

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.
 - Translation available • Se ofrece traducción • Traduction disponible •** Hear in Spanish, French, and Farsi 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

Newcomer Fellowship Dinner, Saturday, September 12th, 6-8pm! If you’ve recently started attending APC, we would love the chance to get to know you more! Please join us for a free dinner 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 September 25th and 26th! 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.”

Covenant Fellowship Group Meet and Greet - September 13! Covenant Fellowship Groups are APC’s small group ministry. Join us after each service on September 13 to meet group leaders and learn more about the different groups that meet throughout the week.

APC Homecoming - September 19! Register Now! We hope you join us for a time of worship and thanksgiving as new and old APC-ers come together to celebrate APC’s 40th Anniversary. Worship will be followed by opportunities to meet others, hear from different ministries and enjoy a meal together. Find more details and sign-up in “APC Sign-Ups.” Feel free to pass on the word to anyone who may be interested in coming back to APC for this event!

Women – Thursday Morning Bible study begins Thursday, September 10th! We meet weekly from 9:45-11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Our theme this year is ROOTED. Rooted in Christ, in Who He is, in the prayers He prayed, in the community He loves, and in the hope only He brings. Well-watered roots, planted in good soil, tended by a loving Gardener lead to strong plants, steady in the storms, fruitful in season and out. We will start with a study on the names of God using Michael and Rachel Ann Craddock’s book *Knowing His Great Name* available through the PCA Bookstore or on a Thursday morning for a suggested \$10 donation. Please let Lynn Streett (lynn.streett79@gmail.com) know if you need nursery care. We look forward to having you with us!

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality	<i>This Week:</i> Laurianne Datchoua, Luke Prestowitz, Maureen Ward
Nursery	<i>This Week (9am):</i> Kari Adams, Drew Black, Caralyn Chism, Adam Davis, Kirsten Etherton, Lisa Fleischaker, Reb Maylum, Joe Mugg, Rose Shukrallah <i>This Week (11am):</i> Stacey Diack, Juliet Edem, Andy, Rebecca and Bethany Schad <i>Next Week (9am):</i> Amanda Cho, Laura Erickson, Lina Gentry, Alex Gesch, Kristi Hellmuth, Joe Mugg, Ellie Olsen, <i>Volunteers Needed</i> <i>Next Week (11am):</i> Rob and Laura Coit, Eleanor Nagy, Carmen Rives, Rose Shukrallah, Bethany Tinev
Children’s Church	<i>Children’s Church does not meet on a 5th Sunday.</i>
Tech Team	Hudson Diack, Brent and Beth Disselkoen, Brittany Payton
Greeters	<i>9am:</i> Matt Coombs, Andre and Caroline Phippen, Katy Roberts, Lynette Vanderschaaf <i>11am:</i> Maggie Cho, Chris Nelms

KEY EQUIPPING Sunday Nights from 5-7pm - Resuming Tonight!

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.
Come worship, learn, eat, and have some fun with teens who are wrestling with what it means to chase not comfort, but meaning. You’ll be glad you came!

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.

Book of the Bible Class: 1 Samuel, taught by Elder Bryant Streett and Pastor Matt Roberts, Room 114
Apart from the gospels, 1 Samuel is probably the most exciting book in the Bible and it’s loaded with real-life application. This 10-week discussion-focused class will cover events from the birth of Samuel to the death of King Saul. Join us in recalling God’s faithfulness as we discuss Hannah, Eli and his wicked sons, battles with the Philistines, Israel asking for a King, Saul’s kingship, the Lord’s rejection of Saul as king, David’s anointing, David and Goliath, Saul’s jealousy/fear of David, Jonathan, Saul’s hunting of David and David’s grace toward Saul, Nabal and Abigail, and David living among the Philistines.

Foundational Class: The Westminster Confession, taught by Elder Aaron Renenger and Pastor Josh Diack, Room 112
The Westminster Confession is perhaps the richest summary of reformed Christian doctrine the church has ever produced. Using R.C. Sproul’s *Truths We Confess*, this class will trace the Confession’s summary of topics such as the reliability of scripture, the attributes of God, the work of Christ, the Christian life, the role of the church, and much more. Whether you are newer to the faith or have spent years studying scripture, this class is designed to deepen your grasp of the doctrines that underline our reformed, Presbyterian faith and encourage you to root your faith more firmly in our God who saves.

Topical Class: Worship, taught by Pastor Tom Holliday, Sanctuary
The Bible is clear that worship is the one central activity that we will do throughout all eternity. Therefore, it ought to be our highest priority this side of heaven. We will take a close look at the goal and purpose of worship, the heart of worship, as well as the obstacles to the kind of worship our Lord seeks from us. We will consider both private and corporate worship and how the one fuels the other in our passion for God. I will also share materials that have been invaluable in my own growth and experience of worship. So, come and let’s learn together.

The Healing Hearts Special Elective has been postponed for this semester; we apologize for any inconvenience.

August 30, 2026

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.

Connect with APC



APC Sign-Ups



Give to APC



Vision 2026 Webpage



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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

Psalm 92:1-4

- ¹ It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
² to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
³ to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.
⁴ For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

songs of praise

How Great Thou Art (#44, vv. 1, 3-4)

Lyrics in hymnal or on screen.

