

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving Praise Service and Reception tonight at 5pm. Everyone is invited to gather for a unique service of thanksgiving and praise, where individuals will have the opportunity to publicly give testimony to God’s goodness throughout the year, or share a favorite passage with the congregation. This service has been an APC favorite for many years. Immediately following the service, we will enjoy a time of fellowship downstairs. **Please bring either an appetizer or a pie to share!** Nursery will be available for ages 4 and under (pizza served). Adult Key Equipping classes, Covenant Kids and PROTAS will not be meeting.

Poinsettia Orders-- today is the last day to order! If you would like to help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas by ordering a poinsettia, order through the link by scanning the QR code below by November 19. If you prefer to pay by check or cash, you may fill out a form located in the lobby. Poinsettias are \$20 each. Plants may be removed from the Sanctuary and taken home any time after the evening service on Christmas Eve. Contact Andrea Romyn at andrea.romyn@alexandriapres.org with any questions.

GivingTuesday and Year-End gifts to APC. As GivingTuesday approaches on November 28, many people are considering specific ways to give. We appreciate your prayerful consideration of APC and including us as part of your giving on this day! Additionally, as you plan a year-end gift to APC, keep in mind that the church office will be closed December 25-January 1, and the last worship service of the year is December 31. Gifts received in the mail the first week of January—if dated and postmarked in 2023—will be included in your 2023 year-end giving statement. You may also make your year-end gifts through APC’s online giving portal thru December 31, 2023. 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 year end gift, simply indicate this on your check and mail it to the APC office. You may also make your donation online. Thank you for considering APC in your GivingTuesday and year-end planning.

APC Deaconess Suggestions. In April 2023, Session decided to begin a new Deaconess ministry at APC, appointing Godly women of the congregation to assist the Deacons in their ministry of mercy and administration. At this time, Session welcomes suggestions of female members who discern a call to such service. (It is a prerequisite that any woman suggested have previously completed APC’s Spiritual Leadership class.) Suggestions will be received through December 10. Please confirm with the woman that she welcomes the suggestion, before submitting it to Session. Those women that Session appoints as Deaconess will be commissioned at the January 14 worship services. To suggest a deaconess, along with further information on the Deaconess ministry and APC’s decision to begin this ministry, scan the QR code or see the APC email.

Advent and Christmas at APC! Join us for these special services as we await the dawn of Christ’s coming:
Advent Services: Sundays, December 2, 10, 17 at 9am and 11am; December 24 at 10am
Lessons and Carols Service and Reception: Sunday, December 17 at 5pm
Christmas Eve Service: Sunday, December 24 at 5pm

Holiday Giving Opportunities: APC’s theme for the year is “Serving our City and Our World in the Name of Christ”. This holiday season, we have the opportunity to put what we have been learning into practice both locally and globally:

Serving Our City in the Name of Christ

Bless a Senior at Lincolnian—APC has a long-established relationship with our ministry to seniors and is happy to serve The Lincolnian Assisted Living Senior Care Facility in Alexandria. The giving goal for toiletry kits has been met; however we are still collecting artwork and cards to give to the seniors! Artwork and cards can be delivered in the designated box in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great way for children and teens to participate and show love to our seniors! Carol singing at Lincolnian on December 23! We invite you for a time of singing carols and passing out toiletry kits and artwork to the seniors on December 23 from 10:30-11:15am. We are in need of someone to play keyboard for the time of carols. Please email Phyllis Sergent at phyllis.sergent@gmail.com if you are able to help in this way. Alternatively, feel free to schedule a visit simply to meet and chat with some of the seniors during this Advent season. This is a meaningful way to love and minister to them, and will be a blessing to all. Email Phyllis Sergent at phyllis.sergent@gmail.com to arrange your visit, or with any questions.

Serving Our World in the Name of Christ

Good News for Africa (GNFA)— GNFA is a non-profit organization that seeks to care for orphans in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) by providing for their essential needs – food, clothing, shelter, schooling, and medical care – and preparing them for a future life in which they can take care of themselves as productive members of society. They also seek to share the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the children. This Christmas, APC will be providing clothes, shoes, jewelry, and games for the children, as well as meals for Christmas day. The Sisters in Stitches group have made aprons for the care givers and supply pouches for the children, which APC kids have been stuffing with supplies!

To give toward provisions for GNFA by November 25: Scan the QR code or visit our website at www.alexandriapres.org/give. Select the dropdown Fund box to specify where you would like to direct your gift. If you prefer to pay by check, please email the church office at admin@alexandriapres.org to arrange payment.

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

- Hospitality** *This Week:* the Schad family, Rodney Veenstra
Next Week: Alex and Allison Bolling, Sharon Holliday
- Nursery** *9am:* Shannon Allen, Josh and Sam Diack, Adam and Laurie LeRoy, Jenny and Abby McGahey, Juliana Richardson, Susanna Root, Justin Wells-Morgan
11am: Shannon Allen, Rob, Laura, and Elyse Coit, Juliet Edem, Caitlin Jolly, Tom Mood
Next week’s 9am: Femi Adeniji, Sifa Balagizi, Tina Brady, Carrie Brown, Matt and Maggie Coombs, Lina Gentry, Traci Youngquist
Next week’s 11am: Stacey Diack, Juliet Edem, Laura and Alex Erickson, Jodie Kirk, Tom Mood, Carmen Rives
- Children’s Church** *9am:* Mary Lou and Chase Chesser, Romedy & Amy Murr
11am: Ryan and Erin Furgerson
- A/V Team** Chris Blackburn, Ben Crowley, Hudson Diack, Emmett Stephens
- Greeters** *9am:* the Allen family, Ryan Furgerson, Lindsay Hutter, Romedy and Amy Murr, Chevelle Tallman
11am: Maggie Cho, Sara Eppright, Chris Nelms, Cathy Rosander, Gladys Monroe, Ariel Sanchez
- Ushers** *9am:* Femi Adeniji, Andy, Kira, and Granville Allison, Will Marks, Janice Nichols, Sam and Collin White
11am: Sam Diack, JW Jung, Jodie and Seth Kirk, Christian and Jack Poole, Rachel Veenstra

