

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Inquirer's Class September 24-25. If you are interested in membership or in gaining a deeper understanding of APC, you should attend this class. You will receive an introduction to Christianity, the PCA, and the specific vision/mission and philosophy of ministry at APC. Membership is open to all who profess faith in Christ and believe the basic teachings of the Christian faith. Attending the class does not obligate you to join the church. The Friday night session is from 6:30-9pm starting with a dinner, and the Saturday session is from 9am-3pm. Please RSVP to Katie Coombs at katie.coombs@alexandriapres.org if you wish to attend, and indicate if you have childcare needs.

The Thursday morning women's Bible study meets from 9:45am-11:30am on the front porch at church or in the Chapel (depending on weather). We are studying Ephesians, using Heather Holleman's book "Included in Christ: Living a New Story From Ephesians". Childcare is provided.

The Thursday evening women's Bible study study meets on Zoom from 8-9:15pm using Heather Holleman's book "Included in Christ: Living a New Story From Ephesians".

Contact Lynn Streett at lynn.streett79@gmail.com to sign up for either Thursday study.

The Friday morning women's Bible study meets every other week in person either on the front porch at church or in the Chapel (depending on weather) from 9:45 –11:30am. We are studying Hebrews using study questions written by Nancy Guthrie. This study does not provide childcare, however we can reserve a room for homeschoolers. Please contact Ruth Fisher ruth.fisher@hotmail.com to let her know you are coming and if there is a need for the homeschooling room.

APC Women's Conference, Friday, October 1 (7:30-9pm) & Saturday, October, 2 (9-11:30am): This Is Us – Christ's Beautiful, Complicated Church! Join us as we explore Christ's Delight in and Design for His Church – He loves her; do we? Cost is \$15. Please find more details and sign up on the APC website or through the link sent in the email. Rooms are also reserved at the Holiday Inn Carlyle for Friday night. We encourage you to gather some friends and make this a real retreat!

Save the Date: Men's Breakfast, October 16 from 8-9:30am. More details will be coming soon!

Next Baptism is Sunday, October 24. If you would like to have your child or children baptized, please contact Katie Coombs at katie.coombs@alexandriapres.org.

Nominations for the Office of Elder and Deacon. You must 1) be a member to nominate, 2) ascertain the willingness of the individual to serve prior to submitting a nomination, and 3) nominate a man who has taken the Officer Training Class. Nomination forms are available at the table as you enter the building and may be submitted to any current elder or to Pastor Tom Holliday until October 17. Men currently taking the Officer Training Class and eligible for nomination are: Didier Balagizi, Wayne Folta, Pete Olsen, Bryant Streett, and Ben Youngquist. Aaron McCauley is eligible for re-election for the office of deacon.

The Congregational Meeting to elect officers will be Sunday, October 24 (time TBD).

CORPORATE PRAYER IN 2021

Every Sunday, 8am—Chapel 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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

You are invited to join the children's ministry in sharing the Gospel, teaching Bible truths and discipleship of our children! Needs include:

- Sunday School hour: An assistant (adult or teen) needed for the 2-3yr old class and Nursery volunteers needed for the Infants Room.
- Nursery volunteers (ages 0-4yrs) and Explorer's leaders (K-5th grade)
- Nursery workers for Sunday evening activities (This is a paid position for adults or teens.)

Please contact Erin Furgerson, Director of Children's Ministries at erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org to get more information about each opportunity.

CHILDREN AND TEENS

Nursery registration is required and offered up to age 4. We have a limited capacity based on how many volunteers we have. Please register at the link found in the APC email. Registration is open Wednesday through Friday each week.

Children's Church Room 124, 2nd and 4th Sundays during the sermon for children ages 5-7

Sunday school | 10:30-11:30am

Children	Infants: ages 0-1 in Bunnies Room; Ages 2-3 in Tigers Room; Age 4 in Elephants Room; Grades K-1 in Lions Room; Grades 2-3 in the Pipe Room; Grades 4-5 in Room 306 Chapel
Teens	

Sunday evening | 5-6:30pm

Explorers	<i>Children age 5-5th grade, Outside as weather permits and Fellowship Hall.</i> We welcome children to experience gospel living and discipleship as they build relationships with one another and with the leaders of their small groups.
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PROTAS	Contact: Erin Furgerson at erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org . <i>Teens 6th-12th grade</i> Connect each week in community with your peers — the schedule includes games, worship, small group discussions, a short devotion at a teen level, and more. Discipleship groups are also meeting during the week. Contact: Adam LeRoy at adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org .
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ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday school | 10:30-11:30am

Praying the Psalms, Led by Elder Marc Allen, Room 302/303.