Swedish folk melody; Words and arr. by Stuart K. Hine; © 1949 and 1953 Stuart Hine Trust
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God, the Uncreated One

God, the uncreated One, the Author of salvation,
wrote the laws of space and time, and fashioned worlds to His design.
The One whom angel hosts revere hung the stars like chandeliers,
numbered every grain of sand, knows the heart of every man.
He is King forever, He is King forever, He is King forevermore.

God, our fortress and our strength, the rock on which we can depend,
matchless in His majesty, His power, and authority.
Unshaken by the schemes of man, never-changing, great I AM.
Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall; He is faithful through it all.
Crown Him King forever, crown Him King forever, crown Him King forevermore.

Mighty God in mortal flesh, forsaken by a traitor’s kiss.
The curse of sin and centuries did pierce the lowly Prince of Peace.
O lifted high, the sinless man; crucified, the spotless Lamb.
Buried by the sons of man; rescued by the Father’s hand
to reign as King forever, reign as King forever, reign as King forevermore.

King eternal, God of grace, we crown You with the highest praise!
Heaven shouts and saints adore, “You’re holy, holy, holy Lord!”
What joy in everlasting life: all is love and faith is sight,
justice rolls and praises rise at the name of Jesus Christ.
King of kings forever, King of kings forever, King of kings forevermore!

Words and music by Pete James and Aaron Keyes; © 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs, Thankyou
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prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

scripture reading

Acts 12:6-19 (pg. 866)

Peter Is Rescued

⁶ Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping
between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding
the prison. ⁷ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the
cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell
off his hands. ⁸ And the angel said to him, “Dress yourself and put on your sandals.” And he
did so. And he said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.” ⁹ And he went
out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real,
but thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰ When they had passed the first and the second guard,
they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and
they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. ¹¹ When Peter
came to himself, he said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me
from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”

¹² When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other
name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. ¹³ And when he
knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer.
¹⁴ Recognizing Peter’s voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that
Peter was standing at the gate.

¹⁵ They said to her, “You are out of your mind.” But she kept insisting that it was so, and
they kept saying, “It is his angel!” ¹⁶ But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened,
they saw him and were amazed. ¹⁷ But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he
described to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, “Tell
these things to James and to the brothers.” Then he departed and went to another place.

¹⁸ Now when day came, there was no little disturbance among the soldiers over what had
become of Peter. ¹⁹ And after Herod searched for him and did not find him, he examined
the sentries and ordered that they should be put to death. Then he went down from Judea
to Caesarea and spent time there.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

affirmation of faith and the lord’s prayer

Heidelberg Catechism, #116-118

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 to those who pray continually
and groan inwardly, asking God for these gifts and thanking Him for them.**

Q. How does God want us to pray so that He will listen to us?

**A. First, we must pray from the heart to no other than the one true God, who has
revealed Himself in His Word, asking for everything He has commanded us to ask for.
Second, we must acknowledge our need and misery, hiding nothing, and humble
ourselves in His majestic presence. Third, we must rest on this unshakable foundation:
even though we do not deserve it, God will surely listen to our prayer because of Christ
our Lord. That is what He promised us in His Word.**

Q. What did God command us to pray for?

**A. Everything we need, spiritually and physically, as embraced in the prayer Christ our
Lord himself taught us.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever.
Amen.**

congregational prayer

song of praise

Give Me Jesus

In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus;
you can have all this world, but give me Jesus.

And when I am alone, O and when I am alone,
and when I am alone, give me Jesus.

And when I come to die, O and when I come to die,
and when I come to die, give me Jesus.

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farewell | Emma Allen, the Carter family and the Drybola family (9am)

offertory prayer | Cindy Cai (9am); David Szabo (11am)

presentation of tithes and offerings

Children’s Church does not meet today. In a month with five Sundays, our curriculum
allows for children ages 5 through 2nd grade to experience what they are learning about the
different aspects of worship by remaining in the service. Instead, these children are invited to
come forward to the front steps of the Sanctuary for a children’s message.

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

children’s message

sermon scripture reading

Genesis 18:16-33 (pg. 12)

¹⁶ Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham
went with them to set them on their way. ¹⁷ The LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham
what I am about to do, ¹⁸ seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty
nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹ For I have chosen him,
that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the
LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what
he has promised him.” ²⁰ Then the LORD said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and
Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, ²¹ I will go down to see whether they have
done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.”

Abraham Intercedes for Sodom

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before
the LORD. ²³ Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the
righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then
sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from
you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous
fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is
just?” ²⁶ And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the
whole place for their sake.”

²⁷ Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the LORD, I who
am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy
the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.”
²⁹ Again he spoke to him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For
the sake of forty I will not do it.” ³⁰ Then he said, “Oh let not the LORD be angry, and I will
speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.”
³¹ He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the LORD. Suppose twenty are found
there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” ³² Then he said, “Oh let
not the LORD be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.”
He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” ³³ And the LORD went his way, when
he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

prayer for illumination

sermon | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

“Faith Intercedes”

Series: Living By Faith: Lessons from Genesis

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of response

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea—
a great High Priest, whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav’n He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see Him there who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free,
for God the Just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace.
One with Himself, I cannot die; my soul is purchased by His blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high—with Christ, my Savior and my God,
with Christ, my Savior and my God.

Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft, 1863; Alt. words and music by Vikki Cook; © 1997 Sovereign Grace
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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

announcements | Matt Coombs, Executive Director of Ministries