

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Newcomer Reception December 18.** If you are new to APC, please join us for a special reception between the two services on December 18. This will be a great opportunity to meet other new folks and APC staff.

**Join us for worship this Christmas season as we await the dawn of Christ's coming!**

**Advent Services:** December 11 and 18

**Lessons and Carols Service: December 17 at 5pm.** Our special Christmas service, "Behold Our King" will take place on Saturday, December 17 at 5pm (prelude begins at 4:45pm). Join us as we await the coming of Christ and behold His beauty. A hot cocoa and cookies reception will follow.

**Christmas Eve Service:** December 24 at 5pm

**Christmas Day Service:** December 25 at 5pm

**Call to Prayer— January 2022.** As we embark on a New Year, the elders invite you to join them in APC-wide prayer opportunities: Sunday, January 8 at 5pm, Wednesday, January 11 at 7:30pm; and Saturday, January 14 at 9am.

**Discovering God's Global Purpose - Perspectives Class:** Interested in learning how God is fulfilling His promises to make His name known to the nations from the Biblical, historical, cultural and strategic perspectives? Perspectives is a 15-lesson education course being offered on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:30pm at Cherrydale Baptist Church in Arlington, VA. It is a heart and life-altering journey that includes deep study, prayer, group lectures with guest speakers, and Perspectives' unique ways of teaching and reaching the hearts of all who attend. The class begins January 10. Cost is \$285; scholarships from APC missions committee are available if cost is a barrier to your attendance. For more information see <https://class.perspectives.org/Visitor/Public.aspx?ClassId=435568>. Questions? Contact Luke Godshall at [lukgodshall@msn.com](mailto:lukgodshall@msn.com) or Eleanor Nagy at [eleanornagy@gmail.com](mailto:eleanornagy@gmail.com).

**Walking in the Spirit (WitS) begins January 15 from 5-7pm.** APC is offering a discipleship ministry called Walking in the Spirit (WitS), which will be led by Pastor Tom and Sharon Holliday. This is a 10 week in-depth study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit, which begins Sunday, January 15 and runs through April 2, with a break on February 19. The last week is a special banquet to end the course. Each class will consist of an hour of teaching followed by an hour of small group interaction, as well as reflection and homework during the week. Since each week builds upon the previous week, we ask that you commit to being present in at least 8 of the 10 weeks. Sign up through the link in the APC email or website or scan the QR code below.

**Newcomer Fellowship Dinner, Saturday, January 21, 6-8pm.** If you've been attending APC for one week or several months, please join us for food and fellowship. You'll have a chance to meet church officers and staff, ask questions and learn more about the ministry God is building here. Sign up through the link in the APC email or website or scan the QR code below. Location details will be forthcoming.

**The next Inquirers Class is February 3 and 4.** If you are interested in membership or in gaining a deeper understanding of APC, we invite you to attend this class. You will receive an introduction to Christianity, the PCA, and the specific vision/mission and philosophy of ministry at APC. It's also a great opportunity to meet other newcomers to the church, as well as pastors and staff! 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. Sign up through the link in the APC email or website or scan the QR code below. Questions: contact [inquirers@alexandriapres.org](mailto:inquirers@alexandriapres.org).

**The next baptism is February 26th.** If you would like to have your child or children baptized, please send an email to [Bailey.Rolland@alexandriapres.org](mailto:Bailey.Rolland@alexandriapres.org).

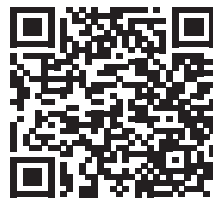
Give  
to APC



APC  
Visitor Form



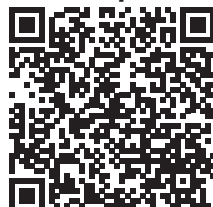
Cookie  
Reception



Walking  
in the Spirit



Newcomer  
Fellowship Dinner



Inquirers  
Class



All-Church Retreat  
Registration



## FURTHER OUT DATES

**Women's Event with Abby Hutto via Zoom** February 10  
**All Church Dinner** February 25  
**Missions Dinner** March 25  
**All Church Retreat** May 5-7

## SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

**Hospitality** *This Week's Coffee Set Up:* Laura Coit and Consuelo Rosas  
*Next Week's Coffee Set Up:* Janice Nichols, Andrea Romyn, Florence Yanin  
**Nursery** *This Week's 9am Service:* Adam Barr, Juliet Edem, Jackie McCauley, Janice Nichols, Abby Renenger, Tommy and Emily Ribaric  
*This Week's 11am Service:* Femi Adeniji, Sifa Balagizi, Hillary Capper, Sarah Huntington, Bryant and Lynn Streett  
*Next Week's 9am Service:* Juliet Edem, Rob Fisher, Megan Malone, Jenny and Abby McGahey, Tom Mood, Daniel and Kimberly Parker, Margaret Veenstra  
*Next Week's 11am Service:* Rick and Sara Eppright, Drew and Sally Lindsay, Joey and Bailey Rolland, Bethany Tinev  
**Children's Church** *This Week's 9am Service:* Mark and Kari Adams  
*This Week's 11am Service:* Amanda Leamer and Denise McMullen  
**A/V Team** *This Week's Service:* Maggie Coombs, Lee Huntington, Mike Mazek  
**Ushers** **For December:** Mark Adams, Sue Edwards, Alex and Heidi Gesch, Katty and Daniel Hoyle, Jim King, Jon Osborne  
**Deacons on Duty** Adam Barr, Stephen Sylvia

## KEY EQUIPPING

**Covenant Kids Ministry: Children 2 years old - 5th grade, Lower Level (Nursery for 1 & under)**  
We welcome children to learn foundational truths about God and the Gospel story. We experience what it looks like to love God and love others in community with our worship, small groups, teaching, games, fellowship, and dinner!  
Contact: Erin Furgerson at [erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org](mailto:erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org).

**PROTAS Youth Ministry: Teens 6th-12th grade, Upper Level**  
Connect each week in community with your peers — the schedule includes games, worship, small group discussions, a short devotion at a teen level, and dinner.  
Contact: Adam LeRoy at [adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org](mailto:adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org).

**Foundational Track— "Biblical Theology", Led by Pastor Tom Holliday and Elder Jim Taft, Upper Level Adult Classroom (New location: Room 201).**

**Topical Track— "Responding to Christ's Call", Led by Elder Aaron Renenger, Main Level Adult Classroom (Room 112).**

**Book of the Bible— "A Study on the Book of Galatians", Led by Elder Marc Allen, Conference Room (Room 114).**

## GIVING AT A GLANCE

YTD Giving (7/1/22 - 11/30/22) \$821,473.  
YTD Budget (7/1/22 - 11/30/22) \$868,000.  
Difference - \$46,527 (95%)

## SPECIAL VOLUNTEER CALLS

If you will be available to volunteer in the nursery at our Lessons and Carols Service on December 17th, please reach out to Erin Furgerson at [erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org](mailto:erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org).

Some of our Covenant Kids volunteers would like to take Walking in the Spirit on Sunday evenings. If you would be available to take their place for 10 weeks only, please reach out to Erin Furgerson at [erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org](mailto:erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org).

We are in need of more communion volunteers. Prepping and set-up for communion is a fairly simple process, but we need volunteers who are willing to assist in this way. If you are interested, please reach out to Andrea Romyn at [andrea.romyn@alexandriapres.org](mailto:andrea.romyn@alexandriapres.org).



Alexandria  
Presbyterian  
Church



December 11, 2022

*Please, no food or drink other than water in the Sanctuary. Silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.*

# Holy Worship Service

## GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

### ■ prelude

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

*Psalm 29:1-4,9*

LEADER: <sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

**ALL: <sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.**

**<sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

**<sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, “Glory!”**

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND IN PRAISE

■ **choral introit** | *Children’s Choir*

**Ding, Dong! Merrily on High**

■ **song of praise**

**Joy to the World**

**All: Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;**

**let every heart prepare Him room, and heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.**

Children:

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: Let men their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,

repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

**All: He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love, and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.**

*Words by Isaac Watts, 1719; Music by George F. Handel, 1742, arr. Mark Patterson; © 2011 Choristers Guild*

■ **prayer of adoration**

■ **lighting the advent candle of joy** | *Yanin/Dibi family (9am), Flores family (11am)*

## GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ **advent reading**

*Isaiah 61:1-3, 10-11*

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

<sup>3</sup> to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

<sup>10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God,

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,

and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND IN PRAISE

■ **advent prayer**

*from Isaiah 61*

Lord, I was once bound by sin, but You broke the chains that held me. I was once a captive to despair, but You delivered me. I was once brokenhearted, but You have given me hope and a future. I was a prisoner to my own desires, but You have made me a priest in a robe of righteousness, who is learning to minister to others in Your name.

