



# This Week at Ascension

[Link to the Bulletins for May 22](#)

[Link to The Rev. Deacon Kate Siberine's Sermon from May 15.](#)

[Link to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington's Website](#)

## Calendar Highlights

### Friday, May 20

2pm Pictorial Directory  
Photo Sessions, Room 1  
6pm Couples in Recovery,  
Chapel

### Saturday, May 21

9am Overeaters Anonymous,  
Undercroft Commons  
10am Pictorial Directory  
Photo Sessions, Room 1  
11am AI-Anon, Undercroft  
Commons  
11am Overeaters  
Anonymous, Chapel

### Sunday, May 22

*Blood Pressure Screenings  
after each Service, Room 1*  
7:45am Holy Eucharist, Main  
Church  
8:15am Choir Rehearsal,  
Choir Room  
9am Holy Eucharist, Main  
Church  
9am Godly Play, Room 6  
9am A Joyful Path, Room 11  
10:15am Holy Eucharist for  
Families with Young

## Trinity as Lover and Beloved

I once had a guest preacher from the National Episcopal Church Center speak in one of my former parishes on Trinity Sunday. He talked about the Trinity as a community of "persons" bound together in love. He didn't even try to explain the doctrine at all. I'd never heard anyone speak of the Trinity in this way, that the God theologians are hinting at in this abstruse and confusing image is basically creation's lover. The Trinity is all about love between persons, between the lover and the beloved.

Once that idea got into my head I started to see and hear it everywhere! You know how that is. So a few weeks later a friend shares with me a bit from one of his favorite writers about how God loved creation and all of us into existence and then draws in again just by loving us. It went like this:

"What is so attractive about God that enables him to draw the world into being? Well, on the basis of the Trinity - in which the Father eternally thinks up the world, the Spirit eternally broods over the idea and the Son eternally calls the world out of nothing into being - maybe it is simply creation falls, lovely head over round heels, for all the divine fuss over it. Martha moves toward Harry first of all because of the romantic intimation by which she perceives the marvel of his being, leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills, showing himself through the lattice. But she falls hardest at the discovery that he always thinks, broods, and says her name: *You are beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army with banners. Rise up, my Love, my fair one, and come.* More than that, under his love she becomes herself; she blossoms into a fullness of being. We talk about her clothes, her hair, her skin, being more becoming than they were. We recognize in her a process, not of ceasing to be what she was and becoming some alien thing, but of being called into the fullness of her own being. We see, not foreign perfection forced upon her from the outside, nor yet some inevitable development deterministically built into her bones; we see a creature in pursuit of her own goodness as pronounced by her lover. He calls her forth, *her eyes like doe's eyes, her breasts like twin roses among the lilies and the smell*

Children, Chapel  
11am Holy Eucharist in Spanish, Chapel  
11am Godly Play, Room 6  
11am A Joyful Path, Room 11  
11:15am Holy Eucharist, Main Church  
1:30pm Vestry Meeting, Room 1  
2pm Christian Counseling Network, Library  
5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel  
6pm Youth Group Cookout, Hight-Walker Home

#### Monday, May 23

6:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Undercroft Commons  
7pm Girl Scouts, Room 6

#### Tuesday, May 24

6:30pm Spanish Class, Ascension House  
7pm Education for Ministry, Library  
7pm Codependents Anonymous, Room 1  
7pm Stillwater Mindfulness Group, Chapel  
8:30pm AI-Anon, Room 1

#### Wednesday, May 25

10am *Gilead* Book Group, Library  
7pm Ensemble Rehearsal, Main Church  
8pm Gamblers Anonymous, Chapel

#### Thursday, May 26

10am Yoga, Chapel  
11am Episcopal Seeking Seniors, Asbury  
6pm Bariatric Support Group, Chapel  
7:45pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

## Worship Leaders

*of her garments like the smell of Lebanon* - all the things she always could be but never was until they were spoken by him whose name is like ointment poured forth - and she says, *Draw me, we will run after you. The King has brought me into his chambers, we will remember your love more than wine.*" - Robert F Capon, "The Third Peacock: The Problem of God and Evil."

