

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**(Last Call - sign up by today!) Please join us on March 23 from 5 - 7:30pm for our Missions Dinner!** There is no cost, and we will be catering Indian food. During the first portion of the dinner, adults will rotate through three breakout rooms with three different missionaries. One room will focus on “pray”, one on “welcome” and the last one will focus on “invest”. Adults will have the option to attend 2 of the 3 over the course of the first hour. For the second hour over dinner, we will focus on “going”, with Pastor Josh leading the conversation and sharing ways the Lord has used us this past year.

There is nursery for children ages 5 and under (pizza will be served). Children ages 6 through 5th grade are invited to a special children’s program upstairs with Leslie Bridge, APC member and supported missionary, for the first hour and will rejoin their parents for the second hour. Parents, you are welcome to decide if your older children (4th/5th grade) are able to handle the breakout rooms with the adults. If your child will be in the nursery, please do not sign them up as a registrant.

**We need your help in nursery!** God is blessing us with a growing number of children at APC, and therefore we have an increasing demand for volunteers in the nursery. We are being called to increase the adult to child ratio and possibly expand to an additional nursery room to meet the growing demand. Would you please prayerfully consider serving in this ministry? If you are already serving, would you consider signing up for additional slots?

For new volunteers, a sign up sheet is at the Welcome Desk. For existing volunteers, please scan the QR code to sign up. If you would like to become a nursery volunteer, contact Erin Furgerson at [erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org](mailto:erin.furgerson@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](mailto:lynn.streett79@gmail.com) in order to receive the Zoom link or if you have any questions.

**Exploring Christianity Bible Study.** Are you exploring Christianity or relatively new to the faith? We invite you to a bible study specifically tailored to be a welcoming and comfortable place for participants to engage with scripture and ask questions as they delve deeper into, or evaluate the claims of, the Gospel of John. We will explore, among other things, the Gospel’s claim that Jesus Christ was the second member of the Trinity, that he came into the world and bore on the cross the penalty for our sins, that he was resurrected and sits in glory at the right hand of God the Father, and that by believing in him, you may have life in his name. Facilitated by Elder Aaron Renenger, the study will meet at APC biweekly on Wednesdays at 7 pm, beginning on March 20. To sign-up or for questions, please contact Aaron at [aaron@renenger.com](mailto:aaron@renenger.com).

**APC Softball.** The City of Alexandria’s co-ed church softball league will kick off on April 8th! The league runs for 10 weeks. All games will be played on Monday nights at the Four Mile Run softball field. If you would be interested in being on the team this year, please reach out to Bailey Rolland at [bailey.rolland@alexandriapres.org](mailto:bailey.rolland@alexandriapres.org).

**Holy Week at APC.** We hope you will join us during our Holy Week services as we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus! This year, our theme will be “Surely This Is God’s Son.” Please join us for the following services:

**Palm Sunday, March 24:** 9am and 11am  
**Good Friday, March 29:** 7:30pm  
**Easter Sunday, March 31:** 9am and 11am

Postcards with Holy Week information are available at the welcome desk. We invite you to take a few and pray about who you might invite.

**Save the Date:**  
May 3-5: Men’s Retreat at Massanetta Springs  
June 17-21: Vacation Bible School (VBS)

### Nursery Sign Up



### Missions Dinner



## SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

### Hospitality Nursery

**This Week:** Gladys Acevedo  
**This Week (9am):** Carrie, Matt and Millie Brown, John Connelly, Patricia Kodjo, Susanna Root, Tom and Amanda Petelik, Rachel Sylvia  
**This Week (11am):** Matt, Augustus, Maggie and Woodrow Coombs, Carmen Rives, Rachel Sylvia, Mary Mitchell Todd  
**Next Week (9am):** Sifa Balagizi, Fern Birtwistle, Ryan Douglass, Drew and Sally Lindsay, Chris Nelms, Joe Newman, Juliana Richardson, Bryant and Lynn Streett, Stephen Sylvia  
**Next Week (11am):** Sara Eppright, Dan and Kathryn Johnson, Laurie and Mella LeRoy, Tom Mood

