



"We are ambassadors who represent Christ." – 2 Corinthians 5:20

## *This Week at Ascension*

### **Teilhard for Troubled Times**

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, a French philosopher, paleontologist, and Jesuit priest... was accused of false optimism, of an indifference to personal suffering after World War II when people and nations—still shaken from the horrors of the Holocaust and Hiroshima—struggled with personal and collective remorse. But Teilhard was by no means indifferent. His life-transforming vision of the oneness of humanity came to him in the midst of serving as stretcher bearer in the bloody trenches of World War I, and his writings on human progress rose from the untold depths of personal suffering he endured in faithfulness to a Church that actively blocked his path. He knew personal suffering only too well, and he looked straight into the face of the sorrow, the horror, and named it as such.

The haunting prayer woven into Teilhard's reflection on faith in *The Divine Milieu* makes clear that it is no cheap optimism he is dispensing here, but a wrenchingly honest acknowledgement of our human predicament and an unflinching fidelity to seeing God in every aspect of the earth, even in our human suffering:

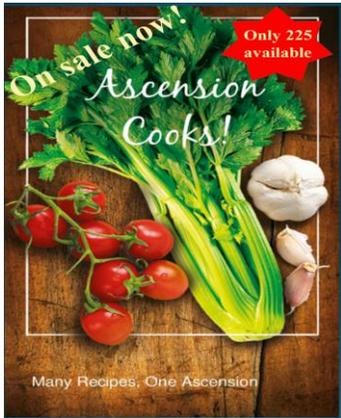
Ah, you know it yourself, Lord, through having borne the anguish of it as a man: on certain days the world seems a terrifying thing: huge, blind, and brutal. . . . At any moment the vast and horrible thing may break in through the cracks—the thing which we try hard to forget is always there, separated from us by a flimsy partition: fire, pestilence, storms, earthquakes, or the unleashing of dark moral forces—these callously sweep away in one moment what we had laboriously built up and beautified with all our intelligence and all our love. Since my human dignity, O God, forbids me to close my eyes to this . . . teach me to adore it by seeing you concealed within it. Amen.

- The Rev. Cynthia Bourgeault

**One Ascension Sunday October 29 -  
One Service Only, at 10:00 a.m.**

The time is near when we will again celebrate as one Ascension, at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 29. There will be no other services that day. The theme for the luncheon afterward is "Fall Celebration." Since it is so close to All Saints' Day, we are inviting everyone to bring a picture of a departed loved one and share their story with those gathered. There will also be a parade of children dressed in their Halloween costumes to start off the festivities. The Ascension Cookbook will be available for sale at \$10.00 each. They will make an excellent holiday gift. Ascension T-shirts and hoodies will also be on sale. Please plan on bringing a fall dish to share. The Cookbook Committee will be making several chili dishes as a main course. Come one, come all, to join the fun!

## ASCENSION COOKS! Reserve your copy October 22nd!



The Cookbook Committee is delighted to announce that our exciting, new cookbook, *Ascension Cooks! Many Recipes, One Ascension* is on its way! The cookbooks will be available for distribution at the next One Ascension Feast on October 29th.

You can take a sneak peek at the cookbook cover by [clicking here](#). Doesn't it look luscious? We have ordered 225 copies, and since more than 70 members of the Ascension community have contributed to the project, we suggest you reserve a cookbook for

yourself and, perhaps, for a friend or relative while they are readily available. The Cookbook Committee will staff a table after all of the Sunday services on October 22nd where you can reserve your copies. Starting that day, you can also reserve copies on the Ascension website. You can pay by PayPal on the website and by cash or check during the Sunday Services. We will distribute the books to those who have preordered them on October 29th following the One Ascension service at which time cookbooks will also be available for purchase.

Not sure how many cookbooks to order? Let us tempt you: Anyone who purchases two or more cookbooks will automatically be entered into a raffle to win a special cooking themed gift. We will also giftwrap your purchase so you are ready for the holidays!

Don't miss out! At only \$10.00, the cookbook is a steal, so you know it will sell out soon!

We are unabashedly proud of our effort. We hope that you will feel the same and join us at the Feast on October 29th!

## HEADLINERS

[Ascension Youth Group Fall 2017 Schedule](#)

[Washington Community: Gracious and Courageous Conversations: Deepening Understanding About Race, Community, and Country](#)

## LIFE LONG LEARNING

[Wednesday Book Group: \*Christ Actually: Reimagining Faith in the Modern Age\*](#)

[A Joyful Path for Sunday](#)

[Godly Play](#)

[Sunday Christian Formation Schedule Change](#)

[Thursday Afternoon Tai Chi Class](#)

[Listening Heart Community](#)

[Still Water Mindfulness Practice Group](#)

[Yoga](#)

## WORSHIPS

[Worship Rosters, October - December](#)

## CARING FOR COMMUNITY

[Ministerio Felicidad](#)

[Men's Shelter Lunch Preparation](#)

[Gaithersburg HELP](#)

[Mobile Med](#)

## LIFE AT ASCENSION

[ASCENSION COOKS! Reserve your copy October 22nd!](#)

[Zumba at Ascension!](#)

[Adopt-a-Space at Ascension](#)

[Contact Info Update](#)

[Prayer Request Updas](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

[October Ascendant](#)

[2017 Annual Report](#)

## My Camino to the Field of Stars

Dear Ascension Friends,

Some of you know me because I play flute with the musical group at the 11:15 service. I came to Ascension nearly two years ago, exhausted by trying to cope with the overwhelming events unfolding in our world, most especially the refugee crisis. The Ascension community has taken me in and comforted me. And Jerrold and the musical group have nurtured my musical abilities. I've been writing music for more than a year now, music that gives me peace as I write it and play it. I feel a enormous gratitude to God for guiding me to Ascension, and to you, who have embraced me. If you are interested go to YouTube and listen to my video "My Camino to the Field of Stars". If you want to hear more, let me know and I'll give you a CD or a free streaming of the whole album "Pilgrim's Way". You are responsible for this music, Ascension community, and I want to share it with you as much as I can.

