

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

Women's Fall Bible Studies – Thursday Mornings began on September 10th! Join us from 9:45-11:30am in the Fellowship Hall each week. 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. Come join us as we get to know who He is through *Knowing His Great Name* by Michael and Rachel Ann Craddock made available through the PCA Bookstore or on a Thursday morning for \$10. Please let Lynn Streett (lynn.streett79@gmail.com) know if you need nursery care. **Virtual option also available on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm.** See the women's page on the website for more info and registration link.

Women's Tuesday Evening Bible Studies run from October 13-November 17, 7:30-9:00pm in the Lower Lobby. Come as you can this fall to ponder ten of God's attributes. Reading together from *None Like Him* by Jen Wilkin, we'll try to understand who He is and in the process, discover who we are not. Questions? Contact Staci Root (staci.root@gmail.com) or Christina Renenger (crenenger@gmail.com).

Trunk or Treat on October 24th - Sign Up Now. Whether you're bringing a little one, or simply wanting to see the joy on families' faces as they move from trunk to trunk, this is a great outreach event so invite your friends and neighbors. For those that attend APC, sign up to host a trunk or volunteer! Not sure what kind of trunk to make or want to get really creative? Think about signing up to host a trunk with your CFG! Sign up in the weekly emails or "APC Sign-Ups."

Lost and Found - Pick up your belongings until October 11th. We will be disposing of any items left in our lost and found after October 11. We have a great collection of water bottles, kids toys and other items that may be missed. Please be sure to check out the tables in the Fellowship Hall to see if any items should go home with you.

Thanksgiving Service on November 22nd at 5pm. Please join us for an evening of testimonies and giving thanks as we reflect on the many answered prayers we have seen this year. This time of sharing will be followed by a potluck. Please bring a dish to share that will feed many people.

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality	<i>This Week:</i> Acevedo CFG, Sarah Stansfield
Nursery	<i>This Week (9am):</i> Ryan Douglass, Sharon Holliday, Kendra Howard, Shanell Nieuwendorp, Juliana Richardson, Evan Root, Evan and Maureen Ward, Sarah Williams <i>This Week (11am):</i> Mark and Kari Adams, Kathryn Johnson, Allison Rivera, Rebecca Schad <i>Next Week (9am):</i> Jamie Connelly, Nathan Fleischaker, Evelyn Heil, Andrew Hobold, Jo Porwoll, Alanna Syzpura, Brenna Zimmerman, More Volunteers Needed <i>Next Week (11am):</i> Sifa Balagizi, Andrew Hobold, Stephanie Olsen, Carmen Rives, More Volunteers Needed
Children's Church	<i>9am:</i> Nate and Maria Myers, Amanda Freeman and Elan Liang <i>11am:</i> Sarah Field
Tech Team	Oge Ezeokoli, Victoria Kodjo, Justin Root, Dave Valentine
Greeters	<i>9am:</i> Tiffany Easter, Juliet Edem, Mimi Vaughn <i>11am:</i> Maggie Cho, Richard and Melinda Douglass, Cynthia Oviatt, Mimi Vaughn

KEY EQUIPPING

Join us from 5-7pm on Sunday evenings.

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 112

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 201

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.

October 4, 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

- **call to worship** | *Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life and Missions*
2 Timothy 1:9-10
⁹ [God] saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

- **song of praise**
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount—I’m fixed upon it—mount of God’s unchanging love.

Sorr’wing I shall be in spirit till released from flesh and sin,
yet from what I do inherit, here Thy praises I’ll begin;
to this place Thy love has brought me, here by Thy great help I’m come,
and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger wand’ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.
How His kindness yet pursues me mortal tongue can never tell;
clothed in flesh, till death shall loose me, I cannot proclaim it well.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be;
let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand’ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love!
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

O that day when, freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
full arrayed in blood-washed linen, how I’ll sing Thy sovereign grace.
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, bring Thy promises to pass,
for I know Thy pow’r will keep me till I’m home with Thee at last!

