

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

New to APC? You are invited to a Zoom open house this morning to learn more about the church. Our leaders and staff will be online from 11:00-11:45am, so feel free to drop in at any time. Join through the link on the APC website or email.

Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting. Join with the APC community to pray for our church, community, and the world this evening from 5-6pm. Join through the Zoom link found in the church email.

Ladies, come celebrate May Day with us! Bring a plant to share and take one home for yourself. Join us on Saturday, May 1st from 7-9pm in the Russell Road parking lot. The evening will include dessert, fellowship, "speed dating", and sharing. Please don't forget to bring a chair and your mask! The RSVP link is in the APC email or on the website.

Next Baptism is Sunday, May 23. If you would like to have your child or children baptized, please contact Sue Edwards, Office Manager.

Save the Date for a Men's Breakfast: Saturday, May 22

Nursery Volunteers Needed! If you received an email from Erin about volunteering in the nursery, please sign up! If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Erin Furgerson, Director of Children's Ministries, for more information at erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org.

Nursery registration is required and offered up to age 4. We have a limited capacity and can only accommodate a certain number of children based on how many volunteers we have. Please review the Children's Ministry COVID-19 Protocols before you register at the link found in the APC email. Registration is open Wednesday through Friday each week.

The Children's Ministry is looking for volunteers. To find out what opportunities are available, contact Erin Furgerson at erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org.

Renewals for Ministry Safe. At APC we think it's very important to keep our ministry participants and volunteers safe. If you have received emails from APC and Ministry Safe, you are asked to complete the necessary renewals for Congregational Care and Safety screening. Even if you do not plan to volunteer yet, it is strongly encouraged that you keep your requirements up to date. Any questions can be sent to safety@alexandriapres.org.

CORPORATE PRAYER IN 2021

Every Sunday, 8am—Chapel (RRC) or via Zoom. Praying for our Worship Service.
Second Saturday of the month, 9am—Zoom. Praying with our Elders for our church.
Third Saturday of the month, 11am—Zoom. Praying with the Prayer Committee.
Fourth Sunday of the month, 5pm—Zoom. Praying with our church community.
Intercessory Prayer Team. Contact Pastor Tom Holliday for details.

CHILDREN AND TEENS

Children's Ministry. Sunday evenings we welcome children in grades K-5 to experience gospel living and discipleship as they build relationships with one another and with the leaders of their small groups. Explorers is currently meeting the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 5-6pm on Zoom. Contact Erin Furgerson, Director of Children's Ministries, at erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org for more information.

PROTAS Teen Ministry. PROTAS is currently rotating between Zoom and in-person youth group for all students grades 6-12 on Sunday evenings from 6-7:30pm. When the weather is nice outside, in-person youth group will be held outdoors at Russell Road. When the weather does not cooperate, we will still meet in-person in the Fellowship Hall at Russell Road. Please do not feel pressured to join in-person (or indoor) youth group unless you are comfortable. Discipleship groups are also meeting during the week. Contact Adam LeRoy, Director of Youth Ministries, at adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org for the schedule and more details.

ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday school | 11am over Zoom (check APC email for Zoom link)

Parables of Jesus. Join us today from 11am-12pm via Zoom for a new class looking at the parables of Jesus led by Elder Gary McGee. Jesus was a metaphorical theologian. His primary method of creating meaning was through metaphor, simile, parable and dramatic action rather than through logic and reasonings. He created meaning like a dramatist and a poet rather than like a philosopher. In Western tradition, serious theology has almost always been constructed from ideas held together by logic. In such a world the more intelligent the theologian, the more abstract he usually becomes, and the more difficult it is for the average person to understand what is being said. In contrast, when examined with care, the parables of Jesus are simple but serious theology, and He emerges as an astute theologian. To unlock the secrets of these metaphors, we must realize that when taken in the context of the culture in which they were delivered, the parables exhibit new meanings that otherwise would be missed. We must realize further that this is not just the Word of God, but the Word of God spoken to men in history. And finally, we must distinguish what meaning or meanings can be attributable legitimately to the parables.*

*paraphrased from "Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes" by Kenneth E. Bailey

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Email Distribution List. Weekly e-announcements keep the APC family informed of ministries, events, and prayer requests. To subscribe, please contact the church office at admin@alexandriapres.org.

