

# <u>Link to the Bulletins for</u> <u>November 22</u>

<u>Link to Randy's Sermon</u>
<u>"Birthpangs" from November</u>
15.

<u>Link to the Episcopal Diocese</u> <u>of Washington's W</u>ebsite

# Calendar Highlights

Saturday, November 21
9am Ascension's Adventure
Group - Antietam
9am Overeaters Anonymous,
Undercroft Commons
11am Al-Anon, Undercroft
Commons
11am Overeaters
Anonymous, Chapel
3pm Housewarming for
Javier, Ascension House

Sunday, November 22 Blood Pressure Screenings after each Service in 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 Joyful Path, Room 11 9am ESOL Class, Room 1 10:15am Holy Eucharist for Families with Young Children, Chapel 10:15 am Cottage Meeting, Library

# This Week at Ascension

Blessed to Be a Blessing Stewardship Reflection Series

Proper 23B ◆ Mark 10:17-31
....You lack one thing: go sell what you own, and give the money to the poor; and you will have treasure in heaven: then come follow me.

Several years ago I had the privilege to serve at the Anglican Cathedral in Cape Town, South Africa. While serving on the clergy staff, I was mentored by one of my heroes, Archbishop Desmond Tutu. "The Arch" has often remarked that the spiritual life is about learning to dance to the tune of the one who makes the music (God). Picking up on the Archbishop's metaphor, I believe that the key that God most often composes in is "The Key of G"; "G" because it is within God's grace and generosity that we live, we move and have our being. Accordingly, if we wish to be Disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to live in the key of G.

Living in the key of G is what the Rich Young Man is invited to do by Jesus. He considers himself a proper and pious Jew who obeyed the law. He respectfully asks Jesus what must he do to inherit eternal life. Jesus begins with the recitation of the Law in the form of the Ten Commandments. The Rich Man is able to say that he has kept all those since his childhood. Then Jesus lovingly perceiving the man, as only he can, focuses on the chink in this man's discipleship – his attachment to his wealth. The man walks away grieving.

It is important to say that Jesus was not focused on the man's wealth per se, but his attachment to that wealth. He was unwilling to let go of possessions that are come from God's generosity and are temporal. His wealth was not eternal, nor was it deserved fruits of labor of a self-made man. To quote Martin Marty, the highest form of idolatry is the self-made man who worships his Creator. A Christian understanding is that all that we have (our life, our freedom, our gifts, our talents and whatever measure of wealth we attain) is from the Grace of a Generous God.

11am Holy Eucharist in Spanish, Chapel 11am Godly Play, Room 6 11am Joyful Path, Room 11 11:15am Holy Eucharist, Main Church 12:15pm Cottage Meeting, Library 1:30pm Vestry Meeting, Room 1 5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel 6pm Cottage Meeting, Chapel 6pm Youth Group, Undercroft Commons

Monday, November 23 6:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Undercroft Commons 7pm Girl Scouts, Room 6

Tuesday, November 24 9:30am Staff Meeting, Library 7pm Spanish Bible Study, Ascension House 7pm Still Water Mindfulness Practice, Chapel 7pm Codependents Anonymous, Room 1 8:30pm Al-Anon, Room 1

Wednesday, November 25 10am Falling Upward Book Group, Library 7pm Spanish Class, Ascension House 8pm Gamblers Anonymous, Chapel

Thursday, November 26 Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed 11am Holy Eucharist, Main Church

Friday, November 27 Office Closed

Link to our Online Calendar

**Worship Leaders** 

Thus, we are called to respond to God's love as a gift of grace. This grace requires us to live each day in gratitude for God's grace and with a spirit that calls us to be generous to God and others with our time, our talent and our treasure. Our call is to put money and possessions into a right relationship with God.

That is what I mean by living in the "Key of G".

