

unchanging truth. changing lives

Alexandria Presbyterian Church is a welcoming community of believers, rejoicing in the gospel, transformed by its power, and responding with grateful hearts in service to our God and world. We long to taste the glory of God in such an astonishing way that the city of Alexandria will be drawn to the majesty and mercy of our great God. It is our desire that our worship will serve as an authentic model to our city of the possibilities for transformation of individuals, families and a city encountering the glory and grace of God.

■ call to worship | Reverend Mike Powell

Isaiah 57:15

¹⁵For thus says the One who is high and lifted up,
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
“I dwell in the high and holy place,
and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,
to revive the spirit of the lowly,
and to revive the heart of the contrite.

■ prayer of adoration

■ song of praise

Holy Holy Holy

Holy holy holy—Lord God Almighty—Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy holy holy—merciful and mighty—God in three Persons—blessed Trinity

Holy holy holy—All the saints adore Thee—Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee—Who wert and art and evermore shalt be

Holy holy holy—Though the darkness hide Thee—Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy—there is none beside Thee—Perfect in power love and purity

Holy holy holy—Lord God Almighty—All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea
Holy holy holy—merciful and mighty—God in three Persons—blessed Trinity

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■ scripture reading | Joel Bacon

1 Peter 2:1-12

A Living Stone and a Holy People

¹So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹²Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

■ congregational prayer

■ offertory prayer | Tom Mood

■ presentation of tithes and offerings

■ sermon scripture reading

James 4:1-12

Warning Against Worldliness

¹What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ²You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

¹¹Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. ¹²There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

■ sermon | Reverend Mike Powell

“He Gives More Grace”

Sermon series: The Book of James

■ song of response

Take My Life

Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days—Let them flow in ceaseless praise
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee

*Here am I—All of me
Take my life—It’s all for Thee*

Take my voice and let me sing always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee
Take my silver and my gold—Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect and use ev’ry power as You choose

Take my will and make it Thine—It shall be no longer mine
Take my heart it is Thine own—It shall be Thy royal throne
Take my love my Lord I pour—At Your feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be ever only all for Thee

Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to Thee

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■ benediction