

WELCOME TO ALEXANDRIA PRESBYTERIAN

We are glad you’re here!
APC is a church of sinners. It’s that simple. But we are bound together by the Gospel that saves us and transforms us — UNCHANGING TRUTH, CHANGING LIVES. The transformation is, however, a process. God isn’t through with us yet. Everyone in this church is struggling with something. If you are currently struggling with greed, gossip, drugs, alcohol, sexual brokenness, eating disorders, anger, pride, etc — you are not alone. More importantly, God does not intend for you to struggle alone. That’s why He made the Church. If you would like to learn how your brothers and sisters at APC might be able to encourage you, pray with you, and struggle alongside you, we encourage you to visit our welcome desk, scan our “Connect with APC” QR code, and/or contact one of our pastors, officers, or staff.

To assist you as part of our church family gathering today, we want you to know that we offer:
Nursery downstairs for newborn to age 4. Children age 5 through 2nd grade are welcome to continue worship in Children’s Church following the offertory.

A simulcast of the worship service in the Main Level Adult Education Room (Room 112). As you or your family have the need, please feel free to use this area to continue your worship!

A Nursing Mothers Room downstairs, near the Fellowship Hall in Room 009. The worship service simulcast is also available here.

Large-Print Bulletins. See one of our greeters.

Assistive Listening Devices. For assistance, see one of our audio technicians.

Se ofrece traducción al español cada domingo durante el servicio de la 9am. Para más detalles acercarse a alguno de los ujieres.
Spanish translation is available every Sunday during the 9am service. For more details, see one of our ushers.

As you are able, please help us to serve people arriving after you by sitting toward the front of the sanctuary, moving to the middle of your row, and closing empty chairs between you and those next to you.
To help focus our attention on Jesus during worship, please silence all electronic devices.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

When people discover that God has uniquely gifted them to play a specific part in the body of Christ, it is a life-changing experience. To realize that the Holy Spirit has placed supernatural gifts that create power, fruit and joy in your Christian life dynamically affects your day-to-day Christian life! Please join us for an eight-hour course on Sunday afternoons, 3-5 p.m. June 8, 15, 22, and 29 to become a *steward of your gifts in utilizing your time and talents*.

Our next Inquirers Class is June 13th-14th. 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. Attending the class does not obligate you to join the church. Sign up through the APC emails or the QR code “APC Sign-Ups”.

What then shall we say about these things? Practicing Being Sent. As a follow-on to the Women’s Retreat Session “Sent”, join us on Saturday, June 7th from 10am-11:30am in the Fellowship Hall Lobby to practice what it looks like to be people who are sent as we consider how to share our stories of gospel transformation. This workshop will give us the opportunity to reflect upon how God is at work in our lives and equip us with more natural ways to share the reason for our hope. Even if you did not attend the retreat, consider joining us as this is a generalized activity that we pray will develop a greater desire in each of us to share the love of Christ with those who do not know Him yet. Please RSVP on the women’s ministry webpage and contact Shannon Allen with any questions at shannon.allen@alexandriapres.org.

Hymn Sing: Hymns of the Bible. Join us on June 8th at 5pm in the Sanctuary 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. To allow us to consider singing your favorite hymns, we would love for you to submit up to three in the form found in “APC Sign-Ups”. Please bring a dish to share and drop it off in the Fellowship Hall before joining us in the Sanctuary.

Baptism. The next baptism is Sunday, June 15th. If you would like to have your child or children baptized, please reach out to Bailey Rolland at bailey.rolland@alexandriapres.org.

Register for Vacation Bible School 2025! Rising Kindergarten to rising 5th graders: Join us for VBS this summer, June 16th-20th. Rising 6th graders to adults: Volunteers are needed! Please use the registration link to volunteer. Every adult who volunteers for VBS must be screened through our Congregational Care and Safety process. **Registration is full, but you can join the waitlist!**

APC is looking for volunteer photographers! Do you have a talent in photography and want to use your skills here? We would like to capture the life of the church and get photos of our special services, dinners, retreats, and events. Interested? Reach out to Phoebe Drybola at phoebe.drybola@alexandriapres.org.

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality	<i>This Week:</i> Gladys Acevedo, Suyapa Martinez, Miriam Moreno Coto, Dorothy Taft
Nursery	<i>This Week (9am):</i> Jon and Nikki Blank, Elyse Coit, Evelyn Heil, Matti Jamison, Jackie and Claire McCauley, Tom and Emily Ribaric, Evan and Maureen Ward <i>This Week (11am):</i> Christine and Zach Brittle, Kendra, Alexis and Faith Howard, Carmen Rives, Kimberly, Ben, Sam, Max and Eli Signer, Justin Wells-Morgan <i>Next Week (9am):</i> Mark and Luke Adams, Woodrow Coombs, Whitney Klinke, Patricia Kodjo, Drew and Sally Lindsay, Maria Myers, Madison Newman, Juliana Richardson, Evan Root, Maureen Ward <i>Next Week (11am):</i> Catherine Chae, Kirsten Etheron, Laurie and Asa LeRoy, Jessica Newman, Chris and Lisa Popadich, Justin Wells-Morgan
Children’s Church	No children’s church this week.
Tech Team	Chris Blackburn, Chris McGahey, Bailey Rolland
Greeters	<i>9am:</i> Ryan Furgerson, the Kodjo family, Lynn Streett <i>11am:</i> Richard and Melinda Douglass, Sara Eppright, Kristi Hellmuth, Chris Nelms

