

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

Colossians 1:15-20

The Preeminence of Christ

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

■ prayer of adoration

■ song of praise

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come Thou Fount of every blessing—Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the name—I'm fixed upon it—Name of Thy redeeming love

Hitherto Thy love has blessed me—Thou hast brought me to this place
And I know Thy hand will bring me safely home by Thy good grace
Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger interposed His precious blood

Oh to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander—Lord I feel it—Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart—oh take and seal it—Seal it for Thy courts above

Oh that day when freed from sinning I shall see Thy lovely face
Full arrayed in blood-washed linen—How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace
Come my Lord no longer tarry—Bring Thy promises to pass
For I know Thy pow'r will keep me till I'm home with Thee at last

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■ scripture reading | Vell and Carmen Rives

Psalm 90

From Everlasting to Everlasting. A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.

¹Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

²Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

³You return man to dust
and say, "Return, O children of man!"

⁴For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.

⁵You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning:

⁶in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

⁷For we are brought to an end by your anger;
by your wrath we are dismayed.

⁸You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.

⁹For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

¹¹Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?

¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.

¹³Return, O Lord! How long?
Have pity on your servants!

¹⁴Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁵Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
and for as many years as we have seen evil.

¹⁶Let your work be shown to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.

¹⁷Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!

■ congregational prayer

■ missions update | Carrie Brown, Young Life International, Europe Division

■ offertory prayer | Amy Weld

■ presentation of tithes and offerings

■ sermon scripture reading

James 4:13-17

Boasting About Tomorrow

¹³Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"—¹⁴yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. ¹⁵Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." ¹⁶As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. ¹⁷So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

■ sermon | Reverend Mike Powell

"If the Lord Wills"

Sermon series: The Book of James

■ song of response

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail—Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail—He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold—He must hold me fast

*He will hold me fast—He will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so—He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight—Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight—He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost—His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost—He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died—Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied—He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life—He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last

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■ benediction

■ announcements | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor