

## \*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE CONGREGATIONAL AND CHORAL AMEN (sung by all):  
"A-men, A-men, A-men!"

\*POSTLUDE: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" arr. Sally DeFord

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

### Inclement Weather Policy:

The final decision to cancel on-campus Sunday worship services will be announced by 6:00 am on Sunday. An announcement will be placed on the church website, WSET-TV, the church's voicemail, and a church-wide email and text will be sent. If the 8:30 am service is cancelled, on-campus Sunday school is also cancelled. When on-campus activities are cancelled, the REPC staff will attempt to provide on-line worship and Zoom discipleship. Wednesday music rehearsals will be held at the discretion of the Director of Music Ministry and notifications will be sent by email and text.

## Prayer Opportunities

ONGOING PRAYER: Michael Herbert, Will Jenkins, and Westray Nowlin

IN APPRECIATION: Thank you all so much for the amazing yard work and outdoor cleaning your congregation helped us out with! We are so grateful for the generous partnership of such hardworking volunteers. - Kindly, your friends at Miriam's House

### PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: THE SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army, well-known throughout the world for its ministry of compassion to people in need, ministers in the city of Lynchburg through a number of programs, like the Red Kettle program. Please sign up to ring the bell at Walmart on Old Forest Road, December 20-24 at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CA8A623A3FC1-salvation1>. Pray for gospel transformation in the lives of those the Lynchburg Salvation Army serves through casework and counseling, youth services, rehabilitation ministry, feeding programs, emergency shelter for the homeless, transitional housing for women and children, and day care.

### Sanctuary Floral Arrangement

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given by Ross and Sherry Meyer to the glory of God and in celebration of their anniversary on November 23. The purple in the arrangement signifies the hope found in the coming of Jesus Christ on this first Sunday of Advent.

### Prayer & Care

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

## Welcome to Rivermont!

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 Digital Connect Card by scanning the QR code into your mobile device. You can also fill out a Connect Card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.



### Next Steps to Connect:

We invite you to take some additional steps to get more connected to this church body.

- Attend live or Zoom Sunday School classes at 9:45 am ([rivermont.org/sundayschool](http://rivermont.org/sundayschool)).
- Join us for dinner (5:45 pm) and Bible studies (6:30 pm) on Wednesday nights. RFN will resume January 12, 2022.
- Attend men's, women's, or youth Bible studies and events throughout the year.
- Attend the next Getting to Know Rivermont Class. Learn more at [rivermont.org/gtkr](http://rivermont.org/gtkr).

### The Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Ways to give:

1. By placing your offering in the offering plates located in the Narthex.
2. By texting an amount to 434-595-3833; follow the prompts.
3. Online at [www.rivermont.org/give](http://www.rivermont.org/give).
4. By mailing a check to REPC, 2424 Rivermont Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24503.

## Coming Up This Week

For more information, please visit [rivermont.org/events](http://rivermont.org/events)

### Sunday, November 28 - First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)  
8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
9:45 am 20 Somethings+ Life Group  
9:45 am College Hour (CO House)  
11:00 am Worship Service  
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Sanctuary)  
6:30 pm 7th-12th Grade SNL (Youth Center)

### Monday, November 29

9:00 am Preschool  
10:00 am Prayer Group (Room 206)

### Tuesday, November 30

6:30 am Dawn Patrol Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall & via Zoom)  
9:00 am Preschool

### Wednesday, December 1

9:00 am Preschool  
4:30 pm Praise Ringers  
5:15 pm Carillon, Chapel, Cherub, New Song

### Wednesday, December 1, continued

5:45 pm Chrismon Dinner  
6:00 pm BRITE Class (Room 203)  
6:30 pm Lighting of the Chrismon Tree (Cheatham Center)  
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, December 2

10:00 am Community Bible Study  
7:00 pm Women's Advent Fellowship (Cheatham Center)

### Sunday, December 5 - Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)  
8:30 am Worship Service with Communion  
9:45 am Sunday School  
9:45 am 20 Somethings+ Life Group  
9:45 am College Hour (CO House)  
11:00 am Worship Service with Communion  
12:30 pm 20 Somethings+ Lunch on the Run (Market at Main)  
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Sanctuary)

## Contact Us

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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).



