

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

Hot Dog and Ice Cream Social. At 5pm on Sunday, August 31st, join us for our annual Hot Dog and Ice Cream Social. Enjoy yummy treats, activities, and fellowship with your APC family.
Volunteers needed! Sign up in “APC Sign-ups”.

Spiritual Leadership Class begins September 2nd. Register now! This class is open to all who want to learn about spiritual leadership in ministry, the home, at work, or in your neighborhood. It is required for any considering leadership as an officer at APC (elder or deacon), leading in a ministry (CFG leaders/hosts, lay leaders in ministry, etc), or appointment as a deaconess. Check the “APC Sign-Ups” to register.

Women’s Bible Study – Starting Thursday, September 4th, Job: Lessons in Comfort. Our God is the God of all comfort. Doesn’t He sound like exactly who and what we need at so many moments of our lives? Do you think of Job as a book of comfort? Many of us really think of it as a book of loss. Let’s learn otherwise! Our study guide is Frances Bennett’s Job: Lessons in Comfort. Thursday mornings, 9:45am-11:30am, APC Fellowship Hall, nursery provided, registration requested. Contact Lynn Street at lynn.streett79@gmail.com with any questions.

Newcomer Fellowship Dinner, Saturday, September 6th, 6-8pm. If you’ve recently started attending APC, we would love the chance to get to know you more! Please join us for food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. You’ll have a chance to meet church officers and staff, ask questions and learn more about the ministry God is building here. Sign up in “APC Sign-ups”.

Our next Inquirers Class is October 3rd and 4th. 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 in “APC Sign-Ups”.

We now have two open positions. We invite you to spread the word and contact us if you are interested in joining the APC team. We are seeking the Lord’s timing and leading for these staff positions. Please contact Executive Director of Ministries Matt Coombs at matthew.coombs@alexandriapres.org if you are interested, would like to see the full position description for either position, or would like more information.

The Ministry Administrative Assistant is responsible for providing general prayer and administrative support (including email, church management system administration, worship preparation, maintaining sign-ups, copying, printing, etc) for ministry leaders and other church staff. This is a part-time position (24 hours/week including Sunday activities).

The Director of Youth Ministries (DoY) develops and sustains APC’s ministry to youth, inside and outside of APC, who are in 6th through 12th grade. They work with both adult and youth leadership volunteers, as well as the Elder for Youth, in leading, equipping, discipling, shepherding, and evangelism in our youth ministries. This is a full-time position (40-50 hours/week including Sunday activities) and includes benefits.

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality	This Week: Leamer CFG
Nursery	This Week (9am): Didier Balagizi, Drew Black, Jamie Connelly, Woodrow and Gus Coombs, Laura Erickson, Tom Holliday, Joe and McKinzie Newman, Madison Newman, Staci Root This Week (11am): Laura Coit, Gina Mitchell, Eleanor Nagy, Stephanie and Ellie Olsen, Allison Rivera, Angel Tinev Next Week (9am): Drew Black, Josh Diack, Kirsten Etherton, Nathan and Lisa Fleischaker, Sharon Holliday, Ethan and Serenity Novak, Maureen Ward Next Week (11am): Flora Chipana, Stacey Diack, Kirsten Etheron, Caitlin Jolly, Ben and Kimberly Signer, Mary Mitchell Todd 9am: Mark and Kari Adams, Nate and Maria Myers 11am: Ryan and Erin Furgerson
Children’s Church	Hudson Diack, Lauren Evans, Beth Ifft, Pete Olsen
Tech Team	9am: Ryan Furgerson, Sharon Steeg, Emma and Crissy Stubbs
Greeters	11am: the Allen family, Pierre Jolly, Peggy Locher

KEY EQUIPPING

Upcoming Dates:
Today - Key Equipping Resumes (CFG Huddle for CFG leaders/hosts, PROTAS and Covenant Kids meets)
August 31 - Hot Dog and Ice Cream Social
September 7 - Adult Classes Resume

Fall Key Equipping Opportunities:
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!


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:
Come to learn, study, pray, and be transformed as each class offers opportunities to be equipped as a disciple of Christ. No meals provided for adults. Classes offered:
Foundational Track - “Evangelism: Sharing the Good News,” Led by Pastor Tom Holliday and Pastor Joel Acevedo, Upstairs Adult Classroom (Room 201). Would you like to learn how to share your faith more effectively? Do you wish you could answer someone who asked you: how do I become a Christian? This class will address these questions in a helpful and practical way.


Topical Track - “Becoming Empowered for Discipleship,” Led by Tom Tarrants, Main Level Adult Classroom (Room 112). The Christian life—following Jesus— is simple, but it is not easy. It cannot be done with unaided human strength and wisdom. We need the indwelling presence and power of the Holy Spirit to live as a faithful and fruitful disciples of Jesus and that is the focus of this class.

Biblical Track - “Seeing Christ in the Old Testament,” Led by Elder Aaron Renenger, Main Level Conference Room (Room 114). Many Christians read the Old Testament as a collection of isolated books written at different points in history, but this class invites you to step back and see it as a coherent, unified narrative revealing God’s redemptive plan for his people. We’ll trace the overarching narrative from Genesis to Malachi, highlighting how Christ is anticipated and present throughout.


