating back to the early 1800's, the lyrics have changed over the years, but its unaltered message is one of peaceful calm, resting in God's love on the night of our Savior's birth.



*Still, still, still; you can hear the falling snow; for all is hushed; the world is sleeping; holy star, its vigil keeping... 'Tis the eve of our Savior's birth; the night is peaceful all around you, Close your eyes, let sleep surround you... Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come, while guardian angels without number; watch you as you sweetly slumber; dream, dream of the joyous day to come*

Historians think this carol began as a lullaby parents and grandparents sang to their children and grandchildren because of its comforting images. Today's grownups might not find much comfort in falling snow which can interfere with safe travel and presents dangers of ice. Night is not always perceived as time of peace and quiet and instead can be a time of uncertainty and fear when we can't see clearly.

Despite such perceptions, the carol is a lovely illustration of the beauty of the Incarnation. Through Jesus' birth all that is perceived as ordinary, common, or lowly is transformed to the extraordinary. We see God eschew the royal, grand, and pomp and circumstance in favor of the poor, unpopular, and small. Through the Incarnation God illumined what we call ordinary to reveal its wonder. Thus falling snow becomes beautiful, and the night is no longer isolating and lonely, but full of God's presence, which means there is no need to be afraid.

Whether the "night" that inspires fear is economic stress, uncertainty, or despair, the celebration of Christmas illuminates with the joy that inspires hope that can bring the peace and comfort of a lullaby. We are not alone, God is with us, making even the most ordinary radiate with the beauty of heaven. Perhaps that is why the angels told the shepherds not to be afraid when they announced Jesus' birth.

No matter our age, at Christmas we can rest from fears in the comforting peace of Christ born among us as we work and dream of the joyous day to come.

From my family to yours, I wish you all the joy, hope, and comfort of Christmas.

Many Blessings,

*Mother Deborah*

The Rev. Deborah Woolsey, Rector

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The above is the text (illustration added here) of Mother Deborah's Christmas letter mailed to parishioners on Dec 19. [Follow this link](#) to the Carol *Still, Still*, *Still* mentioned in the Christmas Letter.

## Looking Ahead to New Year's Day

January 1 falls on a Sunday next year, which means we have the opportunity to observe a celebration in the church called Holy Name Day. This feast day is held eight days after Christmas Day to honor Luke 2:21 *After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.*

Please join us in person or online to celebrate this special day in the church and to remember the significance of his name.

**Sunday, January 1, 2023 10:30 a.m. Worship Service**

### Repeats & More

**Bishop Transition News/Updates -- [Follow this link](#) --**



**CrossRoads Café is closed** until we find staff. If you know of someone looking for a job, please have them send an email to [chogs@chogs.org](mailto:chogs@chogs.org) or [revedebwoolsey@gmail.com](mailto:revedebwoolsey@gmail.com).

We are still selling Deeper Roots Coffee Beans. \$15 for a 1 pound bag and \$12 for half pound. Please contact Michael Luelloff at [michael.luelloff@hotmail.com](mailto:michael.luelloff@hotmail.com) if you want to purchase a bag.

If you want to help the folks who have been negatively impacted by climate disaster and war anywhere in the world please consider contributing to **Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)** which is the official ministry of the Episcopal Church. You can select which fund, such as Ukraine Crisis Response.



This is a ceramic creche that a parishioner gave to Mother Deborah several years ago. Mother Deborah keeps it out all year long because she likes it so much.



Throughout the Glenwood retirement community where Ted and Katharin Foster live the staff and residents have put up many Christmas decorations throughout the facility including 25 (!) Christmas trees. However the Christmas season is not the only season celebrated -- take a look at this piano.



## Contacts & Information

### Contact Information

**For pastoral needs**, please contact The Rev. Deborah Woolsey at 937-689-8895 (cell) or 740-593-6877 (church), or by e-mail at [revdebwoolsey@gmail.com](mailto:revdebwoolsey@gmail.com).

**To find out more about Good Shepherd and other matters**, please contact Alex Buckley, Senior Warden, at 740-593-5513 or by e-mail at [macbuck@yahoo.com](mailto:macbuck@yahoo.com).

**For maintenance matters**, please leave a note at the office or contact Dana Carlson, Junior Warden, at 740-664-2022 or by e-mail

### [DONATE to Good Shepherd](#)

This takes you to the Parish Home page where you can donate on line via PayPal. If you have a preference, please indicate on the the "Add special instructions to the seller" section the purpose of the donation—e.g. Covid Memorial, plate collection, etc.



at carlsondana@hotmail.com.

**For emergencies**, please call The Rev. Deborah Woolsey at 937-689-8895.

**NON-emergency messages** can be left on the church's answering machine (740-593-6877). The parish office administrator is Barbara Martin (740-593-6877) or [barbara@chogs.org](mailto:barbara@chogs.org).

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd  
Seeking and Serving Christ in All Persons

64 University Terrace, Athens OH 45701  
740-593-6877  
[chogs@chogs.org](mailto:chogs@chogs.org)  
[www.chogs.org](http://www.chogs.org)

Check out the Church's [YouTube Channel](#).

LIKE us on Facebook  
[Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd 45701](#)

**Office Hours:**  
**10:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday.**

**The Diocese COVID Guidelines request all persons wear masks inside the church building regardless of vaccination status.**

Church of the Good Shepherd | 64 University Terrace, Athens, OH 45701

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