

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pray With A Shepherd. After each service today, we will have shepherds waiting at the front of the Sanctuary who would be delighted to pray with you about any topic!

Newcomer Reception Today. If you are new to APC, please join us for a special reception between the two services today. 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!

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 (no 9am or 11am services)

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.

The Thursday Women's Bible studies invite our APC ladies to join us for a new study

beginning Thursday, January 5th. In keeping with our theme "Who Is This King of Glory?", we will take a look at Jesus in each of the four Gospels using Dane Ortlund's book *Surprised by Jesus*. The morning class meets weekly from 9:45-11:30 AM in the fellowship hall. Please let Lynn Streett (lynn.streett79@gmail.com) know if you need nursery care for your little ones. The Thursday evening class meets weekly via Zoom from 7:30-9 PM. Please RSVP to Megan Malone at megan.malone06@gmail.com in order to receive a link to the class. We look forward to having you join us!

Communicants Class for Children and Teens ~ January '23: The class will likely be held on Thursdays from 4:30-5:30pm at APC and run for eight weeks starting January 19th. Parents, please talk with your child/teen and consider whether or not you think they are ready to join the church as a communicant member. To find out more information, preview the workbook, or sign up; please contact adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org.

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.

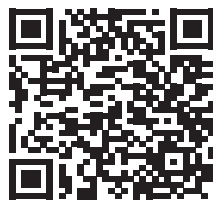
Give
to APC



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
Baptisms February 26
Missions Dinner March 25
All Church Retreat May 5-7

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality *This Week's Coffee Set Up:* Janice Nichols, Andrea Romyn, Florence Yanin
January 1st Coffee Set Up: Reb Maylum, more volunteers requested
Nursery *This Week's 9am Service:* Juliet Edem, Rob Fisher, Megan Malone, Jenny and Abby McGahey, Tom Mood, Daniel and Kimberly Parker, Margaret Veenstra
This Week's 11am Service: Rick and Sara Eppright, Drew and Sally Lindsay, Joey and Bailey Rolland, Bethany Tinev
January 1st 9am Service: Carrie and Millie Brown, John Connelly, Sue Edwards, Evelyn Heil, Cami Kinder, Jackie McCauley, Katie and Jordan Mugg
January 1st 11am Service: Shannon Allen, Liz Crowley, Owen and Lina Gentry, Amy and Chris Weld
A/V Team *This Week's Service:* Wayne Folta, Lee Huntington, Amanda Petelik
Ushers **For December:** Mark Adams, Sue Edwards, Alex and Heidi Gesch, Katty and Daniel Hoyle, Jon Osborne
Deacons on Duty Adam Barr, Stephen Sylvia

KEY EQUIPPING

Key Equipping is not meeting again until the New Year.

During our Key Equipping time on Sunday evenings from 5-7pm, ministries are designed to equip all ages, from toddlers to seniors, to be disciples. A disciple is a follower and worshiper of Jesus. This is a life-long process of learning how to become more like our Lord.

SPECIAL VOLUNTEER CALLS

Some of our Covenant Kids and PROTAS 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 (Covenant Kids) or Adam LeRoy at adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org (PROTAS).

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.

