

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

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.

December 28th Worship Service. Please know that we will only offer one service at 10am on Sunday, December 28th. The pre-service prayer meeting will be at 9:15am. Nursery will be offered, but there will be no children’s church. The service time of 10am only applies to December 28th, 2025.

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.

Women of APC – Come join us at our New Year’s Brunch! Saturday, January 10th, 10:30am-12pm, APC room 201 – Quite often the change of the calendar page from December to January brings the consideration of change in our personal lives over the year ahead. The reality is the view of our future has control of our present. As we start off this new year, let us spend some time considering the things above and things to come, while enjoying food and fellowship with one another. Please register through the APC Women’s webpage or QR code APC Sign-Ups. Please contact Shannon Allen at shannon.allen@alexandriapres.org with any questions.

Communicants Class for Children and Teens: The class will be held on Thursdays from 5:00-6:00pm at APC and run for eight weeks starting January 15th. Parents, please talk with your child/teen and prayerfully consider whether or not they are ready to join the church as a communicant member. To find out more information or preview the workbook, please contact Elder Mark Adams at mark.philip.adams@gmail.com. Sign-up in “APC Sign-Ups.”

South Asia Missions Trip Parents and Caregivers Night Out Fundraiser - January 10th from 5-8pm. The short term missions team (STM) will host a Parents and Caregivers Night Out fundraising event at APC for parents that would like a date night. Please drop off your children ages 0-12 at 5 pm (or later) and pick them up by 8 pm. During the babysitting, the STM will provide a light dinner, story time/discussion on missionary work, and a G-rated movie. Register in “APC-Sign-ups.”

Seeking Donations of Cars. The Deacons and Deaconesses are assisting several individuals in the APC congregation who would greatly benefit from receiving a donated car for their use. If you have a used vehicle in good working condition with a few years of life left on it that you are willing to donate, please contact apcdeaconsanddeaconesses@alexandriapres.org. Your donation will be tax-deductible and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality	<i>This Week:</i> the Allen family
Nursery	<i>This Week (9am):</i> Mark Adams, Jon Blank, Blake Bruce, Gus and Woodrow Coombs, Lisa Fleischaker, Matti Jamison, Christian Poole, Lynn Streett, Justin Wells-Morgan, Brenna Zimmerman <i>This Week (11am):</i> Matt and Carrie Brown, Beth Disselkoen, Tiffany Easter, Bailey Rolland, Margaret Veenstra <i>Next Week (10am):</i> Phoebe Drybola, Peggy Locher, Gina Mitchell, Eleanor Nagy, Stephanie Olsen, Emily and Tommy Ribaric <i>Children’s Church</i> <i>Tech Team</i> <i>Greeters</i>
Children’s Church	
Tech Team	
Greeters	

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

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 70½ 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.

KEY EQUIPPING Begins Sunday, January 11th

Spring Key Equipping Opportunities: Sunday Nights from 5pm to 7pm
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 - “Walking in the Spirit (WitS),” led by Pastor Tom and Sharon Holliday, Room 201 (Today is the last day to register!)
This is a 10 week in-depth study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit. 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. Space is limited. Sign up in “APC Sign-Ups”.

Biblical Track - “Romans,” led by Elder Aaron Renenger, Room 112*

Topical Track - To Be Announced, Room 114*

**** More details coming soon.***

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 | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*
1 John 3:2-3
² Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

affirmation of faith
Nicene Creed
We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

song of praise
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (#196)
Lyrics in hymnals or on screen.

Words by Charles Wesley (1744) and Mark E. Hunt (1978); Music HYFRYDOL by Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1855; © Public Domain; CCLI License #858976, Song #31999

prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

lighting the advent candle of love

scripture reading | *Bruce Barham (9am); Gary and Kathy McGee (11am)*

Isaiah 61:1-3, 10-11 (pg. 581)
The Year of the Lord’s Favor
¹ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
² to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³ to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.
¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of praise
Is He Worthy
Do you feel the world is broken? We do. Do you feel the shadows deepen? We do.
But do you know that all the dark won’t stop the light from getting through? We do.
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? We do.
Is all creation groaning? It is. Is a new creation coming? It is.
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? It is.
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? It is.

*Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah, who conquered the grave—
He is David’s Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this? He is.*

Does the Father truly love us? He does. Does the Spirit move among us? He does.
And does Jesus, our Messiah, hold forever those He loves? He does.
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? He does.

*Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah, who conquered the grave—
He is David’s Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue,
He has made us a kingdom, and priests to God to reign with the Son.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy of this?*

He is, He is! Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
He is, He is! He is worthy, He is worthy, He is!

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congregational prayer

offertory prayer | *Elder Matt Coombs (9am); Rick Eppright (11am)*

presentation of tithes and offerings

song of preparation
How Low Was Our Redeemer Brought
How low was our Redeemer brought: The King who held the stars
lay helpless in a maiden’s arms and pressed against her heart.
While sheep and cattle raised their voice, the babe could speak no words;
the ever-flowing Spring of joy had come to share our thirst.

*Gloria, gloria in the highest!
Gloria, gloria in the highest!*

How low was our Redeemer brought: The Lord the worlds obeyed
would stumble as He learned to walk upon the ground He’d made.
The One the angels bowed before would kneel to wash our feet
and be at home among the poor, though He owned everything.

How low was our Redeemer brought to raise us from our shame;
and now the highest praise of all belongs to Jesus’ name.
The Healer wounded on a tree to bear our grief and sin;
the King gave up His crown so we could ever reign with Him.

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Children’s Church is not meeting today due to the holiday. We invite our 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
Genesis 3:8-15, 21 (pg. 2)
⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?
¹⁰ And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”
¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent,
“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.
¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”
²¹ And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

prayer for illumination

sermon | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*
“And I Hid Myself”
Series: *Where Are You?*

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

songs of response
Eden Is Open
Look at the stars; remember the night when the earth held heaven’s light.
Angels and praise lit up the sky, and the path to paradise.

*Glory to God in the highest heaven, peace on the earth among men.
Glory to God in the highest heaven: Eden is open again.*

Thorns melt away with sorrow and sin as we walk with God again.
Free from the curse— Your promise has come; glory to the Father’s Son.

Holy is He, holy our King, born in humble majesty.
Image of God restored on this night— hope is here in Jesus Christ!

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Turn Your Eyes
Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face,
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

Turn your eyes to the hillside where justice and mercy embraced;
there the Son of God gave His life for us, and our measureless debt was erased.

*Jesus, to You we lift our eyes—Jesus, our glory and our prize.
We adore You, behold You, our Savior ever true, O Jesus, we turn our eyes to You.*

Turn your eyes to the morning and see Christ the Lion awake.
What a glorious dawn; fear of death is gone, for we carry His life in our veins.

Turn your eyes to the heavens—our King will return for His own;
every knee will bow, every tongue will shout, “All glory to Jesus alone!”

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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