Jesus, Light of the world, thank You for bringing Your light of salvation to my heart. Please forgive me for the ways I have distanced myself from that light, sinning against You in thought, word and deed. Holy Spirit, equip me to join Your kingdom work, that we might see righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

In Christ’s name, Amen.

■ **song of praise**

**Christ Our Treasure**

Lord, our feet have wandered all the earth unsatisfied  
Drinking from a sea of emptiness has left us dry  
So we turn our eyes to

*Christ our Treasure, there is none like You  
Precious Jesus, there is none like You*

Living Water, Word of Life,  
You are forever true  
Every blessing, joy abounding  
here in knowing You  
So we fix our eyes on

Grace for the guilty, help for the needy  
Jesus, You satisfy our souls

Strength for the weary, hope for the grieving  
Jesus, You satisfy our souls  
Healer of sickness, fountain of goodness  
Jesus, You satisfy our souls  
Faithful Provider, gracious Redeemer  
Jesus, You satisfy our souls  
Mighty in power, awesome in splendor  
Jesus, You satisfy our souls  
Author, Perfecter, Keeper, Sustainer  
Jesus, You satisfy our souls

*Words and music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman; © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); CCLI Song # 6016351*

■ **congregational prayer** | *Elder Chris Weld (9am), Elder Shant Boyajian (11am)*

■ **offertory prayer** | *Tracy Powell (9am), Shauna Pittman (11am)*

■ **presentation of tithes and offerings**

■ **offertory**

**Angels from the Realms of Glory (Trinity Hymnal #218)**

*Children ages 5 - 2nd grade are dismissed for Children’s Church. Please exit the Sanctuary through the door to the left of the stage.*

## GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ **sermon scripture reading**

*Matthew 2:1-12*

**The Visit of the Wise Men**

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup> After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

■ **prayer for illumination**

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

**“Born to Suffer, Born to Save”**

*Series: Christmas Through the Eyes of Matthew*

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND IN PRAISE

■ **song of response**

**Father How Sweet**

Father, how sweet must be the pleasure You find in Your eternal Son; for long before You made the heavens, both You and He rejoiced as one; and long before You formed the angels, before You made the day and night, Jesus exulted in Your presence, and He was all of Your delight.

Father, what love You’ve shown to rebels, that You would send Your Son so dear into this world of grief and trouble to bring unworthy sinners near. We’ll never fathom how it pained You when You supplied the offering, to rescue those who had disdained You, to watch Your dear Son suffering.

Jesus, it fills our hearts with wonder, that You would leave Your heavenly place to take on flesh, to thirst and hunger, to save the ones who spurned Your grace. You came to forfeit every mercy, to die, that mercy we would find; and then You hung alone in darkness, so in our hearts Your grace would shine.

Jesus, in glory You’ve ascended, never again to leave Your throne; because of You, we are befriended, received and welcomed as God’s own. Father, how sweet now is Your pleasure in us, Your daughters and Your sons. We will delight in You forever; in Jesus, You have made us one.

*Words and music by Mark Altrogge; © 2012 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song # 6271756*

## GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS TABLE

■ **sacrament of the lord’s supper**

***Explanation, Invitation, Participation***

*All baptized Christians who are members in good standing of a church that proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ are invited to participate. Children who have been admitted into the church as communicant members are invited to participate as well. If you have any questions, please ask one of our pastors or elders.*

*At the 9am service, the elders will pass the elements along the rows. At the 11am service, members will be invited to come forward to receive the elements.*

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND IN PRAISE

■ **song of response**

**Father How Sweet**

For lyrics, please see above.

■ **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**

■ **extinguishing the advent wreath**

■ **announcements** | *Matt Coombs, Executive Director of Ministries*