

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

**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 “APC Sign-Ups.” Please contact Shannon Allen at shannon.allen@alexandriapres.org with any questions.

**The Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study** would like to invite you to join us, January 15th, as we begin a 6-week study on Romans 8 entitled *If God Is For Us* by Trillia J. Newbell. What a joy to soak in the precious promises of God replete in this one beautiful chapter! We meet weekly from 9:45am-11:30am. Nursery care is provided. If you need childcare, please contact Lynn Streett at lynn.streett79@gmail.com.

**Communicants Class for Children and Teens:** The class will be led by Pastor Tom and 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.”

**Newcomer Fellowship Dinner, Saturday, January 17th, 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”.

**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

<b>Hospitality</b>	<i><b>This Week: We are not having hospitality downstairs today.</b></i>
<b>Nursery</b>	<i><b>This Week (10am):</b></i> Phoebe Drybola, Peggy Locher, Gina Mitchell, Eleanor Nagy, Stephanie Olsen, Emily and Tommy Ribaric <i><b>Next Week (9am):</b></i> Jon and Nikki Blank, Amber Cookey, Ryan and Amy Douglass, Heidi and Alex Gesch, Sharon Holliday, Amy Wells-Morgan, Brenna Zimmerman <i><b>Next Week (11am):</b></i> Catherine Chae, Gina Mitchell, Jo Porwoll, Andy, Rebecca and Bethany Schad, Bethany Tinev
<b>Children’s Church</b>	<i><b>Children’s Church is not meeting today.</b></i>
<b>Tech Team</b>	Hudson Diack, Victoria Kodjo, Pete Olsen
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>10am:</b> Richard and Melinda Douglass, Lisa Fleischaker, Pierre Jolly, Cynthia Oviatt, Sarah Williams

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 (Registration is closed)**

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.

**Biblical Track - “The Book of Romans,” led by Elder Aaron Renenger, Room 112 (Open to all)**  
Martin Luther once described his experience upon reading the Book of Romans, and finally grasping its message, like this: “I felt myself to be reborn and to have gone through open doors into paradise.” Join us as we explore the core tenets of Christianity as set forth in Romans, including the depravity of man, salvation by grace through faith, reconciliation with God, Christian freedom, and Christian living.

<b>Connect with APC</b>	<b>APC Sign-Ups</b>	<b>Give to APC</b>	<b>Vision 2026 Webpage</b>
			

**Sign-ups for all events can be found in the QR Code above titled, “APC Sign-Ups.”**  
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December 28, 2025



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

**call to worship** | *Matt Roberts, Pastor of Church Planting*  
*Psalms 107:1-3*  
<sup>1</sup> Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever!  
<sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
whom he has redeemed from trouble  
<sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

**song of praise**  
**Joy to the World (#195)**  
Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare Him room,  
and heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: Let men their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness  
and wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
and wonders, wonders of His love.

*Words by Isaac Watts (based on Psalm 98), 1719; Music ANTIOCH ca. 1832, arr. Lowell Mason, 1836; © Public Domain; CCLI License #858976, Song #24016*

**prayer of adoration**

## GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

**scripture reading** | *Sue Edwards*  
*Exodus 34:5-8 (pg. 69)*

<sup>5</sup> The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. <sup>6</sup> The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, <sup>7</sup> keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.” <sup>8</sup> And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

**songs of praise**  
**Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery**  
Come, behold the wondrous mystery in the dawning of the King:  
He, the theme of heaven’s praises, robed in frail humanity.  
In our longing, in our darkness, now the Light of life has come;  
look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery: He, the perfect Son of Man,  
in His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.  
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man,  
Christ, the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery: Christ the Lord upon the tree;  
in the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.  
See the price of our redemption, see the Father’s plan unfold,  
bringing many sons to glory—grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery: slain by death the God of life,  
but no grave could e’er restrain Him; praise the Lord, He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliverance; how unwavering our hope:  
Christ, in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

*Words and music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Michael Bleecker; © 2012 Bleecker Publishing (Admin. by Michael Bleecker), Getty Music Hymns and Songs, Getty Music Publishing, Love Your Enemies Publishing, McKinney Music, Inc. (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.); CCLI License #858976, Song #7026028*

**O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus (#535)**  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;  
rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.  
Underneath me, all around me is the current of Thy love,  
leading onward, leading homeward to Thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread His praise from shore to shore:  
how He loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore;  
how He watches o’er His loved ones, died to call them all His own;  
how for them He intercedeth, watcheth o’er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! love of every love the best;  
‘tis an ocean vast of blessing, ‘tis a haven sweet of rest.  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! ‘tis a heav’n of heav’ns to me;  
and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee.

*Words by Samuel Trevor Francis, ca. 1890; Music EBENEZER by Thomas John Williams, 1890; © Public Domain; CCLI License #858976, Song #137178*

**congregational prayer** | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*

**offertory prayer** | *Bethany Tinev*

**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 License #858976, Song #6169253*

*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**  
*1 John 4:7-16 (pg. 961)*

**God Is Love**  
<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

**prayer for illumination**

**sermon** | *Matt Roberts, Pastor of Church Planting*  
*“To Rely Upon God’s Love”*

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

**song of response**  
**Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder**  
Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior’s name:  
He has hushed the law’s loud thunder, He has quenched Mount Sinai’s flame;  
He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,  
He has washed us with His blood, He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,  
called us by His grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:  
He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,  
He has washed us with His blood, He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation threatens hard to bear us down,  
for the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqueror’s crown:  
He who washed us with His blood, He who washed us with His blood,  
He who washed us with His blood soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy’s store;  
when through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:  
He who washed us with His blood, He who washed us with His blood,  
He who washed us with His blood has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high;  
here they trusted Him before us, now their praises fill the sky:  
“Thou hast washed us with Thy blood, Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,  
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood; Thou art worthy, Lamb of God!”

*Words by John Newton, 1774; Music by Laura Taylor; © 2001 Laura Taylor Music; CCLI License #858976, Song #5834479*

**deacons’ fund offering** | *Jim Taft*  
*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**