### Children’s Church

**9am:** Amanda and Nathan Leamer, Jess and Nathan Newman

### Tech Team Greeters

**11am:** Ryan and Erin Furgerson  
Ben Crowley, Hudson Diack, Eli Kendrick, Bailey Rolland  
**9am:** Mary Baird, Ryan Furgerson, Patricia Kodjo, Gladys Monroy, Ariel Sanchez

### Ushers

**11am:** Maggie Cho, Becky and Maelee Mason, Chris Nelms, Greg Thomas  
**9am:** Andy, Kira and Granville Allison, Edwin Gentry, Patricia Kodjo, Will Marks, Janice Nichols, Jo Porwoll  
**11 am:** Sam Diack, JW and Rachel Jung, Christian and Jackson 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.

**The Lord’s Prayer as a Way of Life, Elder Aaron Renenger and Jeremy Root, Room 114 (Open to all).** The Lord’s Prayer is so familiar to us that we often say it reflexively, without stopping to contemplate the profundity of its message. Tertullian called the Lord’s Prayer “an abridgement of the entire Gospel,” and William Edgar calls it “a remarkable statement of faith, as it stands opposed to a confused world.” Join us for this six-week contemplation of The Lord’s Prayer, as we see that it serves not only as a perfect model prayer, but reflects a God-centric worldview that epitomizes the Christian life.

**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](mailto:matthew.coombs@alexandriapres.org).

### APC Visitor Form



### Give to APC



### Covenant Fellowship Groups



March 17, 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 | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

*from Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-7*

Leader: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

**All: Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.**

Leader: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

**All: Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live.**

Leader: Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

**All: let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.**

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

### ■ song of praise

#### Come Praise and Glorify

Come praise and glorify our God, the Father of our Lord!  
In Christ He has in heav’ny realms His blessings on us poured;  
for pure and blameless in His sight He destined us to be,  
and now we’ve been adopted through His Son eternally.

*To the praise of Your glory, to the praise of Your mercy and grace,  
to the praise of Your glory, You are the God who saves!*

Come praise and glorify our God, Who gives His grace in Christ;  
in Him our sins are washed away, redeemed through sacrifice.  
In Him God has made known to us the myst’ry of His will:  
that Christ should be the Head of all, His purpose to fulfill.

Come praise and glorify our God, for we’ve believed the Word,  
and through our faith we have a seal, the Spirit of the Lord.  
The Spirit guarantees our hope until redemption’s done,  
until we join in endless praise to God, the Three in One.

*Words and music by Tim Chester and Bob Kauflin, based on Eph. 1:3-14; © 2011 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song # 6167664*

### ■ prayer of adoration

## GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

### ■ scripture reading | *Daniel and Andrea Jones (9am); Andy and Rebecca Schad (11am)*

*Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (pg. 768)*

**Please open your pew Bibles or look on the screen.**

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

### ■ songs of praise

#### Show Us Christ

Prepare our hearts, O God; help us to receive;  
break the hard and stony ground; help our unbelief.  
Plant Your Word down deep in us, cause it to bear fruit;  
open up our ears to hear; lead us in Your truth.

*Muestra a Cristo, muestra a Cristo;  
revela, oh Dios, Tu gloria a través de Tu verdad  
hasta que todos confiesen “¡Cristo es Señor!”*

Your Word is living light upon our darkened eyes;  
guards us through temptations; makes the simple wise.  
Your Word is food for famished ones, freedom for the slave,  
riches for the needy soul—come speak to us today.

*Show us Christ, show us Christ;  
O God, reveal Your glory through the preaching of Your Word  
until every heart confesses, “Christ is Lord!”*

Where else can we go, Lord? Where else can we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.

*Words and music by Bob Kauflin and Doug Plank; © 2011 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music), Sovereign Grace Worship (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song # 6169253*

### ○ Great God

O great God of highest heav’n, occupy my lowly heart,  
own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel pow’r.  
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war;  
You have loved and purchased me; make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice,  
did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven’s joys.  
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me,  
through the gospel of Your Son gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life that’s dependent on Your grace;  
keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face.  
You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed;  
O great God of highest heav’n, glorify Your name through me.