Covenant Fellowship Groups (CFG). APC offers a variety of CFGs which meet for study, prayer, fellowship, accountability and growth. A list of locations, times and contact info can be found online or by contacting Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life, at josh.diack@alexandriapres.org.

UNCHANGING TRUTH—CHANGING LIVES

APC is a church of sinners. It's that simple. But we are bound together by the Gospel that saves us and transforms us. The transformation is, however, a process. God isn't through with us yet. Everyone in this church is struggling with something. If you are currently struggling with greed, gossip, drugs, alcohol, sexual brokenness, eating disorders, anger, pride, etc—you are not alone. More importantly, God does not intend for you to struggle alone. That's why He made the Church. If you would like to learn how your brothers and sisters at APC might be able to encourage you, pray with you and struggle alongside you, contact Tom Holliday at the church office.

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.

Scan to give to APC



Find us on social media!



Scan to register for today's service



*Please, no food or drink in sanctuary. Silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.
Please see a greeter or usher for assistance.*

Holy Worship Service

GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

■ **prelude** | *Praise Team*

■ **call to worship** | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

Psalm 34:8-9

⁸Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!
⁹Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no lack!

■ **prayer of adoration**

■ **song of praise**

Faithful

What is the sun if You don't give light
How do the stars shine
What are these days if You don't give life
How will these bones rise

*You are faithful—You are faithful
You are faithful—You are faithful*

Who keeps the lonely safe by His side
A shelter from the night
All I have needed Your hands provide

So we wait and we hope
'Cause we trust and we know
That Your Word is our strength and joy

When the whole earth shakes and the mountains quake
I won't be afraid 'cause You are faithful
Falling on my knees still You're holding me
I won't be afraid 'cause You are faithful

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GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ **scripture reading** | *Dorothy Taft*

Psalm 107:1-9

Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So

¹Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
²Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble
³and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
⁴Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to a city to dwell in;
⁵hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.
⁶Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
⁷He led them by a straight way
till they reached a city to dwell in.
⁸Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!
⁹For he satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

■ **congregational prayer**

■ **nicene creed**

Please stand and read in unison.

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

■ **offertory prayer** | *Jenn Foxworth*

■ **song of preparation**

Ancient Words

Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart
O let the ancient words impart

Words of life—words of hope
Give us strength—help us cope
In this world where'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

*Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart*

Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice
O heed the faithful words of Christ

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GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ **sermon scripture reading**

Matthew 7:1-6

¹“Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.

⁶“Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.”

■ **prayer for illumination**

■ **sermon** | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

“Quick to Judge”

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ **song of response**

At the Cross (Love Ran Red)

There's a place
Where mercy reigns and never dies
There's a place
Where streams of grace flow deep and wide
Where all the love I've ever found
Comes like a flood comes flowing down

*At the cross—at the cross
I surrender my life
I'm in awe of You—I'm in awe of You
Where Your love ran red and my sin washed white
I owe all to You—I owe all to You*

There's a place
Where sin and shame are powerless
Where my heart
Has peace with God and forgiveness
Where all the love I've ever found
Comes like a flood comes flowing down

Here my hope is found
Here on holy ground
Here I bow down here I bow down
Here arms open wide
Here You saved my life
Here I bow down here I bow

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jonas Myrin, Matt Armstrong, Matt Redman; © Countless Wonder Publishing (Admin. By Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.); CCLI Song #7017786

■ **benediction**

■ **announcements** | *Mike Powell, Pastoral Associate*