



Alpharetta

BIBLE CHURCH

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY

December 28th, 2025

WELCOME TO ALPHARETTA BIBLE CHURCH

We are glad you are here to worship the living God! This worship folder is intended to guide you through the service, as well as provide you with devotional material to take home.

It is our hope you will observe four peculiarities about ABC.

First, we endeavor to make our services coherent. As we offer each regulated element of worship, you will notice each element is about ONE subject.

Second, you will notice the hymns we sing may be unfamiliar or “old school.” While we also sing contemporary songs that are sound, we choose music that best re-enforces our theme.

Third, it is our desire that you will leave our worship service not just knowing more, but loving the true and living God more.

Lastly, while we are not high church, we do believe that our primary worship service should be done with reverence. We strive to be orderly and structured without being stuffy and non-human. Thank you for joining us.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP — 10:30 AM

Announcements

- **Sunday School will resume next Sunday, January 4th.**
- **Our midweek gathering will resume Thursday, January 8th.**
- **Interested in Church Membership? Click “Connect” on our church website to take the first step.**
- **Would you like to serve the Lord by serving ABC? To volunteer at ABC, visit our website, click “Connect” and complete form or request more information**

IN PREPARATION

Our opening hymn this morning is “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”. We’ll sing, “Come, lift your hearts on high; Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen! He is our guide and friend; To us He’ll condescend; His love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!”

The phrase, “To us He’ll condescend” reminds us that, though He first descended to us in a less dignified way as a baby born in lowly estate, He will condescend again in all power and glory. As such, we rejoice over our guide and friend who’s love shall never end.

Prelude

Call to Worship—Psalm 105:1-5

Leader: Oh give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name;
Make known His deeds among the peoples.

**All: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;
Speak of all His wonders.**

Leader: Glory in His holy name;
Let the heart of those who seek the Lord be glad.

**All: Seek the Lord and His strength;
Seek His face continually.**

Leader: Remember His wonders which He has done,

All: His marvels and the judgments uttered by His mouth,

Congregational Hymn—Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Verse 1

Come, Christians, join to sing
Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King;
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
Before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice:
Alleluia! Amen!

Verse 2

Come, lift your hearts on high;
Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky;
Alleluia! Amen!

He is our guide and friend;
To us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end:
Alleluia! Amen!

Verse 3

Praise yet our Christ again;
Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain;
Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore
His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore,
"Alleluia! Amen!"

Christian H. Bateman

Prayer for Tithes and Offerings

*Whether you give online or place your gift in the offertory box, we pause to acknowledge the offering of our gifts to the Lord.

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Blessed Lord,

Thou hast caused the holy Scriptures to be written for my learning, suffer me not to slight their instruction, or forget their heavenly message.

Train me to search the Scriptures, for they are they that testify of Jesus; and to examine myself according to their rules.

I confess that I have often neglected them, wandered from their truths, and been slow to believe them; forgive me for treating lightly what Thou hast given for my good.

Give me understanding that I may know them, diligence that I may learn them,
faith that I may believe them, courage that I may profess them, patience that I may wait for them,
obedience that I may practice them.

Let Thy Word be my chief delight, and the man of my counsel;
my guide in prosperity, my support in adversity, my defence in assault,
my refuge in danger, my comfort in trouble.

Make me love Thy Word more than my necessary food,
and prize it above all earthly riches. Amen.

Valley of Vision

Assurance of Forgiveness—1 John 1:9

⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Congregational Hymn—I Will Glory in My Redeemer

Verse 1

I will glory in my Redeemer,
Whose priceless blood has
ransomed me.
Mine was the sin that drove the
bitter nails and hung Him on that
judgment tree.
I will glory in my Redeemer,
Who crushed the pow'r of sin
and death;
My only Savior before the Holy
Judge,
The Lamb who is my
righteousness,
The Lamb who is my
righteousness.

Verse 2

I will glory in my Redeemer,
My life He bought, my love He
owns.
I have no longings for another,
I'm satisfied in Him alone.
I will glory in my Redeemer,
His faithfulness, my standing
place.
Though foes are mighty and rush
upon me,
My feet are firm, held by His
grace,
My feet are firm, held by His
grace.

