

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sanctity of Life Ministries (SLM) Baby Bottle Campaign. Help support SLM's medical outreach to women and men in crisis pregnancies through their Baby Bottle Campaign! Please pick up a bottle on Sunday in the upstairs lobby, take it home and fill it up with change, cash or a check and return it by February 11. Bottles should be returned to the table in the upstairs lobby. Donations made will be given to support SLM's two pregnancy centers in Alexandria and Fairfax. Contact Pastor Josh Diack with any questions: josh.diack@alexandriapres.org.

Women's Thursday Bible studies. Ladies, as we continue with our theme of Unfailing Hope, we invite you to pray about joining the Thursday women's Bible study. We are 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 9:45-11:30am. 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.

Women's Friday Bible study meets February 9 and February 23. Join us for these 2 weeks of 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.

Sisters in Stitches (SIS). The next meeting will be February 17 at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Sue Edwards at sue.quilts6@gmail.com if you plan to attend. All levels of experience are welcome, as well as friends who enjoy sewing!

The next baptism is Sunday, February 18. If you would like to have your child or children baptized, please send an email to Bailey Rolland at bailey.rolland@alexandriapres.org.

Join us for our All-Church Dinner—Saturday, February 24 from 6-8pm in the Fellowship Hall. The theme is Southwest Fiesta, and there will be great food, fellowship, and even a mariachi band. We will also be holding a dessert making contest, so please let us know when you sign up if you would like to enter. Childcare is provided for children 6 and under. Tickets are available for \$18/ person or \$60/ family. In addition to signing up to attend the dinner, we need volunteers to help with the event. If you are able to help with food preparation, set-up or clean-up, please let us know when you are signing up. Registration will be capped at 200 people. Please ensure that you sign up for everyone in your party. After we reach capacity, we will start a waiting list.

Save the Date:

February 24: All-Church Dinner

March 23: Missions Dinner

May 3-5: Men's Retreat at Massanetta Springs

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SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality

This Week: Gladys Acevedo, Rodney Veenstra; **Next Week:** the Rosas family

Nursery

This Week (9am): Marc, Shannon, and Sarah Allen, John Connelly, Catherine Marks, Abigail Olsen, Christian Poole, Juliana Richardson

This Week (11am): Cindy Cai, Frank Girgenti, Caitlin Jolly, Jodie and Anna Kirk, Becky Knapp, Athena Selim, Bethany Tinev

Next Week (9am): Jamie Connelly, Lina Gentry, Andrew Hobold, Sharon Holliday, Sarah Huntington, McKinzie Newman, Jeremy Root, Margaret Veenstra

Next Week (11am): Rob, Laura, and Elyse Coit, Laurie and Mella LeRoy, Eleanor Nagy, Andrea Romyn

Children's Church

9am: Daniel and Andrea Jones, Bryant and Lynn Streett

11am: Ryan and Erin Furgerson

Tech Team

Liz Crowley, Hensley Gollopp, Eli Kendrick, Bailey Rolland

Greeters

9am: Matt Coombs, Tina Brady, Mike and Vicki Gutshall, Jim and Jo Ann Kottkamp

11am: Pierre Jolly, Sara Eppright, Kristi Hellmuth

Ushers

9am: Mark Adams, Sue Edwards, Brian Field, Alex and Heidi Gesch, Katty and Daniel Hoyle, Yaovi Kodjo, Jonathon Osborne

11 am: Christian and Connor Brittle, Christian and Jack Poole

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.

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.

APC Visitor Form



Give to APC



Covenant Fellowship Groups



All-Church Dinner



February 4, 2024

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 | *Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life and Missions*

Psalms 136:1-4

Leader: ¹Give thanks to the Lord for He is good,

All: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: ²Give thanks to the God of Gods,

All: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: ³Give thanks to the Lord of Lords,

All: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: ⁴To Him alone who does great wonders,

All: for His steadfast love endures forever.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of praise

Give to Our God Immortal Praise

Give to our God immortal praise; mercy and truth are all His ways; wonders of grace to God belong; repeat His mercies in your song.

Give to the Lord of lords renown; the King of kings with glory crown; His mercies ever shall endure, when lords and kings are known no more.

He built the earth, He spread the sky, and fixed the starry lights on high; wonders of grace to God belong; repeat His mercies in your song.