The Very Rev. Walter B.A. Brownridge, Dean The Cathedral Church of St. Andrew The Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii

#### Reflection Questions:

- How do you respond to the grace of a generous God?
  How does living in God's grace and generosity change you?
  What are the challenges in putting money and possessions into right relationship?
- Announcements (click for more info)

### **HEADLINERS**

Cottage Meetings, Sunday
Blood Pressure Screenings, November 22
Thanksgiving Day Eucharist
Ascension's Giving Tree, 2015

#### CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Godly Play, November 22

A Joyful Path, November 22

Youth Group/Formation, November 22

No Christian Formation Classes, November 29

Falling Upward, Wednesday Morning Book Group

Yoga at Ascension

<u>Listening Heart Community at Ascension</u>

Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group

#### WORSHIP

**Bulletins for Tablets Link** 

**Attention Worship Leaders** 

Sunday, November 22

Preacher: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-

Wilkinson

Flower Delivery: Alice Padmore, Esther Sawyer

7:45 AM Reader/Prayers: Leslie Sanya, Chalicists: Enid Cole, Wadai Dennis, Healing Prayer: Lisa Murdock. Acolytes: Raymond Chin.

Murdock, Acolytes: Raymond Chin, Jackson Douglas, Aidan Douglas, Welcome Team: Frank Sanya, Wadai Dennis, Altar Guild: Georgette

Dennis

9:00 AM Readers: Sue Snay, Gary McLaughlin, Prayers: Kate Siberine, Chalicists: Swithin Kwamena-Poh, Sari Stoddard, Healing Prayer: Diana Gustafson, Acolytes: Manny Johnson, Kofi Kwamena-Poh, Welcome Team: Margaret Joseph, Dorett Sutherland, James Black, Jonathan Black, Altar Guild: Sarah Gallagher, Dotty Pfadenhauer

11:15 AM Reader: Tunde Ayinde, Chalicists: Page Salazar, Georgana Maines, Healing Prayer: Sarah Rubin, Welcome Team: Sciou Broderick, Peedy Terry, Altar Guild: Anika Lalmansingh, Avin Lalmansingh

5:00 PM Reader/*Usher*: Kate Siberine

Eucharistic Visitors: Enid Cole, Jean Cohn

#### **SERVICE**

Child First Montgomery

**Gaithersburg HELP** 

Ascension's Cancer Support Group

Lord's Table Soup Kitchen

Action in Montgomery, December 9

#### LIFE AT ASCENSION

Annual Giving Campaign Update with Annual Giving Form

Housewarming for Javier, November 21

Ascension's Adventure Group to Visit Antietam, November 21

Movie Night, December 4

**Christmas Flowers** 

Nursery Volunteers Needed

Keeping the Feast

Spanish Classes

**ESOL Classes** 

**Prayer Request Updates** 

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

November Ascendant

Together We Shine

## **Prayers**

For Those Whose Lives are Closely Linked With Ours:
In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Christ Church,
Chaptico, Christ Church, Clinton Parish, Christ Church, Port
Tobacco Parish, Christ Church, Prince George's Parish, Christ
Church, Wayside Parish, Christ Episcopal School, The
Daughters of the King, Pray for church musicians and choirs,
Pray for all travelers, Pray for our national life and all the
blessings of God's hand.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for Wangaratta, Australia.

Pray for Comfort, Healing, Courage, and Hope:
Peg, The FitzPatrick Family, Sally, Hollis, The Johnson Family,
Tracy, Susan, Johnetta, Marcia, Julia, Nancy, Catherine, Janet,
Lou, Fran, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in

trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for Ascension's Minister of Music Discernment Team.

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. For all people affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

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

Compassionate God and Father of all, we are horrified at violence in so many parts of the world. It seems that none are safe, and some are terrified. Hold back the hands that kill and maim; turn around the hearts that hate. Grant instead your strong Spirit of Peace- peace that passes our understanding but changes lives.

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

#### THANKSGIVING:

For the life of Bryan FitzPatrick, son of Gerry and Kristin FitzPatrick and brother of Kerry and Jerry FitzPatrick, who died on November 15.

Episcopal Church of the Ascension 205 South Summit Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2315 301-948-0122

ascensionmd.org