KEY EQUIPPING

Key Equipping is not meeting tonight. APC offers an array of classes for all ages on Sunday evenings for further spiritual development and equipping disciples of Christ.
Covenant Kids Ministry: Children 2 years old - 5th grade, Lower Level (Nursery for 1 & under). Children 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! Contact: Erin Furgerson at erin.furgerson@alexandriapres.org.
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. Contact: Adam LeRoy at adam.leroy@alexandriapres.org.

Adult Key Equipping Classes have concluded, but we will continue to have other Key Equipping opportunities/events. Please key an eye out for future adult key equipping opportunities.

May 25 - No Key Equipping for all ages - Memorial Day weekend
June 1 - Large Group Shepherding for all Shepherds
June 8 - Hymn Sing and Potluck (open to all)
June 29 - Congregational Meeting and Potluck (open to all)

Connect with APC



APC Sign-Ups



Give to APC



Vision 2026 Webpage



Sign-ups for all events can be found in the QR Code above titled, “APC Sign-Ups.”

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May 25, 2025

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.

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 | Ben Elliott, Director of Music Ministries
Philippians 4:19-20
Leader: ¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
All: ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

- song of praise
Come, People of the Risen King
Come, people of the risen King who delight to bring Him praise;
come all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth, we will lift our eyes to Him,
where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in.

*Rejoice, rejoice, let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come, those whose joy is morning sun, and those weeping through the night;
come, those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight;
for His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease,
but follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace.

Come, young and old from every land, men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands; find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world His people sing; shore to shore we hear them call
the truth that cries through every age: “Our God is all in all!”

Words and music by Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend; © 2007 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); CCLI Song # 5232617

- prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

- scripture reading | Gary McGee (9am); Benton Gordon (11am)
Psalm 119:25-32 (pg. 480)
²⁵ My soul clings to the dust;
give me life according to your word!
²⁶ When I told of my ways, you answered me;
teach me your statutes!
²⁷ Make me understand the way of your precepts,
and I will meditate on your wondrous works.
²⁸ My soul melts away for sorrow;
strengthen me according to your word!
²⁹ Put false ways far from me
and graciously teach me your law!
³⁰ I have chosen the way of faithfulness;
I set your rules before me.
³¹ I cling to your testimonies, O LORD;
let me not be put to shame!
³² I will run in the way of your commandments
when you enlarge my heart!
- song of assurance
Wonderful, Merciful Savior
Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?
O You rescue the souls of men

You are the One that we praise; You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for
O our hearts always hunger for

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost our way
O we’ve hopelessly lost our way

Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne
O we’re falling before Your throne

Words and music by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse; © 1989 Curb Dayspring Music (Admin. by Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.), Curb Word Music (Admin. by WC Music Corp.); CCLI Song # 106879
- farewell | Tom and Jeannine Mood (9am)
- congregational prayer | Elder Rob Fisher
- offertory prayer | Joan Leotta (9am); Tim Drybola (11am)

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

- 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
- song of assurance
Wonderful, Merciful Savior
Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?
O You rescue the souls of men

You are the One that we praise; You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for
O our hearts always hunger for

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost our way
O we’ve hopelessly lost our way

Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne
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Words and music by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse; © 1989 Curb Dayspring Music (Admin. by Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.), Curb Word Music (Admin. by WC Music Corp.); CCLI Song # 106879
- farewell | Tom and Jeannine Mood (9am)
- congregational prayer | Elder Rob Fisher
- offertory prayer | Joan Leotta (9am); Tim Drybola (11am)
- presentation of tithes and offerings
song of preparation
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.

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

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.

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, Sovereign Grace Worship (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song # 6169253

Children’s church is not meeting this 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

- children’s message

- sermon scripture reading
Mark 7:1-23 (pg. 791)
Traditions and Commandments
¹ Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, ² they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³ (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, ⁴ and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) ⁵ And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶ And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

“‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
⁷ in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’”

⁸ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

⁹ And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! ¹⁰ For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ¹¹ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God — ¹² then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³ thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”
- What Defiles a Person
¹⁴ And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.” ¹⁷ And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸ And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, ¹⁹ since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?”(Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰ And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

- prayer for illumination

- sermon | Mike Powell, Pastoral Associate
*“Matters of the Heart”
Series: The Gospel According to Mark*

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

- deacons’ fund offering
- song of response
O 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

- 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