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

## ORDER of WORSHIP

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of 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:

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, Who orders all things in heaven and in earth, and Who made all ages a preparation for the coming of Your Son: prepare us by Your Holy Spirit for the coming of Him Whom You sent, that we may behold His glory and receive the fullness of Your blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### PRELUDE:

**"Coventry Carol"**

Adelheid Terry, piano

arr. Tom Fettke

### THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pastor Mike Palombo

### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: from Isaiah 40:3-5 (responsively)

*Prepare the way of the Lord!*

**Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!**

*Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low;*

**And the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.**

*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together,*

**For the mouth of the Lord has spoken!**

### \*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #194

**"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

VENI EMMANUEL

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - Hope

**8:30 am: Alan and Marsha Carwile**

**11:00 am: Danny and Doris Boyers with their children Anna, Sophia, Danielle, Miriam, and Emily**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

(1 Peter 1:3-5)

### \*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (in unison)

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed: we have not loved You with all our heart and soul and mind and strength; neither have we loved our neighbor as ourselves, nor one another as Christ has loved us. We confess our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and self-pity, our faithless anxiety and willful waywardness; our lack of compassion toward others; and all the sinful affections and impure secrets of our hearts.

Have mercy upon us, O God; and forgive what we have been. In Your great goodness and love, and by the sanctifying power of Your Holy Spirit, help us to amend what we are; and, for the sake of Your glory, direct what we shall be; that we may walk in the light of Life, living lives pleasing in your sight; through Your Son, our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ; in Whose Name we pray. Amen.

### \*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Titus 3:5-7

### \*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:

**"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" (vs. 1 & 3)**

ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;**

**Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,**

**And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heav'n and nature sing.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;**

**He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found,**

**Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**

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

*"Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."*

(Romans 15:7)

(Children pre-K through first grade may be dismissed for Children's Church to room #115.)

### THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 21:33-46 (page 827)

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### THE SERMON:

**"The Beloved Son and His Kingdom"**

Pastor Ron Cox

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

### \*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed (in unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### \*THE GLORIA:

**"Praise and Glory to the Father"**

REGENT SQUARE

Praise and glory to the Father, praise and glory to the Son,

Praise and glory to the Spirit: ever Three and ever One;

One in might and One in glory, while unending ages run!

### 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.

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

(8:30)

Vicky Pogue, soloist

**"Fullness of Grace"**

Getty and Townend

Fullness of grace in man's human frailty; this is the wonder of Jesus.

Laying aside His power and glory humbly He entered our world,

Chose the path of meanest worth, scandal of a virgin birth.

Born in a stable cold and rejected, here lies the hope of the world.

Fullness of grace – the love of the Father, shown in the face of Jesus.

Stooping to bear the weight of humanity, walking the Calvary road,

Christ, the Holy innocent took our sin and punishment.

Fullness of God, despised and rejected, crushed for the sins of the world,

Fullness of hope in Christ we had longed for, promise of God in Jesus,

Through His obedience we are forgiven, op'ning the floodgates of heav'n.

All our hopes and dreams we bring gladly as an offering,

Fullness of life and joy unspeakable: God's gift in love to the world.

(11:00)

**"Of the Father's Love "**

Sanctuary Choir

arr. Barry Talley

Of the Father's love begotten, so the world began to be.

Of the things that are, that have been and future years shall ever see.

He is the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, He.

Of the Father's love begotten, born for you and me.

O that birth forever blessed, Mary filled with grace.

By the Holy Ghost conceiving bore the Savior of our race.

And the Babe, the world's Redeemer first revealed His sacred face.

Of the Father's love begotten in that lowly manger place.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Now He shines the long-expected, let creation praise its Lord.

Of the Father's love begotten, evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heav'n adore Him, angels sing His praise.

Powers and dominions bow before Him, songs of adoration raise.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring.

Of the Father's love begotten, born to us our heav'nly King.

Born to set His people free. Born to us our heav'nly King.

### \*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.**

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

Gracious Father, Your goodness overflows upon us! We give You thanks and praise for Your faithfulness, Your kindness, and Your love. Receive this offering, we pray, as we offer ourselves anew to You. May all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do, be blessed for the spread of the gospel, the increase of Your kingdom, and the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### \*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: #198

**"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!"**

TRURO