He fills the sun with morning light; He bids the moon direct the night; His mercies ever shall endure, when suns and moons shall shine no more.

He sent his Son with pow’r to save from guilt and darkness and the grave; wonders of grace to God belong; repeat His mercies in your song.

Through this vain world He guides our feet, and leads us to His heav’nly seat; His mercies ever shall endure, when this our world shall be no more.

Words by Isaac Watts (based on Psalm 136), 1719; Music DUKE STREET by John Hatton, 1793; © Public Domain; CCLI Song # 2756299

■ prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ scripture reading | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

Psalms 25:11-22 (pg. 429)

¹¹For your name’s sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great.

¹²Who is the man who fears the Lord? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose.

¹³His soul shall abide in well-being, and his offspring shall inherit the land.

¹⁴The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant.

¹⁵My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

¹⁶Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

¹⁷The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.

¹⁸Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

¹⁹Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me.

²⁰Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!

Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

²¹May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.

²²Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ confession meditation | *Adult Choir*

Prayer for Mercy

When at Your throne my knee I bend and humbly plead for mercy there, think of the sinner’s dying Friend, and for His sake receive my prayer.

O think not of my shame and guilt, the stains for which Your cleansing cry; think of the blood which Jesus spilt, and let that blood my pardon buy.

Remember I am still Your own, the trembling creature of Your hand; yet how my heart to sin is prone, and what temptations round me stand.

O think not of my doubts and fears, my strivings with Your grace divine; think of Your Son, His pain and tears, and let His merits stand for mine!

Let not Your faithful ways depart, for You have heard my fervent plea, in love regard my contrite heart, and in Your mercy pardon me.

Words by Henry Lyte (1793-1847), alt. by Susan Bentall Boersma; Music English folk tune O WALY WALY, arr. by Jonathan Reid; © 2016 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

■ assurance of pardon

Titus 3:4-7

Leader: ⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us,

All: not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy,

Leader: by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

All: ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

■ song of assurance

His Mercy Is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done; omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum, thrown into a sea without bottom or shore: Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more—stronger than darkness, new every morn: Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam, what Father so tender is calling us home; He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor: Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness He lavished on us; His blood was the payment, His life was the cost. We stood ‘neath a debt we could never afford: Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

Words and music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa; © 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs, Getty Music Publishing, Love Your Enemies Publishing, Messenger Hymns (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.); CCLI Song # 7065053

■ congregational prayer

■ offertory prayer | *Steve Sylvia (9am); Cindy Cai (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

Hosea 2:1-15 (pg. 703-704)

Israel’s Unfaithfulness Punished

¹Say to your brothers, “You are my people,” and to your sisters, “You have received mercy.”

²“Plead with your mother, plead— for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband—

that she put away her whoring from her face, and her adultery from between her breasts;

³Iest I strip her naked and make her as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and make her like a parched land, and kill her with thirst.

⁴Upon her children also I will have no mercy, because they are children of whoredom.

⁸And she did not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the wine, and the oil, and who lavished on her silver and gold, which they used for Baal.

⁹Therefore I will take back my grain in its time, and my wine in its season, and I will take away my wool and my flax, which were to cover her nakedness.

¹⁰Now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and no one shall rescue her out of my hand.

¹¹And I will put an end to all her mirth, her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths, and all her appointed feasts.

¹²And I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees, of which she said, ‘These are my wages, which my lovers have given me.’

■ prayer for illumination

■ sermon | *Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life and Missions*

“The Jealous Love of God” *Sermon series: God’s Love That Pursues*

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.

Members will be invited to come forward to receive the bread and the cup. You will receive the elements from the pastors and elders standing up front in your section of the Sanctuary, and then take the bread and cup back to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, raise your hand and a server will bring the elements to your seat. We will take the elements together as prompted by the pastor.

During the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper you are invited to sing or meditate on the following song:

Lord Have Mercy

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of response

Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us—and we remember the promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross. So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn for you—eat and remember the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one. So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you—drink and remember He drained death’s cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God. So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond—and to remember our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth. As we share in His suffering, we proclaim: Christ will come again! And we’ll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King.

Words and music by Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend; © 2007 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); CCLI Song # 5003372

■ 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

I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall devour them.

¹³And I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals

when she burned offerings to them and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry, and went after her lovers and forgot me, declares the Lord.

The Lord’s Mercy on Israel

¹⁴“Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her.

¹⁵And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope.

And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.