YEAR-END GIVING

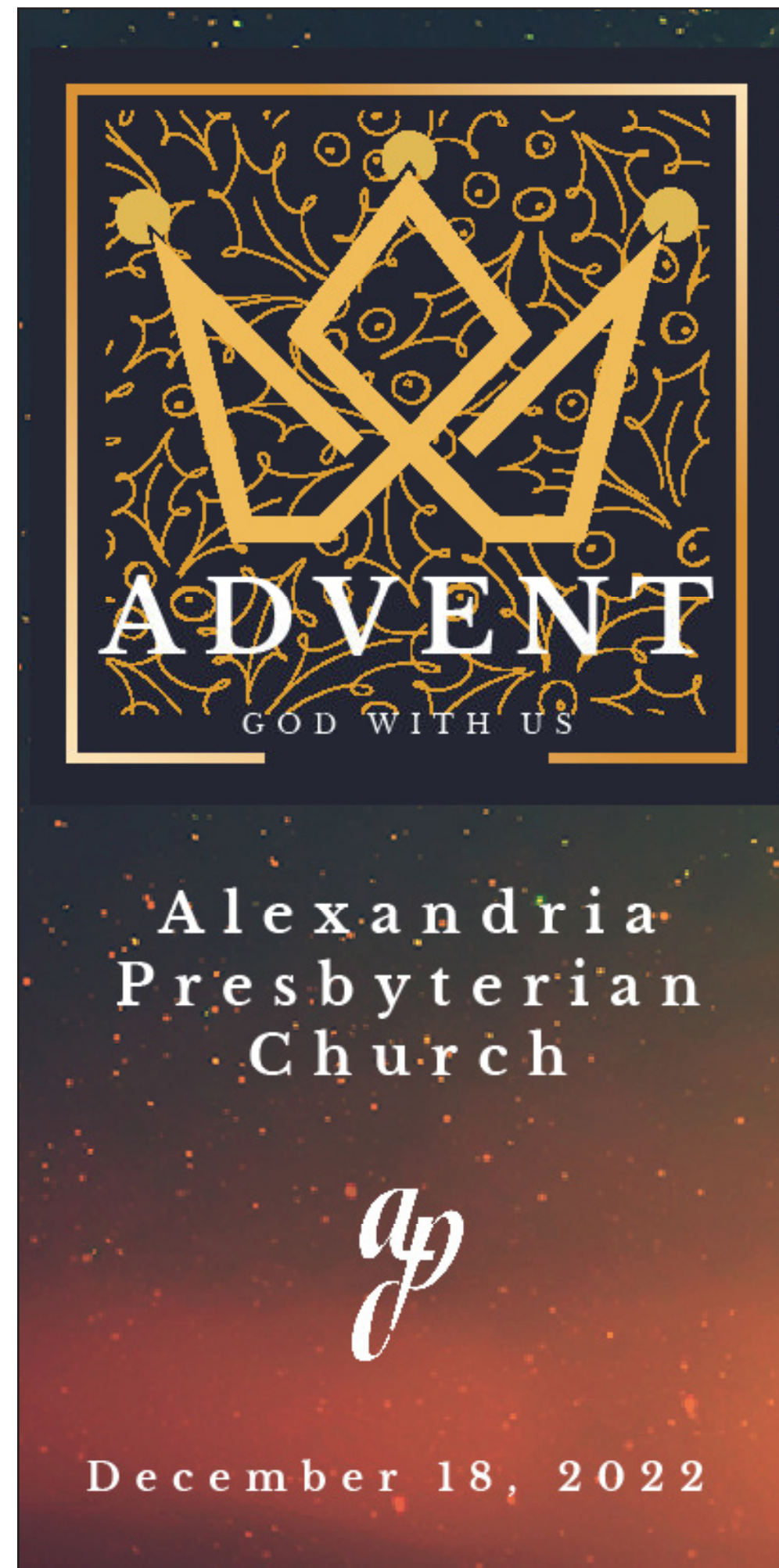
As you plan a year-end gift to APC, keep in mind that the church office will be closed December 24-January 2, and the last worship service of the year is December 25 at 5pm. Gifts received in the mail the first week of January—if dated and postmarked in 2022—will be included in your 2022 year-end giving statement. You may also make your year-end gifts through APC's online giving portal thru December 31, 2022. In addition, if you would like to donate securities or stocks to APC's general fund, please contact Kathy Sens at kathy.sens@alexandriapres.org and she can give you the information needed to make a transfer. If you would like to donate a special year end gift, simply indicate this on your check and mail it to the APC office or put it in the offering box. You may also make your donation online. Thank you for considering APC in your year-end planning.

CORPORATE PRAYER IN 2022

Every Sunday, 8:15am—Main Level Adult Education Room
Second Saturday of the month, 9am— Main Level Adult Education Room
Third Saturday of the month, 11am—Main Level Adult Education Room

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.



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

■ gathering song Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly trust in Jesus’ Name.

*Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior’s love
Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all*

When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale

■ call to worship | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

1 Peter 2:6

6For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

my anchor holds within the veil.
When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found:
dressed in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

*Original words by Edward Mote, 1834; alt. and
add'l words and music by Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin,
and Reuben Morgan, based on “The Solid Rock”
by William Bradbury; © 2011 Hillsong MP Songs,
Hillsong Music Publishing Australia, Hillsong
Music Publishing UK (Admin. by Capitol CMG
Publishing); CCLI Song # 6158927*

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND IN PRAISE

■ song of praise He Who Is Mighty

O the mercy our God has shown
to those who sit in death’s shadow.
The sun on high pierced the night;
born was the Cornerstone.
Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is
born.

