



*Alpharetta*

BIBLE CHURCH

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
THE LORD'S DAY

January 4th, 2026

## **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 reinforces 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**

- **Our Thursday night study resumes January 8th. Join us for “3:15 Equipped”!**
- **Join us for Sunday School, weekly @ 9AM**
- **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

It's that time of year again! Some of us put more time into it than others and some of us have more success at seeing results than others. We can be quick to make them and even quicker to break them. What are we talking about? New Year's resolutions!

We assess our lives to see where improvement is needed and we tend to make resolutions with the best of intentions. However, Christians don't have to do that as the Lord has already instructed us on our goals for this and every year. Here at the beginning of this New Year, we are setting out on our exploration of 1 Peter. Today we will see the Lord's Manifesto for Christian Aliens.

### Prelude

#### Call to Worship—Psalm 103:8-12

Leader: The Lord is compassionate and gracious,  
Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness.

**All: He will not always strive with us,  
Nor will He keep His anger forever.**

Leader: He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

**All: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him.**

Leader: As far as the east is from the west,

**All: So far has He removed our transgressions from us.**

## Congregational Hymn—Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

### Verse 1

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers  
before Thee,  
Op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds  
of sin and sadness;  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!

### Verse 2

All Thy works with joy  
surround Thee,  
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee,  
Center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest,  
vale and mountain,  
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Singing bird and flowing fountain  
Call us to rejoice in Thee!

### Verse 3

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father,  
Christ our Brother-  
All who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine!

Henry van Dyke

## 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.

## The Lord's Supper—Instruction & Reflection

## **Corporate Prayer of Confession**

O LORD, No day of my life has passed that has not proved me guilty in Thy sight. Prayers have been uttered from a prayerless heart; Praise has been often praiseless sound; My best services are filthy rags.

Blessed Jesus, let me find a covert in Thy appeasing wounds.  
Though my sins rise to heaven Thy merits soar above them;  
Though unrighteousness weighs me down to hell, Thy righteousness  
exalts me to Thy throne.

All things in me call for my rejection, All things in Thee plead my acceptance. I appeal from the throne of perfect justice to Thy throne of boundless grace. Grant me to hear Thy voice assuring me: that by Thy stripes I am healed, that Thou wast bruised for my iniquities, that Thou hast been made sin for me that I might be righteous in Thee, that my grievous sins, my manifold sins, are all forgiven, buried in the ocean of Thy concealing blood.

I am guilty, but pardoned, lost, but saved, wandering, but found, sinning, but cleansed. Give me perpetual broken-heartedness, Keep me always clinging to Thy cross, Flood me every moment with descending grace, Open to me the springs of divine knowledge, sparkling like crystal, flowing clear and unsullied through my wilderness of life.

Valley of Vision

### **Assurance of Forgiveness—1 John 1:9**

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

## Congregational Hymn—Here Is Love

### Verse 1

Here is love, vast as the ocean,  
Loving-kindness as the flood,  
When the Prince of Life,  
our Ransom,  
Shed for us His precious blood.  
Who His love  
will not remember?  
Who can cease to sing His praise?  
He can never be forgotten,  
Throughout heav'n's eternal days.

### Verse 2

On the mount of crucifixion,  
Fountains opened deep and wide;  
Through the flood-gates  
of God's mercy  
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.

Grace and love, like mighty rivers,  
Poured incessant from above,  
Heaven's peace  
and perfect justice  
Kissed a guilty world in love.

### Verse 3

Let me, all Your love accepting,  
Love You, ever all my days;  
Let me seek Your kingdom only,  
And my life be to Your praise;  
You alone shall be my glory,  
Nothing in the world I see;  
You have cleansed  
and sanctified me,  
You Yourself have set me free.

William Rees

## Confession of Faith

### Chapter 8, Paragraph 1 - Of Christ the Mediator

**It pleased God, in His eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, His only begotten Son, according to the covenant made between them both, to be the mediator between God and man;<sup>1</sup> the prophet,<sup>2</sup> priest,<sup>3</sup> and king;<sup>4</sup> head and savior of the church,<sup>5</sup> the heir of all things,<sup>6</sup> and judge of the world;<sup>7</sup> unto whom He did from all eternity give a people to be His seed and to be by Him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.<sup>8</sup>**

1 Isa. 42:1; 1 Pet. 1:19–20 2 Acts 3:22

3 Heb. 5:5–6

4 Ps. 2:6; Luke 1:33

5 Eph. 1:22–23

6 Heb. 1:2

7 Acts 17:31

8 Isa. 53:10; John 17:6; Rom. 8:30

## Pastoral Prayer

### Old Testament Scripture Reading—Nehemiah 9:16-25

<sup>16</sup> “But they, our fathers, acted arrogantly;

They became stubborn and would not listen to Your commandments.

