



Alexandria Presbyterian Church
DEDICATION SERVICE
September 9, 2022

I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.
Because your love is better than life my lips will glorify you.
I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.
Psalm 63:2-4



The Cross

Hanging central and above the pulpit where the living Word of God is read and preached is the Cross. The Cross is a reminder of the price that Jesus the Spotless Lamb paid for our sins – the wrath of God has been satisfied. Christ's payment of our debt makes possible our reconciliation and intimate relationship with God the Father. Through the enabling work of the Spirit, we gather in the sanctuary to worship our God with awe and the joy of intimacy with the Father.

The Cross is bare as Christ rose from the grave on the third day and is seated on the right hand of the Father. The ring has no beginning and no end and is symbolic of the Father's infinite love for His Son Jesus, and the inheritance of that love we enjoy as God's sons and daughters. Because of this Love, the Family of God can be in communion and worship in unity.

The Cross has been used within the Christian Church, the Bride of Christ, since the early centuries following Christ's death.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mike Powell, Pastoral Associate

Psalm 100

Please stand and read responsively.

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into His presence with singing! Know that the Lord, He is God!

All: It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name.

All: For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

SONG OF PRAISE

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (*Trinity Hymnal #53*)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;

Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,

Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth.

Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been

Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;

Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.

Ponder anew what the Almighty will do

If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that hath life and breath come now with praises before Him!

Let the amen sound from His people again;

Gladly fore'er we adore Him.

Words by Joachim Neander, trans. Catherine Winkworth; Music from Straisund Gesangbuch;

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PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

Please read in unison.

Almighty God, gracious Father, we confess that we are not worthy of Your presence, but we look now to the Lamb of God, Who takes away our sin. Through Him we would now come near to You, listening to Your voice, trusting in Your love, delighting in Your Word, and leaning on Your arm. We joyfully beg to see Your face! Now cleanse our minds of all error and our hearts of all idols, that we may shine in the world with the radiant light of Your Spirit and Your character. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All;
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save,
till on that cross, as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied,
for every sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
then bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am His and He is mine —
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend; © 2001 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); CCLI Song # 3350395

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Matt Coombs, Executive Director of Ministries

HISTORY OF APC

Dorothy Taft, Founding Member

GREETINGS FROM POTOMAC PRESBYTERY

Matt Roberts, Pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church, Germantown, MD

LITANY OF DEDICATION

Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life & Missions

Please stand and read responsively.

Leader: To You, God and Father of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: To You, eternal Son of God, Redeemer of Your people and Head of the church:

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: To You, Spirit of God, Lord and Giver of life, our Teacher, Sanctifier and Comforter:

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the worship of God in praise and prayer; For the preaching of the gospel of the grace of God; For the celebration of the holy sacraments.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the diffusion of sacred knowledge; For the promotion of righteousness; For the extension of the kingdom of God.

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For release of the captives; For recovering of sight to the blind; For rest to the heavy laden;

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For comfort to those who mourn; For strength to those who are tempted; For assurance to those of little faith:

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: For the sanctifying of the family; For the nurture of the young; For the perfection of believers:

All: We dedicate this house.

Leader: In gratitude for the gracious keeping of the divine covenant throughout past generations; In reliance upon the promise that the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church; In the hope of eternal glory of the church triumphant:

All: We dedicate this house.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

The Church's One Foundation (*Trinity Hymnal #347 vv. 1,2,4,5,6*)

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is His new creation by water and the Word:
from heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
with his own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

The church shall never perish; her dear Lord — to defend,
to guide, sustain, and cherish — is with her to the end;
though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,
against a foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

Words by Samuel J Stone; Music by Samuel S Wesley; © Public Domain; CCLI Song # 55377

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rob Coit, Operations Manager

MUSICAL OFFERING

Adult Choir

Sanctuary of Praise

God opens wide the door; O come, and enter in,
for when His church is filled with praise, His glory dwells within.
Proclaim His excellence, extol His faithfulness;
for He has placed His seal on us that no one can erase.
A dwelling place for God, a temple of His grace —
O come and enter in our sanctuary of praise.

The Cornerstone is Christ, and sacred in our sight;
His sure foundation, built with gold, shall stand the fiery fight!
The foe shall ne'er prevail; he strikes the church in vain;
the workmanship is Christ's alone; His kingdom shall remain.

God's faithfulness abounds, His mercy knows no end
and all the promises in Christ are yes and sure amens!
We are His dwelling place, a temple of the Lord;
The bedrock of the church is formed on prophets' holy words.
A dwelling place for God, a temple of His grace —
O come and enter in our sanctuary of praise.

Words by Carol Hodge, based on Eph. 2:19-22; Music by Dave Broyles;

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1 Chronicles 29:10-22**David Prays in the Assembly**

¹⁰Therefore David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: “Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. ¹¹Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. ¹²Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. ¹³And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name. ¹⁴“But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. ¹⁵For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding. ¹⁶O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. ¹⁷I know, my God, that you test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people, who are present here, offering freely and joyously to you. ¹⁸O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep forever such purposes and thoughts in the hearts of your people, and direct their hearts toward you. ¹⁹Grant to Solomon my son a whole heart that he may keep your commandments, your testimonies, and your statutes, performing all, and that he may build the palace for which I have made provision.”