KEY EQUIPPING *Not Meeting November 19 or November 26*
Adult Classes resume January 14

During our Key Equipping time on Sunday evenings from 5-7pm, ministries are designed to equip all ages, from toddlers to seniors, to be followers and worshipers of Jesus.

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!

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.

CORPORATE PRAYER IN 2023

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



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.

Holy Worship Service

GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

■ prelude

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

Psalm 138:1-3, 7-8

Leader: ¹I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

**All: ²I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.**

Leader: ³On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.

**All: ⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life;
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand delivers me.**

**⁸The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ songs of praise

O God Beyond All Praising (*Trinity Hymnal #660*)

O God beyond all praising, we worship You today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift You send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end;
we lift our hearts before You and wait upon Your word,
we honor and adore You, our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve You as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we’ll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless You still,
to marvel at Your beauty and glory in Your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Words by Michael Perry; Music THAXTED by Gustav Holst, 1918; © 1982 Michael Perry - The Jubilate Group (Admin. by Hope Publishing Company); CCLI Song # 649532

Christ Is Mine Forevermore

Mine are days that God has numbered; I was made to walk with Him,
yet I look for worldly treasure and forsake the King of Kings.
But mine is hope in my Redeemer; though I fall, His love is sure,
for Christ has paid for every failing: I am His forevermore.

Mine are tears in times of sorrow, darkness not yet understood;
through the valley I must travel where I see no earthly good.
But mine is peace that flows from heaven and the strength in times of need.
I know my pain will not be wasted; Christ completes His work in me.

Mine are days here as a stranger, pilgrim on a narrow way;
one with Christ, I will encounter harm and hatred for His name.
But mine is armor for this battle strong enough to last the war,
and He has said He will deliver safely to the golden shore.
And mine are keys to Zion’s city, where beside the King I walk,
for there my heart has found its treasure: Christ is mine forevermore.

Come rejoice now, O my soul, for His love is my reward;
fear is gone and hope is sure: Christ is mine forevermore!

Words and music by Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson; © 2016 CityAlight Music (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song # 7036096

■ prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ scripture reading | *Catherine Marks (9am); Laura Erickson (11am)*

Luke 17:11-19 (pg. 823)

Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

■ confession of faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 1 and 2

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Q. What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

**A. Three things:
first, how great my sin and misery are;
second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery;
third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.**

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of praise

Worthy Is the Lamb

Thank You for the cross, Lord; thank You for the price You paid.
Bearing all my sin and shame, in love You came and gave amazing grace.
Thank You for this love, Lord, thank You for the nail-pierced hands.
Washed me in Your cleansing flow, now all I know is Your forgiveness and embrace.

*Worthy is the Lamb seated on the throne!
We crown You now with many crowns, You reign victorious!
High and lifted up, Jesus, Son of God,
the Treasure of heaven crucified—
Worthy is the Lamb! Worthy is the Lamb!*

Words and music by Darlene Zschech; © 2000 Wondrous Worship (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.); CCLI Song # 3217555

■ congregational prayer

■ offertory prayer | *Jim Taft (9am); Gary McGee (11am)*

■ presentation of tithes and offerings | *Adult Choir (9am)*

For All That Is

The peaceful stream, the dancing leaf, the breeze that rollicks in the grain,
the warmth of sun, the towering wave, the cool refreshment of the rain;

We thank You, O God; we catch our breath of Your glory,
we fall to our knees in adoration, we thank You, O God.

The touch of grace, the hint of heaven, the healing balm that eases pain,
the broken bread, the saving cup, the sacrament we can’t explain;

The birthing breath, the dying sigh, the life on earth that You ordain;
for every second, for every instant, we give You thanks, O God.

Words by John Thornburg; Music by Taylor Davis; © 2005 Choristers Guild.

*Children ages 5 through 2nd grade are now invited to continue worship in Children’s Church.
Children should exit the Sanctuary using the door to the left of the stage.*

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ sermon scripture reading

Psalm 116 (pg.478)

¹I love the Lord, because he has heard
my voice and my pleas for mercy.

²Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

³The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.

⁴Then I called on the name of the Lord:
“O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!”

⁵Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;
our God is merciful.

⁶The Lord preserves the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.

⁷Return, O my soul, to your rest;
for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

⁸For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling;

⁹I will walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.

¹⁰I believed, even when I spoke:
“I am greatly afflicted”;

■ prayer for illumination

■ sermon | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

“A Life of Thanksgiving”

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of response

My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him Who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again;
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness, and clothed me in His light,
and wrote His law of righteousness with pow’r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him Who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly;
Whose every promise is enough for every step I take,
sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him Who reigns above,
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, Whose every thought is love.
For every day I have on earth is given by the King;
so I will give my life, my all, to love and follow Him.

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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 | *Bailey Rolland, Office Administrator (9am) Matt Coombs, Executive Director of Ministries (11am)*

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