Words by Robert Robinson, 1758, alt. Bob Kauflin; Music NETTLETON from John Wyeth’s Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813; © Public Domain, alt. words © 2008 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI License #858976, Song #6578947

- **prayer of adoration**

- **prayer of confession**

Holy Father, forgive us. Though You should guide us, we try to control ourselves. Though You should perfect us, we try to clean up ourselves. Though You should satisfy us, we try to console ourselves. We resort to a prideful despair that Your truth is too high, Your will is too hard, Your power is too remote, Your love is too free. But without these things, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Holy Spirit, we confess that no grace can make us strong in ourselves. Please teach us to fully submit to grace that we cannot earn, prepare for, or control— and please transform us in heart and in life. Thank you for this true grace, given by Jesus the Son, who loved us and gave Himself for us. Amen.

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

- **scripture reading** | *Keith and Brenna Zimmerman (9am); Brancy Finkler (11am)*
Romans 4:13-25 (pg. 885)
¹³ For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶ That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰ No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³ But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵ who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

- **song of assurance**
Thy Mercy, My God
Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
the joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone from the first to the last
hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
sin would reduce me to utter despair;
but through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
and He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground
and weep to the praise of the mercy I’ve found.

Thy mercy in Jesus exempts me from hell;
its glories I’ll sing, and its wonders I’ll tell:
‘Twas Jesus my all, as He hung on the tree
and opened the channel of mercy for me.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
and the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
all praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine
seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.

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- **congregational prayer**

- **offertory prayer**

- **presentation of tithes and offerings**

- **offertory** | *Adult Choir (9am)*
How Can I Keep from Singing
My life flows on in endless song, above earth’s lamentations;
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul— how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die, the Lord, my Savior liveth!
And though the darkness gather round, songs in the night He giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I’m clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heav’n and earth— how can I keep from singing?

I lift mine eyes; the cloud grows thin, I see the blue above it;
and day by day this pathway smooths since first I learned to love it.
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am His— how can I keep from singing?

Words “Always Rejoicing” by “Pauline T.” in the New York Observer, 27 August 1868; Music by Robert Lowry, arr. by Taylor Davis; © 2010 MorningStar Music Publishers.

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**
Genesis 21:1-7 (pg. 14)
¹ The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. ² And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³ Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. ⁴ And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵ Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶ And Sarah said, “God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me.” ⁷ And she said, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”

- **prayer for illumination**

- **sermon** | *Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor*
“The Fruit of Faith”
Theme: Waiting; *Series:* Living By Faith: Lessons from Genesis

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS TABLE

- **sacrament of the lord’s supper**
Explanation, Invitation, Participation
All baptized Christians who are members in good standing of a church that proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ are invited to participate. Children who have been admitted into the church as communicant members are invited to participate as well. If you have any questions, please ask one of our pastors or elders.

Members will be invited to come forward to receive the bread and the cup. You will receive the elements from the pastors and elders standing up front in your section of the Sanctuary, and then take the bread and cup back to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, raise your hand and a server will bring the elements to your seat. We will take the elements together as prompted by the pastor.

During the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, you are invited to sing or meditate on the following song:
O Come, All You Unfaithful
O come, all you unfaithful, come, weak and unstable, come, know you are not alone.
O come, barren and waiting ones, weary of praying, come— see what your God has done.

Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you.

O come, bitter and broken, come with fears unspoken, come, taste of His perfect love.
O come, guilty and hiding ones, there is no need to run— see what your God has done.

He’s the Lamb who was given, slain for our pardon;
His promise is peace for those who believe.
He’s the Lamb who was given, slain for our pardon;
His promise is peace for those who believe.

So come, though you have nothing, come, He is the offering, come— see what your God has done.

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GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

- **song of response**
King of Kings
In the darkness we were waiting without hope, without light,
till from Heaven You came running; there was mercy in Your eyes.
To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word
from a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, Three in One
God of glory, majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming, and to reconcile the lost,
to redeem the whole creation, You did not despise the cross;
for even in Your suffering, You saw to the other side;
knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake You died.

And the morning that You rose, all of heaven held its breath
till that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death.
And the dead rose from their tombs, and the angels stood in awe,
for the souls of all who’d come to the Father are restored.
And the Church of Christ was born, then the Spirit lit the flame;
now this Gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint.
By His blood and in His name, in His freedom I am free
for the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me.

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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**