



Friday Bulletin

Good Shepherd E-News

19 May 2023

The Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd in Athens, Ohio

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This Upcoming Sunday

Seventh Sunday of Easter

21 May 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Order of Worship (Bulletin)

Service: Holy Eucharist B

Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

Lector: Michael Wootton

Eucharistic Minister/Acolyte: Owen
Buckley

Eucharistic Minister/Prayer Leader:
Dana Carlson

Altar Guild: Lynn Graham

Coffee Hour Host: Alex Buckley

Cantor: Benjamin South

LESSONS for Seventh Sunday of Easter after
Ascension Day

New Testament – Acts of the Apostles 1: 6-14

Psalm – 68: 1-10, 33-36 (Sung)

Epistle – I Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11

Gospel – John 17: 1-11



<https://www.lectionarypage.net>

Reflection

Ascension Reflection

What are we to make of the account of Jesus' ascension in Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11? In this book in the New Testament, the author described Jesus ascending in bodily form to God. After which, angels appeared with the good news that Jesus will return the same way he left.

As modern followers of Jesus, this return is what we wait for because it will be the fulfillment of the promise God will restore the world to God's dream for it. To help us wait, Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit, which we celebrate on Pentecost Sunday. With the help and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we wait for Jesus' return by living in ways that reflect God's love into the world.

Ascension is a story of goodbye and therefore the beginning of a transition. After the angels told the disciples about Jesus' return, they went back to the upper room to wait for the Holy Spirit. Nothing happened all at once. While they waited, they prayed and took care of each other.

It is perhaps deeply appropriate that we are moving closer to our goodbye during a season when transition is a major theme for the Church. Because we have the constant reminder in scripture and prayer that the Holy Spirit is with us, which means transition times can be rich with beauty and life. May we find both during this season together.

Many Blessings,

Mother Deborah

Coming up on the Calendar

Sunday, May 21, 10:30 a.m. - - Holy Eucharist (Discretionary Sunday)

Tuesday, May 23, 9:30 a.m. - - Prayer Shawl Group (Nehls)

Wednesday, May 24, 11:00 a.m. - - Julie Nehl's Service

Sunday, May 28, 10:30 a.m. - - Holy Eucharist

Looking Ahead

Schedules

Coffee Hour Schedule

May 21 Alex Buckley
May 28 Anne Walker

Open Dates for Altar Flowers

in June: 4th, 18th, 25th

[To Altar Flower Open Dates and Procedure.](#)

Notes & Announcements

May 24 Funeral for Julie Nehls will be Livestreamed

If you cannot attend Julie's service on May 24 at 11:00 am, you can attend online and watch the service livestream.

Pentecost Sunday May 28

There are so many ways to celebrate Pentecost:

- Whether you join us in person or online, please **WEAR SOMETHING RED** (if you have it) on Pentecost Sunday. It is a fun way to represent the flames of the Holy Spirit that touched and continues to touch everyone.
- We are thrilled to be **baptizing Kailey Klimkowski** on Pentecost Sunday. The feast of Pentecost is one of the days the Book of Common Prayers suggests is especially appropriate for baptisms.
- **CAKE!** It's such a special day, we must have cake at coffee hour following the service to celebrate.

NAMI Memorial Day on the Ridges

1:00 p.m., May 29

Mother Deborah will be giving the prayer at NAMI's Memorial Day service. This is a lovely service that remembers the names of people who have been forgotten by the institution that cared for them. Like all good observances of Memorial Day, it also inspires us to care for each other.

June 4 Mother Deborah's Last Sunday

Please join us in person or online for Mother Deborah's last Sunday at Church of the Good Shepherd. For those who have not heard, Mother Deborah has accepted the call to serve as the next Rector of St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Minocqua, Wisconsin. Please join us as we say goodbye to Mother Deborah and Michael and wish them well.

Covid Memorial Has Final Update

With the help of several parishioners, the Covid Memorial has received its final update. This reflects both the change in the pandemic, and its long-lasting impact on some people's lives.

As the pieces of the memorial were beginning to show signs of deterioration and wear, we were reminded it was never built to be permanent, but a visual sign of what we were going through together as a community, nation, and world. We had planned to take it down after OU's spring semester. However, we learned the memorial has become deeply meaningful to members of the community. People continue to come from outside of Athens to see it. This should be a powerful reminder to those of us who did not suffer significant loss during the pandemic that others have suffered and continue to grieve.



Since the memorial continues to have meaning for our community, it was decided that it would be modified to better withstand the weather and other forces that might influence it.

Michael removed the wooden bases and plastic panels from each archway and then pounded the archways deep into the earth. This way they will not blow over in wind or if

pushed.

The pieces of broken glass were removed from the panels and placed in cement steppingstones. The symbolism of suffering alone remains, however now in a form that won't deteriorate like the plastic panels and glue that was holding the glass.

The steppingstones are beneath each archway, as if pieces of glass fell. They are still connected to an archway, only now it is as if we are committing them to a final resting place. Most steppingstones also have bits of broken mirror in them too, so that our reflections can still remind us of how we have been part of the pandemic.

The crystals have been strung on longer lasting line so they can continue to refract the light around us, reminding us those who have gone are still with us through our love.



The lights have been replaced with tougher LED solar powered lights that will still illuminate the memorial at night, representing hope.

Thank you all for your help creating beauty that hopefully will be around for many years to come bringing meaning to all who pass by.

Repeats & More

If you want to help the folks who have been negatively impacted by environmental 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.



For Bishop Transition News and Updates

-- [Follow this link](#) --

The special pruning care the "long-in-the-tooth" Rhododendrons along the north side have received the past couple of seasons is beginning to pay off. Below are some ground cover flowers forming perfect little stars (not sure what they are).





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.

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.

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

For emergencies, please call The Rev.

[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.

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

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.

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

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the Good Shepherd
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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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