Claire.

([Cjrosser@aol.com](mailto:Cjrosser@aol.com)).

## Lector Training

Seasoned lector Andrew Greene and Randy will hold a lector training after the 9:00 o'clock service on Sunday, October 22 in the main church. This is for current and new lectors.

## Contemplative Eucharist

"Contemplative Eucharist" at 5:00 p.m. Tonight in the Chapel: This is a service we actually haven't yet done at Ascension! It's been around for a few years, however. Our version tonight features Taize chants, periods of silent prayer (contemplation), and Communion, using a very 21st century prayer. Seekers welcome! - RAL

# Pledge Cards

Remember to Bring Your Pledge Cards to Church: And place them in the baptismal font as you come forward to receive Communion.

**Prayers For Those Whose Lives are Closely Linked With Ours:** Pray for church musicians and choirs, pray for interantional human rights and all organizations and individuals that promote peace and justice worldwide.

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

Beth, Sue, Melanie, Fran, Mike, Ruthie, Russ, Suzanne, 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.

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

## Calendar Highlights

### Friday, October 20

1:00 p.m.	Al-Anon—Room 1
6:30 p.m.	Couples 12-Step Program—Room 1

### Saturday, October 21

**9:00 a.m.** Overeaters Anonymous—Chapel

11:00 a.m. Al-Anon — Undercroft Commons

11:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1

### **Sunday, October 22**

**7:45 a.m.** Holy Eucharist—Main Church

**9:00 a.m.** Holy Eucharist—Main Church

**10:15 a.m.** Godly Play— Room 6

**10:15 a.m.** Joyful Path— Room 10

**10:15 a.m.** Service for Young Children— Chapel

**10:15 a.m.** Adult Class Group— Library

**10:10 a.m.** Men's Shelter Lunches—Undercroft

**11:00 a.m.** Misa en Espanol—Chapel

**11:15 a.m.** Holy Eucharist—Main Church

**1:30 p.m.** Vestry Meeting — Room 1

**5:00 p.m.** Holy Eucharist: Last Chance Church —Chapel

**6:00 p.m.** Youth Group —Undercroft

### **Monday, October 23**

1:00 p.m. Al-Anon—Room 1

**6:00 p.m.** Ensemble Rehearsal—Main Church

6:30 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous—Room 4

**6:30 p.m.** Spanish Class—Ascension House

**7:30 p.m.** Choir Rehearsal

## **Tuesday, October 24**

- 11:00 a.m.**      **Staff Meeting—Library**
- 5:30 p.m.**      **Regional Meeting—Main Church & Undercroft**
- 6:00 p.m.**      **Spanish Bible Study—Ascension House**
- 7:00 p.m.      Codependents Anonymous—Room 1
- 7:00 p.m.      Stillwater Mindfulness Group—Chapel
- 8:30 p.m.      Al-Anon—Room 1

## **Wednesday, October 25**

- 10:00 a.m.**      **Wednesday Morning Book Group—Library**
- 1:00 p.m.      Al-Anon—Room 1
- 7:00 p.m.      Overeaters Anonymous—Room 1
- 8:00 p.m.      Gamblers' Anonymous—Chapel

## **Thursday, October 26**

- 10:00 a.m.**      **Yoga-Chapel**
- 11:00 a.m.      Episcopal Seeking Seniors—Asbury
- 4:00 p.m.**      **Tai Chi—Chapel**
- 6:00 p.m.      Bariatric Support Group—Chapel
- 7:30 p.m.      Zumba —Undercroft

# worshipleader

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**Sunday, October 22**  
**Preacher: Laura Shay**

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## **7:45 AM**

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Reader/Prayers:	Jean Cohn
Chalicians:	David Burton, Wadai Dennis
Healing Prayer:	Jean Cohn
Acolytes:	Raymond Chin, Aidan Douglas
Welcome Team:	Jean Cohn, Don Cohn
Altar Guild:	Enid Cole, Mardia Dennis
Hospitality Angel:	Enid Cole

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## **9:00 AM**

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Reader:	Susan Ahalt, Gordon Donnelly
Prayer:	Marsha Sutherland
Chalicians:	Bob Waters
Healing Prayer:	Paul Whitmore
Acolytes:	Roberta Taylor, Monty Peterson, Gary McLaughlin
Welcome Team:	Dorett Sutherland, James Black, Jonathan Black

Altar Guild:	TBA
Hospitality Angels:	Kristin Fitzpatrick

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**11:15 AM**

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Reader:	Sarah Rubin
Healing Prayer:	Alex Langley
Welcome Team	Sciou Broderick, Emmanuel Nwankwo
Altar Guild:	Laura Shay
Chalicer:	Laura Shay, Sarah Rubin
Song Leader:	Claire Morin
Hospitality Angel:	Mary Layne-Brizan
Eucharistic Visitor:	Barbara Mansfield
Flower Delivery:	Esther Sawyer, Adoma Baffoe

## Quick Links

[Link to Service Leaflets for October 15](#)

[Link to Podcast of Randy's Sermon on Sunday, October 15: "The \(A\) Plan"](#)

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