

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Key Equipping (Covenant Kids, PROTAS, and adult classes) resume this evening! Full descriptions are listed in the APC email and the back side of this bulletin.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Supplication. Each January at APC, we invite the congregation to offer written prayers of thanksgiving and supplication. A time will be set aside during the worship service on January 28 to bring your written prayer requests forward and place them in a basket, consecrating them before the Lord. Prayer forms are available in the lobby, and may also be submitted online (through the link in the APC email), or printed and mailed to the church office: 1300 West Braddock Road, Alexandria VA 22302, attention Tom Holliday.

The pastors and elders will read your submissions and will spend time in prayer for you. As you consider your prayer of thanksgiving, we encourage you to thank God for a special prayer that has been answered this past year, which encouraged your faith. As we offer prayers of supplication for the upcoming year, we encourage you to ask God to do something in your life that feels like a stretch—something that requires faith. As we often say at APC, “We want to ask God to do something so great, that if He is not in it, we are sure to fail.”

Join the Youth Choir in Spring 2024! Today is the last day to sign up. The Youth Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 5-6pm 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 sign up link in the APC email, where you may also register. Contact Serenity Novak (serenity.novak@alexandriapres.org) with additional questions.

Nursery volunteers: Thank you for serving in the nursery as we teach and show Jesus to our little ones. Check your email for a link that was sent to sign up for the next quarter of nursery. Open enrollment will continue through next Sunday, January 21.

New Women’s Thursday Bible studies begin January 18. 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 18. 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.

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.

Women’s Friday Bible study meets January 26, February 9 and February 23. Join us for a 3-week study on finding Jesus in Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon, which are the last chapters of Nancy Guthrie’s *The Wisdom of God: Seeing Jesus in the Psalms and Wisdom Books*. It doesn’t matter whether you were able to join us in the fall, come and join us now from 9:45-11:30am. Childcare is provided, but please let us know if you need it. Contact ruth.fisher@hotmail.com to let us know you are coming.

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.

Giving at a Glance	YTD Giving (7/1/23-12/31/23)	\$1,350,117
	YTD Budget (7/1/23-12/31/23)	\$1,304,000
	Difference	\$46,117 (104%)

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.

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SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

**Hospitality
Nursery**

This Week: Kari Adams, Laura Coit; **Next Week:** the Schad family
This Week (9am): Leslie Bridge, Frank Girgenti, Will and Catherine Marks, Jackie McCauley, Eleanor Nagy, Nathan and Jess Newman, Serenity Novak
This Week (11am): Femi Adeniji, Allison Rivera, Bryant and Lynn Streett, Mary Mitchell Todd
Next Week (9am): Chase Chesser, Gus and Woodrow Coombs, Ryan and Amy Douglass, Owen Gentry, Emily Kinch, Jackie McCauley, Tom Petelik

Children’s Church

Next Week (11am): Dan and Kathryn Johnson, Tom Mood, Aaron, Christina, Peter, and Abigail Renenger

**Tech Team
Greeters**

9am: Leslie Bridge, Eli Kendrick, Becky Knapp, Amy Murr
11am: Ryan and Erin Furgerson
Hudson Diack, Wayne Folta, Pete Olsen, Emmett Stephens
9am: Adam and Hannah Davis, Ryan Furgerson, Lindsay Hutter, Lynette VanderSchaaf

Ushers

11am: Becca Arango, Maggie Cho, Jodie Kirk
9am: Femi Adeniji, Andy, Kira, and Granville Allison, Will Marks, Janice Nichols, Sam and Collin White
11 am: Sam Diack, JW Jung, Jodie and Seth Kirk, Christian and Jack Poole, Rachel Veenstra

KEY EQUIPPING

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

The Gospel According to Matthew, Led by Elder Marc Allen, Room 112 (Open to all). 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, Room 114 (Open to all). 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.

Walking in the Spirit (WitS), Led by Pastor Tom and Sharon Holliday, Room 201 (Registration closed). This is a 10 week in-depth study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

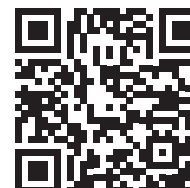
APC
Visitor Form



Sign up for
Youth Choir



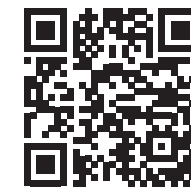
Give
to APC



Newcomer
Dinner



Covenant
Fellowship Groups



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 | *Ben Elliott, Director of Music Ministries*

Psalm 40:1-5

Leader: I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
He drew me up from the pit of destruction,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.

**All: He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the Lord.**

Leader: Blessed is the man who makes
the Lord his trust,
who does not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after a lie!