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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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
Colossians 2:13-15

¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of praise

Bless the Lord, O My Soul (Psalm 103)
My God is slow to anger when I go astray— bless the Lord, O my soul!
For all of my betrayals, He will not repay— bless the Lord, O my soul!
Through mercy and compassion His great love is proved;
He covers my transgressions like the snow;
as far as east from west are all my sins removed— bless the Lord, O my soul!

He saved me from the pit when I had lost all hope— bless the Lord, O my soul!
From endless springs of kindness all His blessings flow— bless the Lord, O my soul!
Our days will fade like flowers and are quickly spent,
and like the wind our years will come and go;
everlasting favor is His covenant— bless the Lord, O my soul!

Merciful and gracious is my God to me— bless the Lord, O my soul!
And I will tell His goodness through eternity— bless the Lord, O my soul!
O, bless the Lord, you angels, all you heav’nly hosts,
and every living creature here below,
praise the Father, praise the Son, and Holy Ghost— bless the Lord, O my soul!

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■ prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ scripture reading | Jacob Black (9am); Micah Howard (11am)
Psalm 27 (pg. 429)

The LORD Is My Light and My Salvation
OF DAVID.

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?
² When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.
³ Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.
⁴ One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.
⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.
⁶ And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent

sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!
⁸ You have said, “Seek my face.”
My heart says to you,
“Your face, LORD, do I seek.”
⁹ Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!
¹⁰ For my father and my mother have forsaken me,
but the LORD will take me in.
¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.
¹² Give me not up to the will of my
adversaries;
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out violence.
¹³ I believe that I shall look upon the goodness
of the LORD in the land of the living!
¹⁴ Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ songs of praise

The King in All His Beauty
O lift your eyes to heaven, see the Holy One eternal;
behold the Lord of Majesty exalted in His temple.
As symphonies of angels’ praise now strain to sound His glory,
come worship, fall before His grace, the King in all His beauty.

*How worthy, how worthy, how worthy
the King in all His beauty.*

Now see the King who wears a crown, one made of shame and splinters;
the sacrifice for ruined man, the substitute for sinners.
As Earth is stained with royal blood, and quakes with love and fury,
He breathes His last and bows His head, the King in all His beauty.

Now see the Savior lifted up, the Lamb who reigns in splendor,
the hope of every tribe and tongue; His kingdom is forever!
Bring praise and honor to His courts, bring wisdom, power, blessing;
for endless ages we’ll adore the King in all His beauty.

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Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting
Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art;
I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.
Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee, and Thy beauty fills my soul,
for by Thy transforming power Thou hast made me whole.

*Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art;
I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.*

O how great Thy lovingkindness—vaster, broader than the sea:
O how marvelous Thy goodness, lavished all on me!
Yes, I rest in Thee, Beloved, know what wealth of grace is Thine,
know Thy certainty of promise, and have made it mine.

Simply trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, I behold Thee as Thou art,
and Thy love, so pure, so changeless, satisfies my heart—
satisfies its deepest longings; meets, supplies its every need;
compasseth me round with blessings—Thine is love indeed!

Ever lift Thy face upon me, as I work and wait for Thee;
resting ‘neath Thy smile, Lord Jesus, earth’s dark shadows flee.
Brightness of my Father’s glory, sunshine of my Father’s face—
keep me ever trusting, resting, fill me with Thy grace.

Words by Jean Sophia Pigott, 1876; Music by David Hampton; © 1998 New Spring Publishing; CCLI License #858976, Song #2697066

■ affirmation of faith

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 116
Q. Why do Christians need to pray?
A. Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly, asking God for these gifts and thanking him for them.

■ congregational prayer

■ offertory prayer | Sifa Balagizi (9am); Jessica Newman (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. Parents: to pick up your children, go down the main stairwell and turn right into the nursery. Follow the signs to Children’s Church.

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ sermon scripture reading

Mark 10:1-12 (pg. 794)
Teaching About Divorce
¹ And he left there and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan, and crowds gathered to him again. And again, as was his custom, he taught them.

² And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³ He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴ They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away.” ⁵ And Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. ⁶ But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷ ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife,⁸ and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. ⁹ What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

¹⁰ And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹ And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, ¹² and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

■ prayer for illumination

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

“The Purpose of Marriage”
Series: The Gospel According to Mark

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of response

The Church’s One Foundation
The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is His new creation by water and the Word:
from heav’n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o’er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endured.

‘Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

So, Lord, she stands before Thee, forevermore Thine own.
No merit is her glory, her boasting this alone:
that she who did not choose Thee came, chosen, at Thy call,
never to leave or lose Thee or from Thy favor fall.

As she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
so hath she sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

Words by Samuel J. Stone, 1866, 1886; Music AURELIA by Samuel S. Wesley, 1864; © Public Domain; CCLI License #858976, Song #55377

■ deacons’ fund offering | Linda Willows (9am); Christian Brittle (11am)

This monthly offering supports the APC diaconate’s sharing of the gospel through the provision of tangible personal needs in our church and community.

■ 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