

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

Last Call - Spiritual Leadership Class begins at 7:30pm this Tuesday. To register or for more details, go to “APC Sign-ups.”

Newcomer Fellowship Dinner, Saturday, September 12th, 6-8pm! Please register by Wednesday. 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! **Virtual option also available on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm. See webpage for more info and registration link.**

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRY WORKERS

Hospitality	<i>This Week:</i> Shannon Allen
Nursery	<i>This Week (9am):</i> Christine Brittle, Amanda Cho, Laura Erickson, Lina Gentry, Alex Gesch, Kristi Hellmuth, Joe Mugg, Ellie Olsen, <i>This Week (11am):</i> Rob and Laura Coit, Eleanor Nagy, Carmen Rives, Rose Shukrallah, Bethany Tinev <i>Next Week (9am):</i> Christian Poole, Juliana Richardson, Evan Root, Rocky Ward, Evan and Maureen Ward, <i>Volunteers Needed</i> <i>Next Week (11am):</i> Flora Chipana, Frank Girgenti, Jodie Kirk, Jo Porwoll, <i>Volunteers Needed</i>
Children’s Church	<i>9am:</i> Adam Davis, Emily Reece <i>11am:</i> Mike and Raquel Saltsman
Tech Team	Bruce Barham, Liz Crowley, Hensley Gollopp, Victoria Kodjo
Greeters	<i>9am:</i> Juliet Edem, Graeme Furgerson, Lindsay Hutter, Mimi Vaughn <i>11am:</i> Pierre Jolly, Jodie Kirk

KEY EQUIPPING

****Sunday Evening Key Equipping activities are on pause for the holiday weekend. We invite you to join us from 5-7pm next Sunday, September 13th.****

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 (new room!)
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 (new room!)
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.

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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

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

Isaiah 66:1-2

¹ Thus says the LORD:
“Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool;
what is the house that you would build for me,
and what is the place of my rest?
² All these things my hand has made,
and so all these things came to be,
declares the LORD.
But this is the one to whom I will look:
he who is humble and contrite in spirit
and trembles at my word.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of praise

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name (#296, vv. 1-3, 5-6)
All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye martyrs of your God who from His altar call;
extol the Stem of Jesse’s rod, and crown Him Lord of all;
extol the Stem of Jesse’s rod, and crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel’s chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall,
hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all;
hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
to Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all;
to Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall;
we’ll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all;
we’ll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all.

Words by Edward Perronet, 1779, alt. and addt’l by John Rippon, 1787; Music by Oliver Holden, 1793; © Public Domain; CCLI License #858976, Song #25400

■ prayer of adoration

GOD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

■ scripture reading | Josh Diack, Pastor of Congregational Life and Missions

Hebrews 10:19-31 (pg. 946)

The Full Assurance of Faith

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

²⁶ For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.” ³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ silent prayers of confession

■ song of confession

Not in Me

No list of sins I have not done, no list of virtues I pursue,
no list of those I am not like can earn myself a place with You.
O God, be merciful to me—I am a sinner through and through!
My only hope of righteousness is not in me, but only You.

No humble dress, no fervent prayer, no lifted hands, no tearful song,
no recitation of the truth can justify a single wrong.
My righteousness is Jesus’ life; my debt was paid by Jesus’ death;
my weary load was borne by Him, and He alone can give me rest.

No separation from the world, no work I do, no gift I give
can cleanse my conscience, cleanse my hands; I cannot cause my soul to live.
But Jesus died and rose again—the pow’r of death is overthrown!
My God is merciful to me, and merciful in Christ alone.
My righteousness is Jesus’ life; my debt was paid by Jesus’ death;
my weary load was borne by Him, and He alone can give me rest.

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■ congregational prayer

■ offertory prayer | Jen Szabo (9am); Gladys Acevedo (11am)

■ presentation of tithes and offerings

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 19:1-29 (pg. 12)

God Rescues Lot

¹ The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth ² and said, “My lords, please turn aside to your servant’s house and spend the night and wash your feet. Then you may rise up early and go on your way.” They said, “No; we will spend the night in the town square.” ³ But he pressed them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

⁴ But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house. ⁵ And they called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them.” ⁶ Lot went out to the men at the entrance, shut the door after him, ⁷ and said, “I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. ⁸ Behold, I have two daughters who have not known any man. Let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please. Only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof.” ⁹ But they said, “Stand back!” And they said, “This fellow came to sojourn, and he has become the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them.” Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door down. ¹⁰ But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. ¹¹ And they struck with blindness the men who were at the entrance of the house, both small and great, so that they wore themselves out groping for the door.

¹² Then the men said to Lot, “Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city, bring them out of the place. ¹³ For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it.” ¹⁴ So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, “Up! Get out of this place, for the LORD is about to destroy the city.” But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting.

¹⁵ As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city.” ¹⁶ But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. ¹⁷ And as they brought them out, one said, “Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away.” ¹⁸ And Lot said to them, “Oh, no, my lords. ¹⁹ Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die.

²⁰ Behold, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!” ²¹ He said to him, “Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. ²² Escape there quickly, for I can do nothing till you arrive there.” Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

God Destroys Sodom

²³ The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. ²⁴ Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the Lord out of heaven. ²⁵ And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ But Lot’s wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

²⁷ And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD. ²⁸ And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace.

²⁹ So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.

■ prayer for illumination

■ sermon | Tom Holliday, Senior Pastor

“Faith Responds to God’s Warnings”
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:

Come Unto Jesus

Lyrics on screen.

Words and music by Jordan Kauflin, Laura Story, and Matt Merker, adapted from “Come, Ye Disconsolate” by Thomas Moore (1824) and Thomas Hastings (1832); © 2023 Getty Music Hymns and Songs; Getty Music Publishing; Jordan Kauflin Music; Laura’s Stories and Songs; Matthew Merker Music; CCLI License #858976, Song #7228728

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

■ song of response

The Power of the Cross

O to see the dawn of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then nailed to a cross of wood.

*This, the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us,
took the blame, bore the wrath— We stand forgiven at the cross.*

O to see the pain written on Your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Every bitter thought, every evil deed crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life; “Finished!” the victory cry.

O to see my name written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love.

*This, the pow’r of the cross: Son of God, slain for us.
What a love, what a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.*

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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