**All: You have multiplied, O Lord my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you!
I will proclaim and tell of them,
yet they are more than can be told.**

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of praise

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (*Trinity Hymnal #53, vv. 1-3, 5*)

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 (1680), trans. by Catherine Winkworth (1863); Music LOBE DEN HERREN
from Stralsund Gesangbuch (1665); © Public Domain; CCLI Song # 43073*

■ prayer of adoration | *Mike Powell, Pastoral Associate*

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ scripture reading | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

Hosea 6:1-3, 14:1-3 (pages 706, 711)

^{6:1}“Come, let us return to the Lord;
for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
he has struck us down, and he will bind
us up.

²After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

³Let us know; let us press on to know the
Lord;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.”

^{14:1}Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God,
for you have stumbled because of your
iniquity.

²Take with you words
and return to the Lord;
say to him,
“Take away all iniquity;

accept what is good,
and we will pay with bulls
the vows of our lips.

³Assyria shall not save us;
we will not ride on horses;
and we will say no more, ‘Our God,’
to the work of our hands.
In you the orphan finds mercy.”

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ confession of sin

Based on Hosea 6:14

O Lord our God,

You tell us that we must return to You, and You alone. We acknowledge that only You know how far off Your people have wandered. Please forgive us for trying to negotiate with You, presuming on Your forgiveness.

You tell us further to return to You with words. We confess our reluctance to use our words to name the specific sins, not just sin in general, that have been our downfall. Holy Spirit, please direct our hearts to identify and grieve over the sins that have wounded You.

By Your mighty grace, we collapse on Christ, trusting in His righteousness and finished work alone. Receive us graciously, and let us offer the fruit of our lips as He intercedes for us even now. Amen.

■ song of confession

God Be Merciful to Me (Psalm 51)

God, be merciful to me; on Thy grace I rest my plea.
Plenteous in compassion Thou; blot out my transgressions now.
Wash me, make me pure within; cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against Thy grace and provoked Thee to Thy face.
I confess Thy judgment just; speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art; teach Thy wisdom to my heart.
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow; wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust by Thy wrath and judgment just,
let my contrite heart rejoice, and in gladness hear Thy voice.
From my sins O hide Thy face; blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from Thee; let Thy Spirit dwell in me.
Thy salvation's joy impart; steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me and return, O God, to Thee.
Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing Thy love.
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

*Words from The Scottish Psalter, 1912; Music by Christopher Miner; ©1997 Christopher Miner Music;
CCLI Song # 3251755*

■ assurance of pardon

Hosea 14:4

I will heal their apostasy;
I will love them freely,
for my anger has turned from them.

■ song of assurance

O My Soul, Arise

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears; the bleeding Sacrifice on my behalf appears.
Before the throne my Surety stands, before the throne my Surety stands;
my name is written on His hands.

He ever lives above, for me to intercede, His all-redeeming love, His precious blood to plead;
His blood atoned for every race, His blood atoned for every race,
and sprinkles now the throne of grace.

*O my soul, arise! Behold the risen Christ, your great High Priest, your spotless Sacrifice.
O my soul, arise! God owns you as His child. Shake off your guilty fears, my soul, arise!*

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary;
they pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry, "Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,
"don't let that ransomed sinner die!"

My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear.
He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh,
and "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

*Words by Charles Wesley, 1742; addt'l words and music by Eric McAllister; © 2012 Sovereign Grace
Worship / ASCAP (Admin. by Integrity Music).; CCLI Song # 6271646*

■ congregational prayer

■ offertory prayer | *Stephanie Olsen (9am); Ryan Furgerson (11am)*

■ presentation of tithes and offerings

*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

Isaiah 58 (pg. 578)

¹⁴Cry aloud; do not hold back;
lift up your voice like a trumpet;
declare to my people their transgression,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet they seek me daily
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that did righteousness
and did not forsake the judgment of their
God;

they ask of me righteous judgments;
they delight to draw near to God.

³Why have we fasted, and you see it not?
Why have we humbled ourselves, and
you take no knowledge of it?
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek
your own pleasure,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day
will not make your voice to be heard on
high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day for a person to humble himself?
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under
him?

Will you call this a fast,
and a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your
house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own
flesh?

■ prayer for illumination

■ sermon | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor* “Serving Our City in the Name of Christ”

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ commissioning of deaconesses

■ song of response

Take My Life And Let It Be (*Trinity Hymnal #585*)

■ 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 | *Matt Coombs, Executive Director of Ministries*

⁸Then shall your light break forth like the
dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear
guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’
If you take away the yoke from your midst,
the pointing of the finger, and speaking
wickedness,

¹⁰if you pour yourself out for the hungry
and satisfy the desire of the afflicted,
then shall your light rise in the darkness
and your gloom be as the noonday.

¹¹And the Lord will guide you continually
and satisfy your desire in scorched places
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters do not fail.

¹²And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of
many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to dwell in.

¹³If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath,
from doing your pleasure on my holy day,
and call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the Lord honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
or seeking your own pleasure, or talking
idly;

¹⁴then you shall take delight in the Lord,
and I will make you ride on the heights of
the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob
your father,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”