Missions Opportunity - Short-term trip to Japan from November 8th through 16th. We are being asked if we could help support and serve the region through a leadership development and church planting conference. The aim is to help run a VBS with children of registrants, engage relationally with teens of missionary families and church planters, and to help with conference event needs. The anticipated attendance is 600-700 people and serves many in the region through plenary sessions, workshops, and opportunities to fellowship. Pastor Josh will be holding an interest meeting on Sunday morning, April 21st, from 10:20-10:50 in room 007 off the fellowship hall if you are considering the opportunity to join the team and serve.

Hymn Sing and Potluck on April 21. Join us at 5pm on April 21 for a time of singing and learning about the central role of hymns in the church's life and worship. This all-church event is family friendly. Please submit hymn recommendations using the form in the APC emails. Afterwards, we invite you to join us downstairs for a potluck. Please bring a dish to share.

Men's Retreat. The APC Men's Retreat will be held May 3-5 at picturesque Massanetta Springs just outside of Harrisonburg, Virginia, a leisurely 2.5 hour drive. It will be a weekend of fellowship and fun, and we will explore the theme of Gospel Joy in large and small group gatherings throughout the weekend, culminating in a worship service before we depart on Sunday. We will officially begin Friday evening with our own private cook out at approximately 6pm. Everyone is encouraged to arrive by 5pm, if possible.

For those able to get away earlier on Friday we have two events from which to choose; golf at Lakeview Golf Club (about 10 minutes from the retreat site) or a tour of the Civil War battle site at Brandy Station (about 1.5 hours from the retreat site). Golf tee times will begin about 11:15. Greens fees are \$46.00. Bring your own clubs. Others may wish to simply use the driving range and putting green and may obtain clubs from the clubhouse. If you are golfing, please let Jim Taft know by April 22nd.

C.S. Lewis Institute Applications—Deadline April 15. APC highly recommends the CSLI Fellows Program. If you are interested in applying to be a Fellow, visit the website HERE. This year-long discipleship program is for believers who are already established in their faith, are highly motivated to grow deeper in their knowledge of and obedience to Jesus Christ, and who desire for God to use them more effectively in the work of His Kingdom. The program focuses on the integration of heart and mind in a small group context, and is designed to dramatically alter the trajectory of spiritual growth. A combination of focused Bible study, dynamic teachers, classic writers, experienced mentors, effective small groups and active response to the Word and the Spirit helps believers mature in their ability to articulate, defend and joyfully live out their faith in public and personal life.

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 Philippians using Melissa Kruger's study *In All Things*. Joy is what we are made for. How can we find it? Only by knowing the One who considered it a joy to save us! 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.

Save the Date:

May 18: Newcomer Dinner
May 31 - June 1: Inquirers (membership) class
June 17-21: Vacation Bible School (VBS)



Men's Retreat



Newcomer Dinner

C.S. Lewis Institute Applicatioin



SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality
Nursery

This Week: Gladys Acevedo, Suyapa Martinez, Miriam Moreno Coto
This Week (9am): Mary Lou and Chase Chesser, Phoebe Drybola, Jackie

McCauley, Jenny and Abby McGahey, Jessica Newman, Abbie and

Ellie Olsen, Traci Youngquist

This Week (11am): Kari Adams, Flora Chipana, Jodie and Anna Kirk, KayCee Poole, Stacey Stephens, Stephen Sylvia, Angel Tinev

Next Week (9am): Femi Adeniji, Sifa Balagizi, Leslie Bridge, Mary Lou and

Chase Chesser, Jessica Newman, Evan and Maureen Ward,

Justin Wells-Morgan

Next Week (11am): Marc and Shannon Allen, Tom Mood, Sam, Jessica,

Collin and Charlie White

Children's Church 9am: Nathan and Jessica Newman, Chris and Amy Weld

11am: Brian and Sarah Field

Tech Team Chris Blackburn, Pete Olsen, Emmett Stephens, Joshua Youngquist Greeters 9am: Mary Baird, Matt Coombs, Mike and Vicki Gutshall, Jim and Jo Ann

Kottkamn

11am: Sara Eppright, Pierre Jolly, Yaovi and Patricia Kodjo

Ushers 9am: Mark Adams, Femi Adeniji, Sue Edwads, Brian Field, Katty Hoyle,

Daniel Hoyle, Romedy Murr, Sam White

11 am: Christian and Connor Brittle, Rick Eppright, Vynn Huh, Jodie and

Seth Kirk

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, (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.

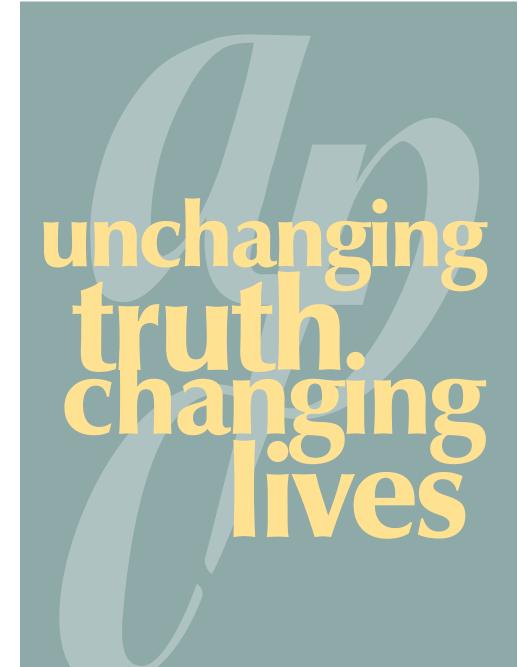




Covenant Fellowship Groups



April 7, 2024



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.