*He Who is mighty has done a great thing;
taken on flesh, conquered death’s sting,
shattered the darkness and lifted our shame.
Holy is His name.*

O the freedom our Savior won;

the yoke of sin has been broken.
Once a slave, now by grace
no more condemnation.
Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is
born.
Now my soul magnifies the Lord;
I rejoice in the God Who saves,
I will trust His unfailing love,
I will sing His praises all my days.

*Words and music by Kate DeGraide and Rebecca
Elliott; © 2014 Sovereign Grace Praise, Sovereign
Grace Worship (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI
Song # 7031870*

■ prayer of adoration

Leader: Holy Father, the birth of Your Son sets our hearts ablaze with joy.

All: We marvel that Christ has come to earth to share our sorrows and our joys.

Leader: Thank you for sending Your Son, the newborn King! May He rule supreme in all of our hearts.

All: Thank you that His presence has transformed us from being slaves of fear and sin to being sons and daughters of Your kingdom.

Leader: Dearest Jesus, we welcome you as our guest!

All: Holy Child, make a cradle in my heart where You can rest. Please cleanse my soul from anything that is harmful, filling me wholly with Your love and purity. And may the Light of Your presence shine brightly in me, that others may know Your love. In Christ’s name, Amen.

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ lighting the advent candle of love | Olsen family (9am); Root family (11am)

■ advent reading

Isaiah 52:7-10, 13-15

7How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good
news,
who publishes peace, who brings good
news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”
8The voice of your watchmen—they lift up
their voice;
together they sing for joy;

for eye to eye they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
9Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the Lord has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
10The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

He Was Pierced for Our Transgressions

13 Behold, my servant shall act wisely;
he shall be high and lifted up,
and shall be exalted.

14 As many were astonished at you—
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

15 so shall he sprinkle many nations.
Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND IN PRAISE

■ song of praise

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous mystery 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 mystery; He, the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering, 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.

Come behold the wondrous mystery; 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 mystery; 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 deliverance, how unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

*Words and music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Michael Bleecker; © 2012 Bleecker Publishing
(Admin. by Michael Bleecker), Getty Music Hymns and Songs, Getty Music Publishing, Love Your Enemies
Publishing, McKinney Music, Inc. (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.); CCLI Song # 7026028*

■ testimony | Dinora Pacheco

■ congregational prayer

■ offertory prayer | Stacy Wittmeyer (9am); Emily Kinch (11am)

■ presentation of tithes and offerings

■ offertory | Adult Choir (9am)

The Angels’ Carol

Have you heard the sound of the angel voices ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear?
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly as a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?
Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven to the humble shepherds who have
waited long?
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels sing their joyful song.

He is come in peace in the winter’s stillness, like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night;
He is come in joy like the sun at morning filling all the world with radiance and with light.
He is come in love as the child of Mary; in a simple stable we have seen His birth:
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels singing ‘Peace on earth’.

He will bring new light to a world in darkness, like a bright star shining in the skies above;
He will bring new hope to the waiting nations when He comes to reign in purity and love.
Let the earth rejoice at the Saviour’s coming; let the heavens answer with the joyful morn:
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels singing ‘Christ is born’.

Words and music by John Rutter; © 1988 Oxford University Press

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ sermon scripture reading

Matthew 2:13-23

The Flight to Egypt

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a
dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there
until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” 14 And he rose and
took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15 and remained there until the
death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I
called my son.”

Herod Kills the Children

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious,
and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were
two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

18 “A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

The Return to Nazareth

19 But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in
Egypt, 20 saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those
who sought the child’s life are dead.” 21 And he rose and took the child and his mother and
went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea
in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he
withdrew to the district of Galilee. 23 And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that
what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

■ 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

■ songs of response

Glory in the Darkest Place

Out of the depths of silent night, Immanuel,
come hear our cry.
Our grief is strong, our burdens great; the
night is long and hope is faint.
You came to set the captives free, a Morning
Star of joy and peace.
Why does this darkness feel so deep? Why
can’t our weary spirits see

*Glory, glory, glory in the darkest place
Glory, glory, glory, let Your mercy reign*

Out of the depths of silent night, a Savior
born, a mother’s sigh;
the darkness trembled at this Star, a beam of
hope for troubled hearts.
You came to make Your blessings known,

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Trinity Hymnal #203)

For lyrics, please look in the Trinity Hymnal.

■ 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 | Rob Coit, Operations Manager (9am); Matt Coombs, Executive Director of Ministries (11am)