<sup>17</sup> “They refused to listen, And did not remember Your wondrous deeds which You had performed among them; So they became stubborn and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But You are a God of forgiveness, Gracious and compassionate, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness; And You did not forsake them.

<sup>18</sup> “Even when they made for themselves A calf of molten metal And said, ‘This is your God Who brought you up from Egypt,’ And committed great blasphemies,

<sup>19</sup> You, in Your great compassion, Did not forsake them in the wilderness; The pillar of cloud did not leave them by day, To guide them on their way, Nor the pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way in which they were to go.

<sup>20</sup> “You gave Your good Spirit to instruct them,  
Your manna You did not withhold from their mouth,  
And You gave them water for their thirst.

<sup>21</sup> “Indeed, forty years You provided for them in the wilderness and they were not in want; Their clothes did not wear out, nor did their feet swell.

<sup>22</sup> “You also gave them kingdoms and peoples, And allotted them to them as a boundary. They took possession of the land of Sihon the king of Heshbon And the land of Og the king of Bashan.

<sup>23</sup> “You made their sons numerous as the stars of heaven,  
And You brought them into the land  
Which You had told their fathers to enter and possess.

<sup>24</sup> “So their sons entered and possessed the land.  
And You subdued before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, And You gave them into their hand, with their kings and the peoples of the land, To do with them as they desired.

<sup>25</sup> “They captured fortified cities and a fertile land. They took possession of houses full of every good thing, Hewn cisterns, vineyards, olive groves, Fruit trees in abundance. So they ate, were filled and grew fat, And reveled in Your great goodness.

## Congregational Hymn—The Love of God

### Verse 1

The love of God is greater far  
Than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
It goes beyond the highest star,  
And reaches to the lowest hell;  
The guilty pair,  
bowed down with care,  
God gave His Son to win;  
His erring child He reconciled,  
And pardoned from his sin.

### Verse 3

Could we with ink the ocean fill  
And were the skies  
of parchment made,  
Were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill  
And ev'ry man a scribe by trade,  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry;  
Nor could the scroll  
contain the whole,  
Tho' stretched from sky to sky.

Frederick M. Lehman;  
Meir Ben Isaac Nehorai

## New Testament Scripture Reading—2 Peter 3:8-9

<sup>8</sup> But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

<sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

## Prayer: Prepare Our Hearts

## Congregational Song of Preparation—Speak O Lord

### Verse 3

Speak O Lord,  
and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights  
of Your plans for us  
Truths unchanged  
from the dawn of time,  
that will echo down  
through eternity.

And by grace we'll stand  
on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk  
as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord,  
till Your church is built,  
and the earth is filled  
with Your glory.

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend



## Preaching of the Word—

### “A 5 Point Manifesto for Christian Aliens”

1 Peter 1:1

Todd Friel

## Song of Response—How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

### Verse 1

How deep the Father’s  
love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give  
His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain  
of searing loss,  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar  
the chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.

### Verse 2

Behold the Man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders.  
Ashamed, I hear  
my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin  
that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished.  
His dying breath  
has brought me life.  
I know that it is finished.

Stuart Townend

## Commission

### Benediction—2 Corinthians 13:14

**<sup>14</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.**

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

List the five major themes in I Peter:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

In light of God's desire to redeem sinners, answer the four questions we raised:

**Question 1:** When God saved you, why didn't He beam you up to Heaven?

**Question 2:** What does God want me doing while I am still here?

**Question 3:** How are Christians to live in an increasingly hostile world?

**Question 4:** How does your godly life glorify God when it seems so unnoticed?

Can you identify ONE person you know who needs to hear the gospel, but you have been afraid to witness to them?

Would you commit to courageously witnessing to that person this week, even if it costs you something?

**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](mailto:info@alpharettabiblechurch.org)