

# 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 | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

Romans 5:5

<sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

## ■ prayer of adoration

### ■ song of praise

#### Here Is Love

Here is love vast as the ocean—Loving-kindness as a flood  
When the Prince of Life our ransom shed for us His precious blood  
Who His love will not remember—Who can cease to sing His praise  
He can never be forgotten throughout heav'n's eternal days

On the mount of crucifixion fountains opened deep and wide  
Through the flood-gates of God's mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide  
Grace and love like mighty rivers poured incessant from above  
Heaven's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love

Here is love that conquered evil—Christ the firstborn from the grave  
Death has failed to be found equal to the life of Him Who saves  
In the valley of our darkness dawned His everlasting light  
Perfect love in glorious radiance has repelled death's hellish night

That same love beyond all measure—Mocked and slain by hateful men  
Lives and reigns in resurrection and can never die again  
Here is love for all the ages—Radiant Sun of Heav'n He stands  
Calling home His Father's children—Holding forth His wounded hands

Here is love vast as the heavens—Countless as the stars above  
Are the souls that He has ransomed—Precious daughters treasured sons  
We are called to feast forever on a love beyond our time  
Glorious Father Son and Spirit now with man are intertwined

*Lyrics: v. 1-2 by William Rees (1802-1883), v. 3, 5 by Matt Giles, v. 4 by Vell Rives. Music: Robert Lowry (1826-1899) © 2018 Sovereign Grace Praise/BMI, Bright Chapel Music, LLC/ASCAP (adm worldwide at www.CapitolCMGPublishing.com, excluding the UK & Europe which is adm by Integrity Music). From Together for the Gospel Live IV. Sovereign Grace Music, a division of Sovereign Grace Churches. All rights reserved. www.SovereignGraceMusic.org CCLI #7119282*

## ■ scripture reading | Lynn Streett

1 John 2:28-3:3

#### Children of God

<sup>28</sup>And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. <sup>29</sup>If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

<sup>3:1</sup>See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

## ■ congregational prayer

## ■ offertory prayer | Sue Edwards, Office Manager

## ■ presentation of tithes and offerings

## ■ sermon scripture reading

James 3:1-12

#### Taming the Tongue

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup>Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup>but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

## ■ sermon | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

### “The Only Tongue-Tamer”

*Sermon series: The Book of James*

## ■ song of response

#### Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

*Christ alone—Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love  
Through the storm—He is Lord  
Lord of all*

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless to stand before the throne

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## ■ benediction