

**WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Prayer meeting this Saturday at 9am via Zoom.** The elders invite you to join them this Saturday morning for a time of prayer for our church, community, and world. The Zoom link was sent in the APC email and is available on the website.

**Children’s Church will start next week, May 9, for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade!** We will meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month during worship. Pre-registration is required. Limited capacity. Masks required. Parents, look for an email from Erin for more information.

**C.S. Lewis Institute Applications—deadline May 15.** APC highly recommends the CSLI Fellows Program. If you are interested in applying to be a Fellow, email Erin Furgerson, Director of Children’s Ministries, at [erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org](mailto:erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org). This year-long discipleship program is for believers who are already established in their faith, are highly motivated to grow deeper in their knowledge of and obedience to Jesus Christ, and who desire for God to use them more effectively in the work of His Kingdom. The Program focuses on the integration of heart and mind in a small group context, and is designed to dramatically alter the trajectory of spiritual growth. A combination of focused Bible study, dynamic teachers, classic writers, experienced mentors, effective small groups and active response to the Word and the Spirit helps believers mature in their ability to articulate, defend and joyfully live out their faith in public and personal life. Also, if you are interested in being a mentor, contact Erin to learn more. We hope to match up APC Fellows and Mentors in small groups to go through the program together.

**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**

**Save the Dates for VBS: Wilderness Escape, June 28-July 2**

**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](mailto: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](mailto:erin.furgerson@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](mailto: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](mailto: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 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](mailto: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](mailto: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!



YouTube

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** | *Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life*

*Please stand and read responsively from Psalm 103:13-19.*

Leader: <sup>13</sup>As a father shows compassion to his children,  
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

**All:** <sup>14</sup>**For he knows our frame;  
he remembers that we are dust.**

Leader: <sup>15</sup>As for man, his days are like grass;  
he flourishes like a flower of the field;

**All:** <sup>16</sup>**for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
and its place knows it no more.**

Leader: <sup>17</sup>But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to  
everlasting on those who fear him,

**All:** **and his righteousness to children’s children,**

Leader: <sup>18</sup>to those who keep his covenant  
and remember to do his commandments.

**All:** <sup>19</sup>**The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,  
and his kingdom rules over all.**

■ **songs of praise**

**What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

What a friend we have in Jesus  
All our sins and griefs to bear  
What a privilege to carry  
Ev’rything to God in prayer  
O what peace we often forfeit  
O what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry  
Ev’rything to God in prayer

Yesu kwetu ni Rafiki  
Mwambiwa haja pia  
Tukiomba kwa  
Babaye maombi asikia  
Lakini twajikosesha  
Twajitweka vibaya  
Kwamba tulimwomba  
Mungu dua alisikia

Have we trials and temptations  
Is there trouble anywhere  
We should never be discouraged  
Take it to the Lord in prayer  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share  
Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness  
Take it to the Lord in prayer

*Charles Crozat Converse, Joseph Medlicott Scriven; © Public Domain; CCLI Song # 27714*

**There’s No One Like Jesus**

There’s no one—there’s no one like Jesus  
There’s no one—there’s no one like Him  
There’s no one—there’s no one like Jesus  
There’s no one—there’s no one like Him

Hakuna Mungu kama wewe  
Hakuna Mungu kama wewe  
Hakuna Mungu kama wewe  
Hakuna na hata kuwepo

■ **prayer of adoration**

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ **scripture reading** | *Sharon Holliday*

*Matthew 15:21-28*

**The Faith of a Canaanite Woman**

<sup>21</sup>And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” <sup>24</sup>He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup>And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>27</sup>She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

■ **testimony** | *Deacon Didier Balagizi*

■ **congregational prayer**

■ **offertory prayer** | *Elder Gary McGee*

■ **farewell**

## GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ **sermon scripture reading**

*Matthew 7:7-11*

**Ask, and It Will Be Given**

<sup>7</sup>“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>9</sup>Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup>Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? <sup>11</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

■ **prayer for illumination**

■ **sermon** | *Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life*

**“An Invitation to Prayer”**

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ **song of response**

**Living Waters**

Are you thirsty  
Are you empty  
Come and drink these living waters  
Tired and broken  
Peace unspoken  
Rest beside these living waters

Christ is calling  
Find refreshing  
At the cross of living waters  
Lay your life down  
All the old gone  
Rise up in these living waters

*There’s a river that flows  
With mercy and love  
Bringing joy to the city of our God  
There our hope is secure  
Do not fear anymore  
Praise the Lord of living waters*

Spirit moving  
Mercy washing  
Healing in these living waters  
Lead your children  
To the shoreline  
Life is in these living waters

Are you thirsty  
Are you empty  
Come and drink these living waters  
Love forgiveness  
Vast and boundless  
Christ He is our living waters

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■ **benediction**

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