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[Link to Service Leaflets  
for April 16](#)

[Link to Randy's sermon  
"Born to Lose"](#)

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

## Calendar Highlights

### Friday, April 14

12:00 p.m. Bilingual Stations to Go—Starting at Ascension  
1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Library  
7:30 p.m. **Prayer Book Liturgy**

### Saturday, April 15

9:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Chapel  
11:00 a.m. Al-Anon—Undercroft Commons  
11:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1  
7:30 p.m. **Great Vigil of Easter—Main Church**

### Easter Sunday, April 16

7:45 a.m. **Holy Eucharist — Main Church**  
**Festival**  
9:00 a.m. **Eucharist—Main Church**  
**Festival**  
11:00 a.m. **Eucharist—Main Church**  
11:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist in Spanish—Chapel**

# This Week at Ascension

## What's the Big Deal?

The consensus of many contemporary Christian theologians was that the Resurrection of Jesus may or may not have involved a literal resurrection of a corpse, and that it didn't matter in the sense that whether or not the Easter story in the Gospels is myth or history (it's both, in my view), you still have to hear what it's trying to communicate to you and really begin to live into it.

The first time I took a class on the Gospel of John (I did this *twice*), I wrote a paper on Jesus's bread of life discourse that he gave right after the miraculous feeding of the 5000 (which is the only miracle story found in *all four* gospels). Many of the *eyewitnesses* of (and participants in) that amazing meal didn't get it at all. They believed that Jesus ought to be made king because he'd solved the problem of famine (not unknown in first century Judea). Their misunderstanding was the occasion for his explanation of what it meant for people that he is the "bread of life," of which one may eat and never "die."

It is possible to witness a miracle and totally miss the point. You are the same person after as you were before.

The Resurrection of Jesus by God is God's 'yes' to the world's "no:" the crucifixion of the one who is the way, the truth and the life. It means that death is not the last word, but that the life of Jesus continues. We who endeavor, with God's help, to live as Jesus showed us, will also be free of the domination of the "evil powers of this world" and of the fear of death.

"So," as someone always wonders, "is that it? That we are emboldened to live as Jesus did because the Resurrection story shows us that the essence of his teaching and manner of life endures beyond his

**12:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist for Family with Young Children Followed by an Easter Hunt—Chapel**

### **Monday, April 17**

1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Library  
Overeaters  
6:30 p.m. Anonymous—Room 4  
**7:00 p.m. Listening Hearts Community—Library**

### **Tuesday, April 18**

**7:00 a.m. Mobile Med—Chapel**  
**11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting**  
Codependents  
7:00 p.m. Anonymous—Room 1  
Stillwater  
7:00 p.m. Mindfulness Group—Chapel  
8:30 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1

### **Wednesday, April 19**

1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Library  
Overeaters  
7:00 p.m. Anonymous—Room 1  
Gamblers'  
8:00 p.m. Anonymous—Chapel

### **Thursday, April 20**

**4:00 p.m. Tai Chi—Chapel**

[Link to our Online Calendar](#)

execution? What's the big deal, then?" It is a great question. Even if the Resurrection needn't involve the "miraculous" resuscitation of the body of Jesus, it isn't just the teaching and memory of the man that lived on. People then, and now, believe he lives and have encountered him. It's a pretty big deal when that happens. Hint: Jesus appears to people in the most unlikely ways and guises. No wonder his first followers had such trouble recognizing him.

And when you do catch a glimpse of him, you won't be the same.

Christ is risen!

Randy

## **Easter Eve and Easter at Ascension**

### **Good Friday, April 14**

12:00 p.m. "Stations to Go" - The Following Locations in Old Towne Gaithersburg:

1. The entrance to the main church
2. Gaithersburg Police Station
3. The bridge under 355
4. Wells - Robertson House
5. City Hall
6. The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen
7. The Hill at Bohrer Park
8. The Hospice
9. Ascension's Columbarium

Note: This is a bilingual Service.

7:30 p.m. Prayer Book Liturgy—Main Church

### **Easter Eve, Saturday, April 15**

7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil—Main Church

### **Easter Day, Sunday, April 16**

7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist—Main Church  
9:00 a.m. Festival Eucharist—Main Church  
11:00 a.m. Festival Eucharist—Main Church  
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Spanish—Chapel  
12:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist for Families with Young Children, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt—Chapel

### **Town Hall Meeting on the Budget, April 23**

Join Randy and members of the Vestry in the main church right after the 9:00 a.m. service (about 10:15) for an update on steps taken to resolve the budget deficit.

## **Thank You, Jason Cutshall!**

Jason will preach his last sermon on his last Sunday at Ascension, April 23. After the 11:00/11:15 services let feast in the Undercroft and say thank you! Bring something to eat, drink, and share.

### **HEADLINERS**

[Ascension 2017 Cookbook Update](#)

[One Ascension/Youth Sunday](#)

[Acolyte Training](#)

[New Wednesday Morning Book Group](#)

### **LIFELONG LEARNING**

[Monthly Music Program](#)

[Thursday Afternoon Tai Chi Class](#)

[Yoga At Ascension](#)

[Listening Heart Community](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

[Godly Play](#)

[A Joyful Path](#)

[Youth Group Spring Schedule](#)

### **WORSHIP**

[Worship Rosters, April-June](#)

### **CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

[Ministerio Felicidad](#)

[Men's Shelter Sandwich Making](#)

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

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)

[Mobile Med](#)

### **LIFE AT ASCENSION**

[Prayer Request Updates](#)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

[March Ascendant](#)  
[2017 Annual Report](#)  
[Together We Shine](#)

### **Prayers**

For Those Whose Lives are Closely Linked With Ours: All the Parishes in the Diocese of Washington, Diocesan Altar Guild and all the Parish Altar Guilds of the Diocese,  
Pray for the Good Stewardship of the Earth (International Earth Day - April 22)

### **Pray for Comfort, Healing, Courage, and Hope:**

Sandy, Sally, William, Christine, Suzanne, John, Carol, Mary, Elinor, Joseph, Abby, James, Margaret, Al & Jule, Warren Porter, Home, Nancy, Fran, and Tom 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 refugees and 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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### **Worship Leaders**

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**Sunday, April 16**

Preacher: Randy Lord-Wilkinson

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**7:45 AM**

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Reader/Prayers:	Enid Cole
Chalicians:	Edna Leak, Wadai Dennis
Healing Prayer:	Jason Cutshall
Acolytes:	Ron Hayden, Aidan Douglas
Welcome Team:	Jean Cohn, Don Cohn
Altar Guild:	Leslie Sanya, Wadai Dennis

Hospitality Angel: Janet King

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**9:00 AM**

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Reader: Andrew Greene, Gary McLaughlin

Prayer: Susan McLaughlin

Chalicians: Esther Tellu, Jason Cutshall

Healing Prayer: Susan McLaughlin

Acolytes: Lisa Dickson, Alfred Wasikye, Gary McLaughlin

Welcome Team:: Nii Armah Akuete, Ruby King, Charles Dickson

Altar Guild: TBA

Hospitality Angel: Marion Rice

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**11:15 AM**

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Reader: Peg Ruppel

Healing Prayer: Alex Langley

Welcome Team Scious Broderick, Peedy Terry, Emmanuel Nwankwo

Altar Guild: Georgana Maines

Chalician: Jason Cutshall, Laura Shay

Song Leader: Sue Snay

Hospitality Angel: Mary Layne-Brizan

Eucharistic Visitor: Jean Cohn

Flower Delivery: Alice Padmore, Esther Sawyer