Steve and Vikki Cook

Confession of Faith

Chapter 1: Of the Holy Scriptures

The testimony of the church of God may stir and persuade us to adopt a high and reverent respect for the Holy Scriptures. Moreover, the heavenliness of the contents, the power of the system of truth, the majesty of the style, the harmony of all the parts, the central focus on giving all glory to God, the full revelation of the only way of salvation, and many other incomparable qualities and complete perfections, all provide abundant evidence that the Scriptures are the Word of God. Even so, our full persuasion and assurance of the infallible truth and divine authority of the Scriptures comes from the internal work of the Holy Spirit bearing witness by and with the Word in our hearts.⁸

⁸John 16:13,14; 1 Corinthians 2:10–12; 1 John 2:20, 27.

Pastoral Prayer

Old Testament Scripture Reading—Nehemiah 8:1-8

¹ And all the people gathered as one man at the square which was in front of the Water Gate, and they asked Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the Lord had given to Israel.

² Then Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly of men, women and all who could listen with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month.

³ He read from it before the square which was in front of the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of men and women, those who could understand; and all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

⁴ Ezra the scribe stood at a wooden podium which they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam on his left hand.

⁵ Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up.

⁶ Then Ezra blessed the Lord the great God. And all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

⁷ Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, explained the law to the people while the people remained in their place.

⁸ They read from the book, from the law of God, translating to give the sense so that they understood the reading.

Congregational Hymn—Ancient Words

Verse 1

Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's
own heart;
Oh, let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope
give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam
ancient words will guide us home.

Refrain:

Ancient words ever true,
changing me and changing you;
We have come with open hearts,
Oh, let the ancient words impart.

Verse 2

Holy words of our faith
handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice;
Oh, heed the faithful words
of Christ.
Martyr's blood stains each page
They have died for this faith
Hear them cry through the years
Heed these words and hold them
dear.

[Refrain]

Lynn DeShazo

New Testament Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 4:1-5

¹ I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

⁴ and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

⁵ But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Prayer: Prepare Our Hearts

Congregational Song of Preparation—Speak O Lord

Verse 1

Speak, O Lord,
as we come to You
To receive the food
of Your holy Word
Take Your truth,
plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us
in Your likeness

That the light of Christ
might be seen today
In our acts of love
and our deeds of faith
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

Preaching of the Word—

“Great Expectation”
2 Peter 1:3-8

Todd Friel

Song of Response—How Firm a Foundation

Verse 1

How firm a foundation,
ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His
excellent Word!

What more can He say than to
you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus
have fled?

John Rippon

Commission

Benediction—Colossians 3:16-17

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Assisting in Worship: Preaching - Pastor Todd Friel; Service Leader - Pastor Jason Allen;
Musicians: Piano - Francine Lowe; Song Leaders - Elisabeth Lowe, Jennifer Snowden,
Lindsay White, Lauren Glosson

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Prayer of Confession - Anonymous

SERMON NOTES

Great Expectation

A Christian sermon must seek to accomplish FIVE goals.

1. Inform the _____.
2. Redirect our _____.
3. _____ the text in practical ways.
4. Stir the _____.
5. Exalt _____.

The hearer should come to church with great _____.

List three promises of Psalm 119 if you apply God's Word with diligence:

1.

2.

3.

List adjustments you might make to prepare your heart before Sunday morning:

List adjustments you might make to be more fully engaged during the Sunday service:

List adjustments you might make to meditate on the service during the following week:

**In humble reliance upon the Word of God and prayer,
Alpharetta Bible Church is committed to worshiping God, making
disciples, loving and serving the body of Christ
so that we will be moved from
brokenness to wholeness.**

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday Night Bible Study
7:00 p.m.

LEADERSHIP

Todd Friel, Pastor

Todd Armistead, Deacon

Jason Allen, Pastor

Brooks Clark, Deacon

Steve Howerton, Deacon

Kenny Robillard, Deacon

Biblical Counseling
Ladies - Libby Glosson
Men - Dave Covalli

If you have a prayer need or need to speak with a pastor,
they will be available following the morning service.

NEW TO ALPHARETTA BIBLE CHURCH?

We hope you will take a moment to visit our website or scan the QR code
below to complete a guest card.



Interested in knowing more about Alpharetta Bible Church?
Please contact info@alpharettabiblechurch.org