

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, complacency, 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 blue 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:
- Prayer after the worship service.** For personal prayer, come to the front of the sanctuary where at least one elder is available to pray with you. Please don’t continue struggling alone!
 - Worship for children.** Our Nursery is downstairs, available for newborn to age 4. Ages 5 through 2nd grade are welcome to attend Children’s Church following the offertory.
 - Simulcasts of the worship service in the Main Level Adult Education Room (Room 112) and Nursing Mothers Room downstairs (Room 009, near the Fellowship Hall).** As you or your family have the need, please feel free to use these areas to continue your worship!
 - Large-Print Bulletins.** For assistance, 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.
 - Ministry Information.** Please visit our ‘information’ table in the lobby for more info.

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

Installation Service for Pastor Matt Roberts - Tonight, November 30th, at 5pm. Please join us in the Sanctuary as we celebrate God’s faithfulness in bringing Matt Roberts to APC and install him as an assistant pastor. Matt will be the pastor of our church plant in Mt Vernon. A light reception will follow the service.

APC Deaconess Suggestions. In April 2023, Session decided to begin a new Deaconess ministry at APC, appointing Godly women of the congregation to assist the Deacons in their ministry of mercy and administration. At this time, Session welcomes suggestions of female members who discern a call to such service. It is a prerequisite that any woman suggested have completed APC’s Spiritual Leadership class this year or last year. Suggestions will be received through December 14. Please confirm with the woman that she welcomes the suggestion, before submitting it to Session. Those women that Session appoints as Deaconess will be commissioned at the January 18 worship services. The form to suggest a deaconess can be found at “APC Sign-Ups”.

The Deacons and Deaconesses invite donations of warm clothing for some of our much loved Families! As the season changes, consider giving from your closet. Men sizes: large, medium and small. Women sizes: large (14) medium (10,12) and small (6,8). Children: boys (8,10), girls (12,14). Send a prayer with your belongings- tuck it inside! Please leave donations in the box outside the deacons’ office (Room 006).

Lessons and Carols at APC. Join us on the evening of December 14th for a special service of song and scripture, as we celebrate the fulfillment of God’s promises through His Son, Jesus (2 Corinthians 1:20). The prelude will begin at 4:45pm. Nursery is available for ages 0-4. After the service, please bring cookies to share for a time of fellowship.

Christmas Eve at APC. In anticipation of the Lord bringing many to this service as He has in the past few years, we are having two family-friendly Christmas Eve services at 4:30 and 6:30pm! We hope you and your family join us at either service as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. This service will include candle lighting, with battery operated candles for young children. No childcare will be offered during these services.

Call to Prayer— January 2026. As we embark on a New Year, the elders invite you to join them in APC-wide prayer opportunities: Sunday, January 4 at 5pm; Wednesday, January 7 at 7:30pm; and Saturday, January 10 at 9am. All ages are welcome! Nursery is only provided on Sunday, January 4th.

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality	<i>This Week:</i> Allison Bolling
Nursery	<i>This Week (9am):</i> Blake Bruce, Amanda Cho, Alex Gesch, Sharon Holliday, Jo Porwoll, Andy, Rebecca and Bethany Schad, Sarah Williams <i>This Week (11am):</i> Tiffany Easter, Gina Mitchell, Stephanie Olsen, Allison Rivera, Angel Tinev, Grace Young <i>Next Week (9am):</i> Leslie Bridge, Adam and Hannah Davis, Kirsten Etherton, Evelyn Heil, Andrew Hobold, Kendra Howard, Matti Jamison, Nate and Maria Myers, Evan Root <i>Next Week (11am):</i> Catherine Chae, Laura Erickson, Andrew Hobold, Drew and Sally Linday, Gina Mitchell, Margaret Veenstra <i>Children’s Church is not meeting this week.</i>
Children’s Church	Liz Crowley, Ethan Novak, Amanda Petelik, Joey Rolland
Tech Team	9am: Mary Baird, Phoebe Drybola, Tiffany Easter, Ryan Furgerson, Yaovi Kodjo, Lisa and Nathan Fleischaker
Greeters	11am: Marc and Shannon Allen, Sifa Balagizi, Maggie Cho, Clayton Thompson

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

GivingTuesday and Year-End gifts to APC. As GivingTuesday approaches on December 2, many people are considering specific ways to give. We appreciate your prayerful consideration of APC and including us as part of your giving on this day!

Year-End Gifts. As you plan a year-end gift to APC, keep in mind that the church office will be closed December 25-January 1, and the last worship service of the year is December 28. Gifts received in the mail the first week of January—if dated and postmarked in 2025—will be included in your 2025 year-end giving statement. You may also make your year-end gifts through APC’s online giving portal thru December 31, 2025. In addition, if you would like to donate securities or stocks to APC’s general fund, please contact Kathy Sens at kathy.sens@ alexandriapres.org and she can give you the information needed to make a transfer. If you would like to donate a special year end gift, simply indicate this on your check and mail it to the APC office or put it in the offering box. You may also make your donation online. Thank you for considering APC in your year-end planning.