²⁰Then David said to all the assembly, “Bless the Lord your God.” And all the assembly blessed the Lord, the God of their fathers, and bowed their heads and paid homage to the Lord and to the king. ²¹And they offered sacrifices to the Lord, and on the next day offered burnt offerings to the Lord, 1,000 bulls, 1,000 rams, and 1,000 lambs, with their drink offerings, and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel. ²²And they ate and drank before the Lord on that day with great gladness.

SONG OF RESPONSE

Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice;
All creation rises to rejoice.

*Behold our God, seated on His throne,
Come let us adore Him!
Behold our King, nothing can compare,
Come let us adore Him!*

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His Words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave;
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

You will reign forever! (Let Your glory fill the earth!)

Words and music by Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, and Stephen Altrogge; © 2011 Sovereign Grace Praise, Sovereign Grace Worship (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song # 5937510

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Amen.

BENEDICTION

*We invite you to join us downstairs immediately following the service
for a time of food and fellowship.*

*Our worship services meet at 9am and 11am on Sunday morning,
with fellowship in between services. We would love for you to join us!*

ALEXANDRIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: THROUGH THE YEARS

1986 ▶ APC WAS FOUNDED

Pastor Bob Shoof was called as the organizing pastor of APC in 1986, in response to Bob Morrison's vision for a PCA church in Alexandria. The core group consisted of about 30 people. APC's first meeting location was in the Campagna Center in Old Town, Alexandria.

1990 ▶ TOM HOLLIDAY IS CALLED TO PASTOR APC

Pastor Tom, Sharon, and their children moved to Alexandria to begin a new season of ministry.

1992 ▶ WORSHIP AT THE COMMUNITY PRAISE CENTER

The Lord opened the doors for us to share space with a Seventh Day Adventist congregation, since the building was not being used on Sundays. The space allowed our congregation to grow in numbers during these five years of worship.

1997 ▶ WORSHIP AT DEL RAY BAPTIST CHURCH (DRBC)

DRBC was our church home for 25 years. DRBC was very generous in allowing us to use the space, which enabled significant growth and robust ministry.

2016 ▶ PURCHASE OF ALEXANDRIA BIBLE CHURCH (ABC)

For many years, the property at 1300 West Braddock Road was owned and occupied by ABC. Our church had a close relationship with theirs through pastoral prayer sessions and a combined youth group. When the ABC leadership made the decision to dissolve, they offered to sell the property to APC at a very affordable cost. The construction of our new church home will ensure the continuing proclamation of the Gospel, not only as has been done for the past 70 years, but well into the future.

2021 ▶ CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BUILDING

It was determined that the existing church building was too small to accommodate our needs. After much deliberation, the architects determined that indeed the property could provide sufficient space for our new church home. A Ground Breaking Ceremony was held on January 9, 2021, and construction began shortly after!

2022 ▶ NEW CHURCH HOME ON WEST BRADDOCK ROAD

July 31, 2022 marked our first worship service in our new church home. We thank God for His provision of this beautiful new building, which will provide for our ministry needs and the continued proclamation of the Gospel.

MINISTRIES AT APC

Missions. APC is committed to missions. We presently support 11 domestic and 12 overseas missionaries (throughout Africa, Asia, Eurasia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East), as well as various mission-related needs within our PCA denomination, and one church plant.

Men's and Women's Ministries. Men and Women enjoy times of fellowship and community throughout the year. Bible studies and events are planned with a variety of opportunities for teaching, fellowship and social activities.

Key Equipping. APC offers an array of classes on Sunday evenings for further spiritual development. The adult curriculum includes theological, topical, and Bible tracts. Children and Youth receive teaching, and connect through fellowship and activities.

Youth Ministry. PROTAS is a dynamic, teen-led, adult-mentored, relationship-based, youth community with the goal of teens becoming strong disciples of Christ as they reach out to their lost friends. Connect each Sunday evening in community with your peers – the schedule includes games, worship, small group discussions, a short devotion at a teen level, and dinner. In addition to Sunday evenings, they meet for social events and discipleship groups.

Covenant Kids Ministry. Children are an active and growing part of the APC family, and activities are offered each week to encourage their spiritual growth. Nursery is APC's first introduction to gospel community for our children, and our desire is that they learn of Jesus' great love for them while they are entrusted in our care. Children's Church is available during Sunday worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays to provide children (ages 5 through 2nd grade) a worship service on their level. Covenant Kids meets Sunday evenings to learn new skills, build relationships, study the Bible, and learn to live for Christ in every aspect of life.

Music Ministry. The various music teams at APC help lead the congregation before the throne of God in worship. The Worship Team leads us throughout the year, and the Adult Choir sings most Sundays from September through June. Other ensembles participate seasonally, including the Youth Choir and Handchimes Ensemble.

Mercy Ministry. Our deacons have a Biblical mandate (Acts 6) to address needs within the Body of Christ, so we have a Deacons' Fund collection on the third Sunday of each month to provide the resources to help people. In an average year, about 90% of the money distributed is used to help people within our own congregation, many of them refugees who have fled persecution. The rest is used to share the love of Christ in a tangible way with our community.

Koinonia. Koinonia (coin-o-nea) is a ministry geared toward those in their 20s through to their 30s, designed to create connections between APC members and attendees who are at a similar stage of life. They meet monthly for a variety of social activities, including game nights and lunches after church.

Seniors Ministry. APC provides transportation to/from a nearby senior living facility for worship each Sunday.



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