

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Key Equipping for Covenant Kids, PROTAS, and Adults is not meeting this evening, but will resume January 14. Join us next Sunday evening, January 7, for a prayer meeting (more info below).

Year-End gifts to APC. Thank you for considering APC in your year-end planning. Today is the last day to make your year-end gifts through APC's online giving portal, or through a check indicating a year-end gift.

Call to Prayer— January 2024. As we embark on a New Year, the elders invite you to join them in APC-wide prayer opportunities: **Sunday, January 7 at 5pm, Wednesday, January 10 at 7:30pm; and Saturday, January 13 at 9am.** Prayer is foundational to all that we do at APC. Oswald Chambers says, "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work." Prayerfully consider joining us for at least one of these prayer meetings as we each seek the Lord's wisdom and transforming power in our lives and our church!

Join the Youth Choir in Spring 2024! The Youth Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 5:00-6:00 and is open to grades 2-8. Participation will be offered in three shorter cycles in the spring: January 16 - February 6; February 13 - March 26; and April 2-23. Singers may join for one or more full cycles. For more details, please scan the QR code or visit the link in the APC email, where you may also register (deadline January 9.) Contact Serenity Novak (serenity.novak@alexandriapres.org) with additional questions.

New Women's Thursday Bible studies begin January 11. Ladies, as we continue with our theme of Unfailing Hope, we invite you to pray about joining the Thursday women's Bible study, beginning January 11. We will be going through the book of Hebrews, using Jen Wilkin's study *Better*. As we "fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith", we'll see Him as the better Word, the better high priest, the better sacrifice, etc. The morning study meets weekly from 10-11:30am. Childcare is provided. The evening study is a hybrid class: the first Thursday of each month we meet in person and the remaining weeks we meet via Zoom, from 7-8:30pm. Please rsvp to Lynn Streett at lynn.streett79@gmail.com in order to receive the Zoom link or if you have any questions.

Men's Discipleship Study beginning the second week in January (day of the week and time of day TBD). Jesus calls every Christian to be a disciple and to help others become disciples. This involves study and meditating on God's Word, prayer, fellowship, much grace, and the power of the Holy Spirit -- all in the context of a supportive community. Join with a group of men who want to learn, grow, and encourage one another to faithfully follow Jesus. Each week the group will read and discuss a chapter from the soon-to-be published book, "The Heart and Soul of Discipleship". The group will meet in Room 112 of APC starting the second week in January and running for 10 weeks. We'll decide which day of the week and time of day works best for the men who sign up. Last time, space filled up quickly, so please sign up as soon as you're able. Please email Jim Taft at jamesdake1017@gmail.com to RSVP and indicate your available days of the week and times of day to meet.

Communicants Class for Children and Teens ~ January '24: The class will be held on Thursdays from 5-6pm at APC and run for eight weeks starting January 18. 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 at adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org.

Newcomer Fellowship Dinner, Saturday, January 20, 6pm. 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.

The next Inquirers Class is February 2 & 3. 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.

WE ARE HIRING

Communications Manager: The Communications Manager maintains and develops APC's communications both inside and outside the congregation through various means including website, social media, weekly emails, bulletins, and more. Experience with Adobe InDesign, Canva, and MailChimp is preferred; however training is available. A full position description is available. This position is part-time with an anticipated 25 hours/week (including Sunday activities). If you desire to use those talents as a member of APC's staff, please contact Executive Director of Ministries Matt Coombs at matthew.coombs@alexandriapres.org.

Nursery Assistant: The Nursery Assistant's primary function will be to oversee certain aspects of the nursery, in close coordination with the Director of Children's Ministries, in order to create a high-quality, safe, and nurturing environment for the children and families we serve. This position is part-time, and expected to take 6-7 hours weekly (including Sunday activities). Please contact Erin Furgerson, by email or in person, if interested in applying and for the full Position Description: erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org.

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

- Hospitality** *This Week:* the Flores family
Next Week: the Flores family
- Nursery** *This Week (9am):* John and Jamie Connelly, Ryan and Amy Douglass, Drew and Sally Lindsay, Jackie McCauley, Traci Youngquist
This Week (11am): Sifa Balagizi, Stacey Diack, Juliet Edem, Becky Knapp, Andrew, Rebecca, and Bethany Schad
Next Week (9am): Chase and Mary Lou Chesser, Sara and Lydia Eppright, Jenny and Abby McGahey, Juliana Richardson, Susanna Root, Rachel Sylvia
Next Week (11am): Liz Crowley, Frank Girgenti, Emily Kinch, Janice Nichols, Rachel Sylvia, Joey and Bailey Rolland
- Children's Church** No Children's Church on the 5th Sunday of the month
- Tech Team** Ben and Liz Crowley, Carolina Shon, Joshua Youngquist
- Greeters** *9am:* Matt Coombs, Adam and Hannah Davis, Lindsay Hutter, Chris Nelms
11am: Maggie Cho, Sara Eppright, Jodie and Anna Kirk, Chris Nelms
- Ushers** *9am:* Mark Adams, Sue Edwards, Brian Field, Alex and Heidi Gesch, Katty and Daniel Hoyle, Jonathon Osborne
11 am: Christian and Connor Brittle, Rick Eppright
- Deacons on Duty** Aaron McCauley, Pete Olsen, Bryan Wittmeyer

KEY EQUIPPING *Covenant Kids, PROTAS, and 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.