When you pray, how do you pray? Do you pray as did David: "Be merciful to me and hear my prayer?" As the Sons of Korah did: "my soul pants for you O God?" Or as another Psalm-writer did: "Why, O Lord, do you stand far off?" However you pray, if you desire to come closer to God in your prayer life and to know Him more, then the Psalmists stand ready to guide you. By reading, studying, and praying selected Psalms, we will seek to understand better our own prayer lives, the shape a Godly prayer life takes, and the great promise of prayer God offers to us—an intimate relationship with Him.

The Gospel of John – The Word Made Flesh, Led by Elder Aaron Renenger and Pastor Josh Diack, Room 104.

Join us in our study of the Gospel of John, where we encounter Jesus as eternal God, Jesus as the incarnate Son, and Jesus as the Messiah who fulfills God's promises and brings grace upon grace. Whether one is brand new to the faith or has been a Christian for many years, the Gospel of John provides a deep and intimate portrait of our Lord and Savior, beckoning us not only to come to Jesus, but to remain in Him.

Sunday Evening | 5-6:30pm

Walking Wisely in Contentious Times, Led by Pastor Mike Powell, Chapel.

The events of the past couple of years have unearthed some real challenges for the church. Racial tensions, political division, social justice and a global pandemic have made it clear that the family of God isn't as unified as we may have thought. How do we navigate these difficult and divisive times? Come join us as we seek to lay a foundation and establish a framework to begin responding in a way that endeavors to maintain unity and honor Christ.

Gospel Conversations and Prayer, Led by Elder Matthew Coombs, Room 104.

We all benefit from a good Gospel Conversation but often do not take the time to sit down and have one. We also benefit from "praying in" those conversations and the beautiful truths of God. Come explore the wonders of the Bible, come with a question you have, come willing to share a recent conversation you have had with God that might encourage others, come and have a Gospel conversation! We will finish our time praying together as we "pray in" our conversation.

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.

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*
Psalms 96:1-3

¹Oh sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!
²Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
³Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!

■ **songs of praise**
Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living in His suff'ring
Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in Him we stand

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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

William Rees, Matt Giles, Vell Rives, Robert Lowry; © 2018 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI #7119282

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured love untold

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord He is alive
What a foretaste of deliv'rance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when He comes

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

■ **prayer of adoration**

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ **scripture reading** | *Elder Ryan and Erin Furgerson*
1 Corinthians 12:12-27

One Body with Many Members
¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

■ **congregational prayer**

■ **offertory prayer** | *Amy Weld*

■ **children's message**

■ **musical offering** | *Serenity Novak, Worship Assistant*

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ **sermon scripture reading**

Romans 15:1-7

The Example of Christ

¹We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. ²Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. ³For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me." ⁴For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

■ **prayer for illumination**

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

"The Welcoming Church" *Sermon series: Living Out Your Mission*

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ **song of response**

Who You Say We Are

Oh how great is the love
The Father has lavished on us
That we should be called the children of God
Oh how great was the cost
The Father was willing to pay
So we could be called the children of God

*And all that we can say is thank You thank You
And all that we can say is thank You thank You*

We are Your sons we are Your daughters
Hallelujah we are who You say we are
So we lift our hands and cry Abba Father
Hallelujah we are who You say we are
Hallelujah we are who You say we are

Oh how great is Your amazing grace
That took us as orphans and slaves
And made us Your heirs and gave us Your name
There's nothing more that we could ever do
You finished it all on the cross
And rose from the grave and brought us with You

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■ **dismissal**

Leader: Let us go forth and serve our city and our world as those who love the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
All: We will go forth and serve our city and our world in the name of Christ.

■ **benediction**

■ **announcements** | *Stacey Diack*

■ **recessional anthem** | *Adult Choir*

Hark! I Hear the Harps Eternal

Hark! I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore
As I near those swollen waters with their deep and solemn roar.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lamb! Glory to the great I AM.

And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day
Passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away.

Some have crossed before us safely to that land of perfect rest.
Can ye hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest?

Mighty Jesus, bear us over there to kneel before thy throne;
May we join thy saints forever praising thee and thee alone.

Words: Traditional American. Music: "Invitation," William Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835.