

**\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER (in unison):**

Dear Father, in response to Your great gift to us, we offer ourselves to You, with thanksgiving and joy. Accept these tokens of our lives; bless and multiply them for the spread of the gospel, the strengthening of Your church, and the increase of Your kingdom, to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: (See Insert)**

*"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"*

MENDELSSOHN

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

**\*THE CONGREGATIONAL AND CHORAL AMEN (sung by all):**

"A-men, A-men, A-men!"

*\*(PLEASE WAIT FOR ROW-BY-ROW DISMISSAL BY THE USHERS)*

**\*POSTLUDE: "Overture from 'Unto Us a Child Is Born' "**

J. S. Bach

so.   
 \*The congregation standing. Please feel free to be seated if you need to do   
 Lyrics and music reproduced under CCLI#64526.

# Prayer Opportunities

**RECUPERATING:** Greg Alty, Chuck and Anne Spruill, and Ryan Webb

**CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO:** Dot Barker and family in the death of her sister, Mildred Davidson, on November 27. Mildred was from Danville, VA.

**IN APPRECIATION:** Dear "Rake and Run" team, I am so blessed to have you come and help me with my leaves again this year! It is a very helpful project and I am thankful for your hearts of helping and caring for a widow! God bless you all! - Carol Thompson

**PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: DANIEL KABOLI**

We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with Daniel, who is an Iranian pastor currently exiled from his home country. Daniel became a member of REPC when he was relocated from Turkey to Lynchburg (he has a brother here). Daniel has been living in Raleigh while working on a Master's Degree at Southeastern Seminary, which he expects to complete next year. Daniel is also a talented musician/worship leader and he writes, arranges and record songs in Farsi, which are downloaded by Iranian Christians all around the world. So far he has put together 100+ songs, which are available on his Telegram channel. Continue to pray that the Lord would bless Daniel's studies and his music for the sake of the gospel in Iran and around the globe.

**Prayer & Care**

If you have a need or prayer request, please share that need through the Rivermont website at [www.rivermont.org/prayer](http://www.rivermont.org/prayer). You may also email [janet@rivermont.org](mailto:janet@rivermont.org). All requests are confidential.

# Welcome to Rivermont!

Visitors, whether you are new to Lynchburg or new to our church, we are so grateful to the Lord that He has brought you to us this morning. We would love to connect with you more personally and we invite you to fill out a Connect Card on our website at [rivermont.org/connect](http://rivermont.org/connect).

## Sermon Notes

*"Waiting with Joy"*  
Psalm 97

**1. We Must Know the Lord's Advent (vv. 1-5)**

**2. We Must Know the Lord's Glory (vv. 6-9)**

**3. We Must Know the Lord's Salvation (vv. 10-12)**

## Coming Up This Week

<b>Sunday, December 13 - Third Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>Tuesday, December 15</b>
8:00 am Worship Service	6:30 am Dawn Patrol Men's Bible Study (via Zoom)
9:10 am Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary and via Zoom)	9:00 am Preschool
9:30 am Adult Sunday School (via Zoom)	
9:30 am 20 Somethings+ Life Group (via Zoom)	<b>Wednesday, December 16</b>
9:30 am 7th-12th grade Sunday School (via Zoom)	9:00 am Preschool
11:00 am Worship Service	
12:15 pm 20 Somethings+ Lunch on the Run (Fifth and Federal)	<b>Sunday, December 20-Fourth Sunday in Advent</b>
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (via Zoom)	8:00 am Worship Service
	9:30 am Adult Sunday School (via Zoom)
<b>Monday, December 14</b>	9:30 am 20 Somethings+ Life Group (via Zoom)
9:00 am Preschool	9:30 am 7th-12th grade Sunday School (via Zoom)
	11:00 am Worship Service
	4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (via Zoom)

## Contact Us

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	<b>TWITTER:</b> <a href="https://twitter.com/rivermontepc">twitter.com/rivermontepc</a>