1300 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302 | 703.683.3348 | alexandriapres.org

Holy Worship Service GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

prelude

call to worship | Worship Team

Romans 5:9-11

⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of praise

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

I know that my Redeemer lives- what comfort this sweet sentence gives! He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever living Head.

He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;

He lives to bless me with His love;

He lives to plead for me above.

He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;

He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives and I shall conquer death; He lives a mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same. Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Words by Sameul Medley, 1775; Music DUKE STREET by John Hatton, 1793; © Public Domain; CCLI Song # 2647308

prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

scripture reading | Sarah Field (9am); Denise McMullen (11am)

Romans 6:1-11 (pg. 886)

Dead to Sin, Alive to God

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of praise

Living Hope

How great the chasm that lay between us, how high the mountain I could not climb In desperation I turned to heaven and spoke Your name into the night Then through the darkness, Your loving-kindness tore through the shadows of my soul The work is finished, the end is written: Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace? The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear my sin and bear my shame The cross has spoken, I am forgiven; the King of Kings calls me His own Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever: lesus Christ, my living hope

Halleluiah! Praise the One who set me free Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me You have broken every chain, there's salvation in Your name: Jesus Christ, my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise; Your buried body began to breathe Out of the silence, the roaring Lion declared the grave has no claim on me Jesus, Yours is the victory

Words and music by Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham; © 2017 Phil Wickham Music, Simply Global Songs, Sing My Songs, Bethel Music Publishing; CCLI Song # 7106807

- **congregational** prayer
- **offertory prayer** | Gladys Acevedo (9am); Bob Metheny (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 10 (pg. 708)

¹Israel is a luxuriant vine that yields its fruit.

The more his fruit increased, the more altars he built;

as his country improved, he improved his pillars.

² Their heart is false;

now they must bear their guilt.

The Lord will break down their altars and destroy their pillars.

³ For now they will say: "We have no king,

for we do not fear the Lord; and a king—what could he do for us?"

⁴ They utter mere words;

with empty oaths they make covenants;

so judgment springs up like poisonous weeds in the furrows of the field.

⁵ The inhabitants of Samaria tremble

for the calf of Beth-aven.

Its people mourn for it, and so do its idolatrous priests those who rejoiced over it and over its glory for it has departed from them.

⁶ The thing itself shall be carried to Assyria as tribute to the great king.

Ephraim shall be put to shame, and Israel shall be ashamed of his idol.

⁷ Samaria's king shall perish like a twig on the face of the waters.

⁸ The high places of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed.

Thorn and thistle shall grow up on their altars,

and they shall say to the mountains, "Cover us," and to the hills, "Fall on us."

⁹From the days of Gibeah, you have sinned, O Israel; there they have continued. Shall not the war against the unjust overtake them in Gibeah?

¹⁰ When I please, I will discipline them, and nations shall be gathered against them when they are bound up for their double iniquity.

¹ Ephraim was a trained calf that loved to thresh. and I spared her fair neck;

but I will put Ephraim to the yoke; Judah must plow;

Jacob must harrow for himself. ¹² Sow for yourselves righteousness;

reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground,

for it is the time to seek the Lord, that he may come and rain righteousness upon you.

¹³ You have plowed iniquity; you have reaped injustice; you have eaten the fruit of lies.

Because you have trusted in your own way and in the multitude of your warriors,

¹⁴ therefore the tumult of war shall arise among your people, and all your fortresses shall be destroyed,

as Shalman destroyed Beth-arbel on the day of battle; mothers were dashed in pieces with their children.

¹⁵ Thus it shall be done to you, O Bethel, because of your great evil.

At dawn the king of Israel shall be utterly cut off.

prayer for illumination

sermon | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

"Time to Seek the Lord" Sermon series: God's Love That Pursues

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

confession of sin

O Father of all righteousness, Your prophets of old testified to the unplowed ground in the hearts of Your people. This day we acknowledge that the ground of our own hearts remains hardened, even as we pray to You. We find it easiest to confess our most obvious, surface-level sins, and even these sometimes remain rooted in our lives. However, though this kind of confession may prick our conscience, the plow does not cut deeply enough to turn over the hard ground of our idols.

We confess that we need a kind of change we cannot bring about for ourselves. Holy Spirit, please break up our hearts' most unyielding soil, and guide us to deep conviction and real repentance. We ask for faith to look to Jesus, our righteous High Priest, for our forgiveness, our cleansing, and our healing. Amen.

assurance of pardon

Psalm 32:5 I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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: Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Lyrics can be found on the screen.

song of response Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting

Lyrics can be found on the screen.

dismissal

Leader: Let us go forth and serve our city and our world as those who love the Lord and Savior lesus 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

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