



# This Week at Ascension

[Link to the Bulletins for  
October 2](#)

[Link to Jason Cutshall's  
Sermon "The Rich Blind Man"](#)

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

## Calendar Highlights

**Friday, September 30**  
1pm Al-Anon, Room 1

**Saturday, October 1**  
9am Overeaters Anonymous,  
Chapel  
11am Al-Anon, Undercroft  
Commons  
11am Overeaters  
Anonymous, Room 1

**Sunday, October 2**  
7:45am Holy Eucharist, Main  
Church  
8:15am Choir Rehearsal  
9am Holy Eucharist, Main  
Church  
9am Godly Play, Room 6  
9am Joyful Path, Room 11  
10:15am Holy Eucharist for  
Families with Young  
Children, Chapel  
11am Holy Eucharist in  
Spanish, Chapel  
11am Godly Play, Room 6  
11am Joyful Path, Room 11  
11:15am Holy Eucharist,  
Main Church  
11:15am Families with  
Young Children Cell Group--

## Living Generously *Donn Morgan*

I have a friend at my local coffee shop who often wonders how I can read the paper every day. Much the same might be said of our biblical texts this week! Indeed, they ring many bells contained in the daily news of our world. Violence, loss, destruction, desolation, suffering, and injustice—all of these bring suffering, grief, incredible sadness, and tears. The stewardship theme before us, generous living, is mystifying in light of this. How, with all the loss and bad stuff of our world, can we live generously? Even to speak of generosity in such a context seems incongruous and unrealistic. And then there's God! For some, in biblical and in contemporary times, there's not much evidence of God's presence. And this often creates anger, frustration, and lamentation. Yet our laments become prayers—calling for the community and for God to remember. In that remembering we recall and reaffirm our relationship with the One who takes away, and gives; who destroys, and creates; who visits retribution and justice on all, both us and our oppressors. In the midst of all this bad stuff, in the context of our prayer, there is a movement from lament to hope, from despair to trust, from frustration and fear to confidence. Calls and prayers for hope witness to something easily forgotten: that we have a relationship with God that can and will sustain in the most difficult of times. Yes, we will cry and lament and sometimes praise will be difficult to achieve. But we are called to live in that hope and that relationship—to live generously and faithfully—no matter what the world looks like, no

Library  
5pm Holy Eucharist, Chapel  
with Blessing of the Beasts

**Monday, October 3**  
1pm AI-Alon, Library  
6:30pm Overeaters  
Anonymous, Room 4  
7pm Listening Hearts  
Community, Library

**Tuesday, October 4**  
6pm Bible Study, Ascension  
House  
7pm Codependents  
Anonymous, Room 1  
7pm Stillwater Mindfulness  
Group, Chapel  
8:30pm AI-Anon, Room 1

**Wednesday, October 5**  
10am Book Group, Library  
1pm AI-Anon, Room 1  
6:30pm Spanish Class,  
Ascension House  
7pm Ensemble Rehearsal,  
Main Church  
7pm Overeaters Anonymous,  
Room 1  
8pm Gamblers Anonymous,  
Chapel

**Thursday, October 6**  
10am Yoga Class, Chapel  
7:45pm Choir Rehearsal,  
Choir Room

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

## Worship Leaders

**Sunday, October 2**  
Preacher: (The Rev.) Randy Lord-  
Wilkinson

*Flower Delivery:* Alice Padmore,  
Esther Sawyer  
7:45 AM *Reader/Prayers:* Jean  
Cohn, *Chalicians:* Sharon Hayden,  
Enid Cole, *Healing Prayer:* Meredith  
Horan, *Acolytes:* Ron Hayden, Aidan  
Douglas, *Welcome Team:* Janet  
King, Wadai Dennis, *Altar Guild:*  
Georgette Dennis

9:00 AM, *Readers:* Alvaro Gonzalez,  
Marsha Sutherland, *Prayers:* Suzyn

matter how much we've earned and own, or how much we've lost. When everything seems depressingly hopeless—in that time, through our tears and prayers, comes a realization that God is there, and that God is more than enough. For none of it is ours anyway, as our gospel lesson makes clear: "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done." To paraphrase another biblical writer: "If we treat gold as dust, then we'll come to understand that God is our gold.... We will have delight in God and we will have answered prayers." And then, in light of and because of our rich relationship with God, we can, and will, live faithfully and generously.

*Donn Morgan is Professor of Old Testament Emeritus at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, California. After a career of teaching and administration at CDSP, Donn now does freelance teaching, editing, and writing in Old Testament studies with colleagues all over the world, as well as a bit of golf and work with his local Berkeley parish.*

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### [Announcements](#)

#### HEADLINERS

[Cell Groups at Ascension](#)

[Blessing of the Beasts](#)

[Outreach Retreat](#)

[First Armor of Light Viewing Scheduled](#)

[Episcopal Spiritual Life Inventory—Last Days to Enter!](#)

[Wellness Fair](#)

#### LIFELONG LEARNING

[Yoga at Ascension](#)

[Wednesday Morning Book: Group](#)

[Listening Heart Community at Ascension](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

Gonzalez, *Chalicians*: Jason Cutshall, Major Clemens, *Healing Prayer*: Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Acolytes*: Kofi Lisa Dickson, Richard McFarland, Roberta Taylor, *Welcome Team*: Nii Armah Akuete, Ruby King, Charles Dickson, *Altar Guild*: Ophelia Yalley-Ogunro, Esther Taylor, Joyce Bvumbe

11:15 AM *Reader*: Sarah Rubin, *Chalicians*: Laura Shay, Georgana Maines, *Healing Prayer*: Jason Cutshall, *Welcome Team*: Alex Langley, Alice Padmore, Kendall Anderson, *Altar Guild*: Georgana Maines

5:00 PM *Reader/Chalician*: Jason Cutshall

Eucharistic Visitors: Barb Mansfield

## WORSHIP

[Worship Rosters, October-December](#)

[Bulletins for Tablets Link](#)

## SERVICE

[The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen](#)

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)

## LIFE AT ASCENSION

[Prayer Request Updates](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

[Link to the Annual Report](#)

[October 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 St. Francis Church. Pray for All Animal Rescue Leagues in the Diocese, for human treatment of all of God's creatures, especially companion, rescue, and service animals.

Remember and pray for all Jewish people during the holy days of Rosh Hashanah (October 2-4) and Yom Kippur (October 11-13).

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

Monica, Caleb, Fe, Tom and Jeanne, 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.

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