*Rivermont Evangelical Presbyterian Church is a member of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a group of churches whose beliefs are summarized in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms. For more information, go to [www.epc.org](http://www.epc.org).*



# RIVERMONT

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**OUR PASSION:** *the renewing of lives through God's compelling love in Lynchburg and the world.*

## ORDER of WORSHIP

December 13, 2020  
*Third Sunday in Advent*



## Preparation for Worship

*As you enter the Sanctuary, prepare your heart for worship and please silence your mobile devices.*

### THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

Gracious and ever-faithful God, over the centuries Your people have prayed "Come, Lord Jesus, come!" As we continue our journey this Advent season, be among us with Your guiding Spirit. Open our eyes that we might see, open our ears that we might truly worship in spirit and truth Your Son Who is coming again. In anticipation we pray this in Jesus' mighty name. Amen.

### PRELUDE:

String Quartet

**"O Come, All Ye Faithful/Hark! the Herald Angels Sing/  
Angels We Have Heard on High"**

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."  
Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**Elizabeth Matney – Violin I, Peggy Bettcher – Violin II  
Christopher Matney – Viola, Jonathan Matney – Cello**

### THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pastor Brett Eubank

### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalms 97:1; 98:7-9 (responsively)

*The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;*

**Let the many coastlands be glad!**

*Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!*

**Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before  
the LORD,**

*For He comes to judge the earth.*

**He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

### \*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: (See Insert)

**"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"**

ANTIOCH

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - Joy

**8:00 am: Hermann & Beth Ulrich**

**11:00 am: Ronald, Sherry & Rodney Meng**

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

### \*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

### \*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: 1 John 1:9

### \*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

**"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!"** (verses 5,6)

TRURO

**Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!  
Let me Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.**

**So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!  
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.**

### \*THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*"Grace to you and peace from Him Who is and Who was and Who is to come."  
(Rev 1:4)*

### ANTHEM FOR PREPARATION FOR THE WORD:

(8:00)

New Song

Ruth Morris Gray

**"Christmas Canon of Peace"**

I heard the bells on Christmas Day their old familiar carols play.  
And wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to men.  
Ding dong ding dong, hear them ring.  
And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said.  
"For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men."  
The angels said, "Peace, peace, peace on earth."  
"Peace on earth," the angels said, "Peace, peace, peace on earth."  
Then ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from night to day.  
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime of peace on earth, good will to men.

**Adelheid Terry – Director; Catherine Meyer - Accompanist**

(11:00)

Chapel Choir

Clark, arr. Brad Nix

**"Away in a Manger"**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.  
Lullaby, baby sweet lullaby.  
The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.  
Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

**Lori Flowers – Director; Charis Jantomaso - Accompanist**

### THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 97

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### THE SERMON:

**"Waiting with Joy"**

Dr. David Weber

### THE PRAYER FOR THE RIGHT RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

### \*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED (in unison)

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and  
of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His  
Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all  
things were made; Who, for us and our salvation, came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried;  
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended  
into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come  
again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall  
have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds  
from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is  
worshiped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one  
holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the  
remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of  
the world to come. Amen.**

### \*THE GLORIA: **"Angels We Have Heard on High"** (refrain)

GLORIA

**Glo-ri-a in excelsis De-o, Glo-ri-a in excelsis De-o!**  
(meaning, "Glory to God in the highest!" Luke 2:14)

### MOMENT FOR MISSION:

Dorcas Harbin

### THE PASTORAL PRAYER, concluding with THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison):

**Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come;  
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever. Amen.**

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

String Quartet

**"What Child Is This?/It Came Upon the Midnight Clear/The First Noel"**

What Child is this, Who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,

While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Mary.

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,

From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heav'n's all-gracious King";

The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

The first Noel the angel did say

Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;

In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,

On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, born is the King of Israel.

### \*THE DOXOLOGY:

OLD HUNDREDETH

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**