*Words and music by Bob Kauflin, based on The Valley of Vision prayer “Regeneration”; © 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song # 4804015*

### ■ testimony | *Tressa Wilson*

### ■ congregational prayer

### ■ offertory prayer

### ■ offertory | *Adult Choir (9am)*

#### I Love You, O My Lord Most High

I love You, O my Lord most high, for first Your love has captured me;  
I seek no other liberty: bound by Your love, I shall be free.

May memory no thought suggest but shall to Your pure glory tend,  
may understanding find no rest, except in You, its only end.

All mine is Yours: just say the word, say what You will, it shall be done;  
I know Your love, most gracious Lord, I know You seek my good alone.

Apart from You, nothing can be, so grant me this, my only wish,  
to love You, Lord, eternally. You give me all in giving this.

*Words by St. Ignatius Loyola (16th cent.), trans. by Edward Caswall (19th cent.); Music by Anthony Giamanco; © 2017 Lorenz Publishing Company.*

*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 8 (pg. 707)*

#### Israel Will Reap the Whirlwind

<sup>1</sup>Set the trumpet to your lips!  
One like a vulture is over the house of the Lord,  
because they have transgressed my covenant  
and rebelled against my law.

<sup>2</sup>To me they cry,  
“My God, we—Israel—know you.”

<sup>3</sup>Israel has spurned the good;  
the enemy shall pursue him.

<sup>4</sup>They made kings, but not through me.  
They set up princes, but I knew it not.

With their silver and gold they made idols  
for their own destruction.

<sup>5</sup>I have spurned your calf, O Samaria.  
My anger burns against them.

How long will they be incapable of innocence?

<sup>6</sup>For it is from Israel;  
a craftsman made it;  
it is not God.

The calf of Samaria  
shall be broken to pieces.

<sup>7</sup>For they sow the wind,  
and they shall reap the whirlwind.

The standing grain has no heads;  
it shall yield no flour;

if it were to yield,  
strangers would devour it.

<sup>8</sup>Israel is swallowed up;  
already they are among the nations  
as a useless vessel.

<sup>9</sup>For they have gone up to Assyria,  
a wild donkey wandering alone;  
Ephraim has hired lovers.

<sup>10</sup>Though they hire allies among the nations,  
I will soon gather them up.

And the king and princes shall soon writhe  
because of the tribute.

<sup>11</sup>Because Ephraim has multiplied altars for sinning,  
they have become to him altars for sinning.

<sup>12</sup>Were I to write for him my laws by the ten thousands,  
they would be regarded as a strange thing.

<sup>13</sup>As for my sacrificial offerings,  
they sacrifice meat and eat it,  
but the Lord does not accept them.

Now he will remember their iniquity  
and punish their sins;

they shall return to Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>For Israel has forgotten his Maker  
and built palaces,  
and Judah has multiplied fortified cities;  
so I will send a fire upon his cities,  
and it shall devour her strongholds.

*Galatians 6:7-8 (pg. 916)*

<sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

<sup>8</sup>For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

### ■ prayer for illumination

### ■ sermon | *Joel Acevedo, Pastor of International Outreach and Mercy* **“Sowing and Reaping”** Sermon series: *God’s Love That Pursues*

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

### ■ song of response

#### Not in Me

No list of sins I have not done, no list of virtues I pursue,  
no list of those I am not like can earn myself a place with You.  
O God, be merciful to me— I am a sinner through and through!  
My only hope of righteousness is not in me, but only You.

No humble dress, no fervent prayer, no lifted hands, no tearful song,  
no recitation of the truth can justify a single wrong.  
My righteousness is Jesus’ life; my debt was paid by Jesus’ death;  
my weary load was borne by Him, and He alone can give me rest.

No separation from the world, no work I do, no gift I give  
can cleanse my conscience, cleanse my hands; I cannot cause my soul to live.  
But Jesus died and rose again— the pow’r of death is overthrown!  
My God is merciful to me, and merciful in Christ alone.  
My righteousness is Jesus’ life; my debt was paid by Jesus’ death;  
my weary load was borne by Him, and He alone can give me rest.

*Words and music by Eric Schumacher & David L. Ward; © 2012 Hymnicity; CCLI Song # 7006013*

### ■ 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 | *Ben Elliott, Director of Music Ministries*

*Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®). Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. Music used by permission under CCLI #2595419 and ONE LICENSE #A-726376. All rights reserved.*