

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).

The Youth Choir (1st-8th grade, unchanged voices) is an opportunity to teach our children how and why we worship God through singing, and to help them serve, lead, and encourage APC through doing so. It currently operates seasonally in 5 to 6-week rehearsal cycles, each cycle preparing them to help lead worship on a Sunday. The next cycle is starting soon. Email Emily Kinch at emily.s.kinch@gmail.com with questions.

Save the date - Trunk or Treat on October 24th. 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! More details and sign ups coming soon.

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

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality	<i>This Week:</i> Laura Coit and Allison Bolling
Nursery	<i>This Week (9am):</i> Christine Brittle, Amy Douglass, Sue Edwards, Heidi Gesch, Drew and Sally Lindsay, Tom and Amanda Petelik, Brenna Zimmerman <i>This Week (11am):</i> Carrie Brown, Kirsten Etherton, Matt Roberts, Staci Root <i>Next Week (9am):</i> Ryan Douglass, Sharon Holliday, Kendra Howard, Shanell Nieuwendorp, Juliana Richardson, Evan Root, Evan and Maureen Ward, Sarah Williams <i>Next Week (11am):</i> Mark and Kari Adams, Kathryn Johnson, Allison Rivera, Rebecca Schad
Children’s Church	<i>9am:</i> Nate and Maria Myers, Tommy and Emily Ribaric <i>11am:</i> Erin Furgerson
Tech Team	Fern Birtwistle, Lauren Evans, Brittany Payton, Chris Popadich
Greeters	<i>9am:</i> Juliet Edem, Lindsay Hutter, Chris Nelms, Crissy and Emma Stubbs <i>11am:</i> Pierre Jolly

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.

September 27, 2026



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 | Ben Elliott, Director of Music Ministries

Psalm 62:5-8

Leader: ⁵ For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from him.
⁶ He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
⁷ On God rests my salvation and my glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

All: ⁸ **Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.**

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of praise

My Soul Will Wait (Psalm 62)

When the enemy surrounds and my heart grows faint within,
when the darkness overwhelms and my fears are pressing in,
I will trust in You, O Lord; in the silence I will wait; I will stand upon Your Word.

*You’re my solid rock and my salvation, my steadfast hope that won’t be shaken,
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

You’re my stronghold and my shield, in the midst of every threat;
though the wicked never yield, they will vanish like a breath.
Yes, I know the outcome’s sure; Satan’s evil plans will fail; in Your power I’m secure.

*You’re my solid rock and my salvation, my steadfast hope that won’t be shaken,
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.
You’re my comfort when I feel forsaken, my refuge and my sure foundation,
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You.*

This is love I can’t explain, this is mercy unreserved;
through Your sacrifice so great, I have peace that’s undeserved.
For the battle has been won, and I fear no shame or loss; now the sting of death is gone!

Pouring out our hearts before You, we will trust in You.
Perfect Savior, strong Defender, we will trust in You.

Words and music by Keaton Bunting and Bob Kauflin; © 2022 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI License #858976, Song #7190363

prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

scripture reading

Titus 3:3-7 (pg. 938)

³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of confession

Rock of Ages (#500)

Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
let the water and the blood from Thy riven side which flowed
be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy law’s demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to Thy cross I cling;
naked, come to Thee for dress; helpless, look to Thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.

Words by Augustus Toplady, 1776, alt. Thomas Cotterill, 1815; Music NEW CITY FELLOWSHIP by James Ward; © 1985 James Ward Music; CCLI License #858976, Song #323401

song of assurance

Jesus, Thank You

The myst’ry of the cross I cannot comprehend
The agonies of Calvary
You, the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son who drank the bitter cup reserved for me

*Your blood has washed away my sin—Jesus, thank You
The Father’s wrath completely satisfied—Jesus, thank You
Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table—Jesus, thank You*

By Your perfect sacrifice I’ve been brought near; Your enemy You’ve made Your friend
Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace
Your mercy and Your kindness know no end

Lover of my soul, I want to live for You
Lover of my soul, I want to live for You

Words and music by Pat Sczebel; © 2003 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music, Sovereign Grace Worship (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI License #858976, Song #4475341

congregational prayer

offertory prayer | Maureen Ward (9am); Didier Balagizi (11am)

presentation of tithes and offerings

offertory | Adult Choir (9am)

Dear Lord and Father

Words by John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872; Music REPTON by Sir C. Hubert H. Parry, 1888, arr. by H. A. Chambers; © 1941, 1969 Novello & Company, Ltd.

*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 20:1-18 (pg. 13)

¹ From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar. ² And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, “She is my sister.” And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. ³ But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, “Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man’s wife.” ⁴ Now Abimelech had not approached her.

So he said, “Lord, will you kill an innocent people? ⁵ Did he not himself say to me, ‘She is my sister’? And she herself said, ‘He is my brother.’ In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this.” ⁶ Then God said to him in the dream, “Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her. ⁷ Now then, return the man’s wife, for he is a prophet, so that he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not return her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours.”

⁸ So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told them all these things. And the men were very much afraid. ⁹ Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, “What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done.” ¹⁰ And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What did you see, that you did this thing?” ¹¹ Abraham said, “I did it because I thought, ‘There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.’ ¹² Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. ¹³ And when God caused me to wander from my father’s house, I said to her, ‘This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, “He is my brother.”’”

¹⁴ Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and returned Sarah his wife to him. ¹⁵ And Abimelech said, “Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you.” ¹⁶ To Sarah he said, “Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated.” ¹⁷ Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. ¹⁸ For the Lord had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.

prayer for illumination

sermon | Matt Roberts, Pastor of Church Planting

“A Faith That Relapses”

Series: Living By Faith: Lessons from Genesis

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

song of response

Not What My Hands Have Done

Not what my hands have done can save my guilty soul.
Not what my toiling flesh has borne can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God.
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my awful load.

Thy work alone, O Christ, can ease this weight of sin.
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God, can give me peace within.
Thy love to me, O God— not mine, O Lord, to Thee!—
can rid me of this dark unrest and set my spirit free.

*These guilty hands are raised— filthy rags are all I bring,
and I have come to hide beneath Your wings.
These holy hands are raised— washed in the fountain of Your grace,
and now I wear Your righteousness.*

Thy grace alone, O God, to me can pardon speak.
Thy pow’r alone, O Lamb of God, can this sore bondage break.
No other work but Thine; no other blood will do;
no strength but that which is divine can bear me safely through.

I praise the God of grace; I trust His truth and might.
He calls me His, I call Him mine— my God, my joy, my light!
My Lord has saved my life, and freely pardon gives.
I love because He first loved me; I live because He lives!

Words by Horatius Bonar, 1861; addt’l words and music by Karl Digerness; ©1999 Karl Digerness Music; CCLI License #858976, Song #1230579

deacons’ fund offering

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