

# 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

*Psalm 100*

<sup>1</sup>Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup>Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

<sup>3</sup>Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

<sup>4</sup>Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

<sup>5</sup>For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

## ■ prayer of adoration

### ■ song of praise

#### O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

O Love that will not let me go—I rest my weary soul in Thee  
I give Thee back the life I owe—that in Thine ocean depths its flow—may richer fuller be

O Joy that seekest me through pain—I cannot close my heart to Thee  
I trace the rainbow through the rain—and feel the promise is not vain—that morn shall tearless be

O Cross that liftest up my head—I dare not ask to fly from Thee  
I lay in dust life's glory dead—and from the ground there blossoms red—life that shall endless be

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## ■ scripture reading | Ben and Liz Crowley

*2 Chronicles 20:1-23*

#### Jehoshaphat's Prayer

<sup>1</sup>After this the Moabites and Ammonites, and with them some of the Meunites, came against Jehoshaphat for battle. <sup>2</sup>Some men came and told Jehoshaphat, "A great multitude is coming against you from Edom, from beyond the sea; and, behold, they are in Hazazon-tamar" (that is, Engedi). <sup>3</sup>Then Jehoshaphat was afraid and set his face to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. <sup>4</sup>And Judah assembled to seek help from the Lord; from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord.

<sup>5</sup>And Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court, <sup>6</sup>and said, "O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand you. <sup>7</sup>Did you not, our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel, and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? <sup>8</sup>And they have lived in it and have built for you in it a sanctuary for your name, saying, <sup>9</sup>If disaster comes upon us, the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house and before you—for your name is in this house—and cry out to you in our affliction, and you will hear and save.' <sup>10</sup>And now behold, the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom you would not let Israel invade when they came from the land of Egypt, and whom they avoided and did not destroy—<sup>11</sup>behold, they reward us by coming to drive us out of your possession, which you have given us to inherit. <sup>12</sup>O our God, will you not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."

<sup>13</sup>Meanwhile all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. <sup>14</sup>And the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. <sup>15</sup>And he said, "Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the Lord to you, 'Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God's. <sup>16</sup>Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel. <sup>17</sup>You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.' Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with you."

<sup>18</sup>Then Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the Lord, worshiping the Lord. <sup>19</sup>And the Levites, of the Kohathites and the Korahites, stood up to praise the Lord, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice.

<sup>20</sup>And they rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. And when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the Lord your God, and you will be established; believe his prophets, and you will succeed."

<sup>21</sup>And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the Lord and praise him in holy attire, as they went before the army, and say,

"Give thanks to the Lord,  
for his steadfast love endures forever."

<sup>22</sup>And when they began to sing and praise, the Lord set an ambush against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed. <sup>23</sup>For the men of Ammon and Moab rose against the inhabitants of Mount Seir, devoting them to destruction, and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they all helped to destroy one another.

## ■ testimony | Elder Matt Coombs

## ■ congregational prayer | Chris Sicks, Pastor of Mercy

## ■ offertory prayer

## ■ presentation of tithes and offerings

## ■ sermon scripture reading

*Acts 1:1-14*

#### The Promise of the Holy Spirit

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup>And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

#### The Ascension

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup>And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup>and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

#### Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

## ■ sermon | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

### "A Praying Life"

*Sermon series: Anticipation: Witnesses of the Supernatural*

## ■ song of response

#### O Great God

O great God of highest heav'n—Occupy my lowly heart  
Own it all and reign supreme—Conquer ev'ry rebel pow'r  
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war  
You have loved and purchased me—Make me Yours forevermore

I was blinded by my sin—Had no ears to hear Your voice  
Did not know Your love within—Had no taste for heaven's joys  
Then Your Spirit gave me life—Opened up Your word to me  
Through the gospel of Your Son—Gave me endless hope and peace

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace  
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face  
You are worthy to be praised with my ev'ry thought and deed  
O great God of highest heav'n glorify Your Name through me

*Recorded by Dave Broyles, Serenity Novak, 2020.*

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## ■ benediction