If you are age 70 ½ or older and have an IRA, federal law permits you to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your retirement account up to \$108,000. This allows individuals aged 70½ and older to donate directly to a public charity and exclude the distribution from their gross income. Married couples where both spouses are eligible can each contribute up to the \$108,000 limit from their own IRAs, for a combined total of \$216,000. A QCD does not constitute income to you and does not count as a charitable tax deduction. However, a QCD does constitute a distribution for purposes of making a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Particularly for taxpayers who must take RMDs beginning at age 73, making a QCD can have tax benefits. Please consult with your tax advisor or retirement account institution to see if this makes sense for you.

For Lincolnian seniors and Missions giving opportunities, please see the bulletin insert.

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Walking in the Spirit (WiTS) begins January 11 from 5-7pm. APC is offering a discipleship ministry called Walking in the Spirit (WiTS), which will be led by Pastor Tom and Sharon Holliday. This is a 10 week in-depth study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit, which begins Sunday, January 11 and runs through March 22, with a break on February 15. Each class will consist of an hour of teaching followed by an hour of small group interaction, as well as reflection and homework during the week. Since each week builds upon the previous week, we ask that you commit to being present in at least 8 of the 10 weeks. Participants are also invited to a banquet to celebrate and share testimonies of what God has done in our midst on March 29. More details will be forthcoming on the banquet. Space is limited. Sign up in “APC Sign-Ups”.

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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Holy Worship Service

GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

■ prelude

We encourage you to find a seat to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

■ call to worship

| Ben Elliott, Director of Music Ministries

Romans 5:1-2

Leader:

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All:

² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of praise

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (#521)

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,
dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

Words by Edward Mote, 1834; Music SOLID ROCK by William B. Bradbury, 1863; © Public Domain;
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■ prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ lighting the advent candle of hope

■ scripture reading

| the Heil Family (9am); Ruth and Rob Fisher (11am)

Isaiah 9:2-7 (pg. 536)

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

³ You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ songs of praise

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, and cause Thy light on us to rise;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, true prophet of the Lord, and turn the key to heaven’s door;
be Thou our comforter and guide, and lead us to the Father’s side.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall by His word our darkness dispel.

O come, our great High Priest, and intercede; Thy sacrifice, our only plea.
The judgment we no longer fear; Thy precious blood has brought us near.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has banished every fear of hell.

O Come, Thou King of nations, bring an end to all our suffering;
bid every pain and sorrow cease and reign now as our Prince of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel; Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel;
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come again with us to dwell.

Latin antiphons, 12th cent., trans. by John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. and addt’l. words by Steve Cook and Bob Kauflin; Music VENI EMMANUEL, 13th cent. plainsong; © 2014 Sovereign Grace Praise, Sovereign Grace Worship (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI License #858976, Song #7031873

When We See Your Face

Though the dark is overwhelming, and the brightest lights grow dim,
though the Word of God is trampled on by foolish men,
though the wicked never stumble and abound in every place,
we will all be humbled when we see Your face.

And the enemies we’re fighting, those without and those within,
will be underneath our feet to never rise again.
All our sins will be behind us, through the blood of Christ erased,
and we’ll taste Your kindness when we see Your face.

We will see, we will know like we’ve never known before.
We’ll be found, we’ll be home, we’ll be Yours forevermore.

All the waiting will be over, every sorrow will be healed,
all the dreams it seemed could never be will all be real;
and You’ll gather us together in Your arms of endless grace
as Your bride forever, when we see Your face.

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■ sacrament of baptism (9am)

This morning we are pleased to baptize the following covenant child:
Evelyn Ruth Kutz, daughter of Noah and Tori Kutz

■ congregational prayer

■ offertory prayer

| David Williams (9am); Laura Carter (11am)

■ presentation of tithes and offerings

■ offertory

| Adult Choir (9am)

Creator of the Stars of Night

Words from 7th cent. Latin hymn “Conditor Alme Siderum,” trans. by John Mason Neale; Music by Heather Sorenson; © 2025 Hal Leonard Corporation.

On a month that has a 5th Sunday, Children’s Church does not meet. 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

■ sermon scripture reading

Romans 15:8-13 (pg. 893)

Christ the Hope of Jews and Gentiles

⁸ For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰ And again it says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹ And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹² And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

■ prayer for illumination

■ sermon

| Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life and Missions

“Abounding in Hope”

Series: Praying In and Living Out the Promises of God

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of response

All Must Be Well

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well.
Free and changeless is His favor, all is well.
Precious is the blood that healed us, perfect is the grace that sealed us,
strong the hand stretched forth to shield us—all must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well.
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well.
Happy still in God confiding, fruitful if in Christ abiding,
steadfast through the Spirit’s guiding—all must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow, all will be well.
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, “All is well.”
On our Father’s love relying, Jesus every need supplying,
yes, in living or in dying, all must be well.

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■ 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