Adults
Walking in the Spirit (WitS), Led by Pastor Tom and Sharon Holliday (Registration required)
This is a 10 week in-depth study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit, which runs through March 24, with a break on February 18. 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. Participants are also invited to a banquet on April 7 to celebrate and share testimonies of what God has done in our midst.

The Gospel According to Matthew, Led by Elder Marc Allen
From its opening focus on the Messianic lineage, to its spectacular capture of Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount, to the Great Commission with which it ends, the Gospel According to Matthew offers beautifully deep teaching about the Kingdom of Heaven and Lord Jesus' work for our salvation. In this class, we will survey the entirety of the Gospel in our 10 weeks of study.

Introduction to the Christian Life, Led by Elder Aaron Renenger
To be called to faith in Christ is to be called to live a life filled with meaning and purpose. This five-week class will explore what it means to live a Christ-centered life, focusing on key passages from Genesis to Revelation that reveal God's eternal plan and its profound implications for everything we do as Christians.

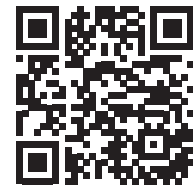
APC Visitor Form



Give to APC



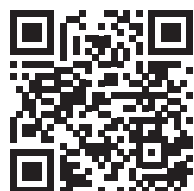
Covenant Fellowship Groups



Walking in the Spirit



Sign up for Youth Choir



Newcomer Dinner



Inquirers Class



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.

Holy Worship Service

GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

prelude

call to worship | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

Psalm 90:1-2

¹Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

²Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

songs 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.

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The King in All His Beauty

O lift your eyes to heaven, see the Holy One eternal;
behold the Lord of Majesty exalted in His temple.
As symphonies of angels' praise now strain to sound His glory,
come worship, fall before His grace, the King in all His beauty.

*How worthy, how worthy, how worthy
the King in all His beauty.*

Now see the King who wears a crown, one made of shame and splinters;
the sacrifice for ruined man, the substitute for sinners.
As Earth is stained with royal blood, and quakes with love and fury,
He breathes His last and bows His head, the King in all His beauty.

Now see the Savior lifted up, the Lamb who reigns in splendor,
the hope of every tribe and tongue; His kingdom is forever!
Bring praise and honor to His courts, bring wisdom, power, blessing;
for endless ages we'll adore the King in all His beauty.

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prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ **scripture reading** | *Kira and Granville Allison (9am); Christian and Christine Brittle (11am)*
Philippians 3:12-21 (pg. 922)

Straining Toward the Goal

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

¹⁷Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of praise

He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast.
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path,
for my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast; He will hold me fast,
for my Savior loves me so; He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight; Christ will hold me fast;
precious in His holy sight; He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last.
Bought by Him at such a cost; He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died; Christ will hold me fast.
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life; He will hold me fast;
till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last.

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congregational prayer

■ **offertory prayer** | *Elder Bryant Streett (9am); Sharon Holliday (11am)*

presentation of tithes and offerings

Children's Church is not meeting today. On a month that has a 5th Sunday, our curriculum allows for the children to put into practice what they are learning about the different aspects of worship by remaining in the service.

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

sermon scripture reading

Psalm 138 (pg. 488)

Give Thanks to the Lord

Of David.

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

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.

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

⁴All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,

⁵and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.

⁶For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.

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.

prayer for illumination

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

“The Lord Will Fulfill His Purpose for Me”

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of response

All of Our Tomorrows

This spinning world, by Your own hand, hurls ever on around the sun;
the seasons march at Your command; the old departs, the new year comes.
And though celestial is Your gaze, You search and care for all our ways.
We offer up to You this day and all of our tomorrows.

May zealous youth and cautious age determine not the steps we choose;
Great Shepherd, guide us through each day— O how we want to follow You.
Come, Living Way, our way make clear; let perfect love drive out our fear;
be Thou our vision— now and here, and all of our tomorrows.

When winter makes us reminisce of warmer days so distant now,
of cherished saints the sun once kissed whose beauty passed behind the clouds,
let all our fond and longing tears remind us we are pilgrims here.
We trust You, Sovereign of our years, with all of our tomorrows.

Hands to the plow, we're pressing on and running hard to win the prize,
empowered by the love of God with grace before and grace behind.
For lo, what hope before us stands: You finish all that You began;
eternal joy is in Your hands, and all of our tomorrows.

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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

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