It really is all about love, don't you think?

Randy

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**Announcements**  
(click for more info)

#### HEADLINERS

[Survey About Sunday School](#)

[Youth Group Cookout, May 22](#)

[Blood Pressure Screenings, May 22](#)

[Final Budget Discussion Group, May 29](#)

[Annual Picnic; June 5](#)

#### CHRISTIAN FORMATION

[Godly Play, May 22](#)

[A Joyful Path, May 22](#)

[Christian Formation Summer Break](#)

[Work Camp, 2016](#)

[Yoga at Ascension](#)

[Education for Ministry](#)

[New Book for Wednesday Morning Book Group: \*Gilead\*](#)

[Women's Retreat](#)

[Listening Heart Community at Ascension](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

#### WORSHIP

[Attention Worship Leaders](#)

[Worship Rosters, April-June, 2016](#)

[Bulletins for Tablets Link](#)

#### SERVICE

**Sunday, May 22**

**Preacher:** (The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson

*Flower Delivery:* Alice Padmore, Esther Sawyer

**7:45 AM Reader/Prayers:** Jean Cohn, *Chalicians:* Enid Cole, Sharon Hayden, *Healing Prayer:* Lisa Murdock, *Acolytes:* Raymond Chin, Jackson Douglas, Aidan Douglas, *Welcome Team:* Enid Cole, Janet King, *Altar Guild:* Leslie Sanya, Wadai Dennis

**9:00 AM, Readers:** Andrew Greene, Susan McLaughlin, *Prayers:* Betsy Hasegawa, *Chalicians:* Major Clemens, Jerry Pfadenhauer, *Healing Prayer:* Javier Ocampo, *Acolytes:* Kofi Kwamena-Poh, Kayleigh Yankie, Sam Mendimasa, *Welcome Team:* Swithin Kwamena-Poh, Kevin Blanc, Algernon Thomas, *Altar Guild:* Ophelia Yalley-Ogunro, Esther Taylor, Sari Stoddard

**11:15 AM Reader:** Peedy Terry, *Chalicians:* Georgana Maines, Page Salazar, *Healing Prayer:* Laura Shay, *Welcome Team:* Sciou Broderick, Peedy Terry, *Altar Guild:* Laura Shay

**5:00 PM Reader/Chalician:** Rebecca Smith-Kevern

**Eucharistic Visitors:** Barb Mansfield, Enid Cole

[Outreach Retreat](#)

[Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation](#)

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)

[Lord's Table Soup Kitchen](#)

**LIFE AT ASCENSION**

[Ascension's Adventurers Seeking Ideas](#)

[June Movie Night](#)

[Ascension Softball](#)

[Father's Day Food Drive](#)

[Congratulations Graduates](#)

[Church Yard Sale and Car Wash](#)

[Summer Office Hours](#)

[Living with Serious Illness Group](#)

[Keeping the Feast](#)

[Spanish Classes](#)

[Prayer Request Updates](#)

**PUBLICATIONS**

[Link to the Annual Report and the Vestry Candidate Questionnaire](#)

[May Ascendant](#)

[Together We Shine](#)

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**Prayers**

**FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE CLOSELY LINKED WITH OURS:**

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Holy Trinity, Collington, Holy Trinity Day School, Trinity Church, DC, Trinity Church, Newport & Hughesville and Old Fields Chapel, Trinity Church, St. Mary's Parish and St. Mary's Chapel, and Trinity Church, Upper Marlboro

**PRAY FOR COMFORT, HEALING, COURAGE, AND HOPE:**

Rose, Carol, Alvaro, Marguerite, Sarah, Nancy, Janet, Lou, Fran, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for peace in the world and all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families.

Equip us and empower us to be witnesses to your love - as advocates and as servants, as ministers of welcome and of hope for all affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

We pray for all special intentions, and those on our extended Healing Prayer List.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:**

Given by Owen and Elizabeth Lennon, in celebration of their 49th wedding anniversary.

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