

Sermon Notes

"Prospering God's Kingdom"
Ezra 5-6

1. **God's Kingdom Is Prospered by Obeying His Word (5:1-2; 6:13-18)**
2. **God's Kingdom Is Prospered by Trusting His Providence (5:3-6:12)**
3. **God's Kingdom Is Prospered for His Glory (6:19-22)**

The Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Ways to give:

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

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 Sunday School classes at 9:45 am (rivermont.org/sundayschool).
- Join us for dinner and Bible Studies on Wednesday nights. To make dinner reservations go to rivermont.org/rfn.
- Attend men's, women's, or youth Bible studies and events throughout the year.
- Attend the next Getting to Know Rivermont Weekend on October 21-22. To learn more and to sign up go to rivermont.org/gtkr.

General Fund as of August 31, 2022

Budget to date:	\$328,077
Behind Budget:	\$ 49,957
Year-to-date contributions:	\$278,120
Year-to-date expenses:	\$287,525
Contributions Behind Expenses:	\$ 9,405

Coming Up This Week

For more information, please visit rivermont.org/events

Sunday, September 25

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 Getting To Know Rivermont (Country Gardens)
11:00 am Worship Service
12:30 pm College Lunch (CO House)
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
5:00 pm Grief Share Support Group (Room 201)
6:00 pm 7th-12th Grade SNL (Youth Center)

Monday, September 26

9:00 am Preschool
10:00 am Prayer Group (Room 206)
11:00 am Caregivers' Support Group (Room 206)

Tuesday, September 27

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

Wednesday, September 28

9:00 am Preschool
4:30 pm Praise Ringers
5:15 pm Carillon, Cherub, Chapel & New Song
5:45 pm Rivermont Fellowship Night Meal
6:30 pm Bible Studies
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, September 29

9:30 am Women's Oasis Bible Study
10:00 am Community Bible Study

Friday, September 30

5:45 pm 7th-8th Grade Putt-Putt Fun Center

Sunday, October 2

8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)
8:30 am Worship Service with Communion
9:00 am College Coffee (CO House)
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am 20 Somethings+ Life Group
9:45 am Getting To Know Rivermont (Country Gardens)
11:00 am Worship Service with Communion
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
5:00 pm Grief Share Support Group (Room 201)

Contact Us

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FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/rivermontepc](https://www.facebook.com/rivermontepc)
TWITTER: twitter.com/rivermontepc

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.



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

ORDER of WORSHIP

September 25, 2022

Prayer & Care

If you have a need or prayer request, please share that need through the Rivermont website at rivermont.org/prayer. You may also email janet@rivermont.org. All requests are confidential.

Preparation for Worship

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

THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

O Lord my Lord, this is Your day, the heavenly command of rest, the open door of worship, the record of Jesus' resurrection, the seal of the Sabbath to come, the day when Your people unite in endless song. I bless You for the throne of grace, that here favor reigns; that open access to it is through the blood of Jesus; that the veil is torn aside and I can enter the holiest and find You ready to hear, waiting to be gracious, inviting me to pour out my needs, encouraging my desires, promising to give more than I ask or think. But while I bless You, shame and confusion are mine: I remember my past misuse of sacred things, my irreverent worship, my base ingratitude, my cold, dull praise. Sprinkle all my past Sabbaths with the cleansing blood of Jesus, and may this day witness deep improvement in me. Give me in rich abundance the blessings the Lord's Day was designed to impart; may my heart be fast bound against worldly thoughts or cares; flood my mind with peace beyond understanding; may my meditations be sweet, my acts of worship life, liberty, joy, my drink the streams that flow from Your throne, my food the precious Word, my defense the shield of faith, and may my heart be more knit to Jesus. Amen. *(The Valley Of Vision)*

PRELUDE:

(8:30) *"Adagio e dolce" from Sonata III* **Miriam Amos, organ**
J. S. Bach

(11:00) **Liesl Amos, Amy Hall, Beth Ulrich, Betsy Weaver**
"I Will Sing of Jesus" Sandra Achterberg

I will sing of Jesus, with His blood He bought me;
All along my pilgrim way His loving hand has brought me.
I will sing of Jesus, I will tell the story
Of Him Who did redeem us, the Lord of life and glory.
Can there overtake me any dark disaster,
While I sing of Him, my blessed Lord and Master?
Still I'll sing of Jesus! His name alone prevailing
Shall be my sweetest music when my heart and flesh are failing.
I will sing of Jesus! How I will adore Him,
When He takes me home, and I cast my crowns before Him.

Miriam Amos – piano

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: **Pastor Ron Cox**

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 124 (responsively)

If it had not been the LORD Who was on our side— let Israel now say— if it had not been the LORD Who was on our side when people rose up against us, then they would have swallowed us up alive,

When their anger was kindled against us; then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters.

Blessed be the LORD, Who has not given us as prey to their teeth!

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped! Our help is in the name of the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #44** *"How Great Thou Art"*

O STORE GUD

***THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION**

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:**

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (vs. 1 and 4)

AZMON

**O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace!**

**He breaks the power of reigning sin, He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.**

(8:30) THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Philip and Rachel Weizenecker present their daughter, Gretchen Jane, for baptism.

***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: Ezra 5-6 (Page 392)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON: *"Prospering God's Kingdom"* **Dr. David Weber**

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:** *"Gloria Patri"* **GREATOREX**
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end! A—men, A—men!**

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 RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

(8:30) **Liesl Amos, Amy Hall, Beth Ulrich, Betsy Weaver**
"I Will Sing of Jesus" Sandra Achterberg

(11:00) **Sanctuary Choir**
David Edmonds

"You Shall Go Out with Joy"
(based on Isaiah 55)

Come, all who thirst; come to the waters. Incline your ear, and your soul shall live. Seek the Lord while He is near you, and call upon Him while He may be found. I shall make a covenant with you – restore your soul in mercy and in truth. I have promised glory unto you; you shall go out with joy! For as the rain comes down from heaven, so shall My Word go forth to you. Seek the Lord while He is near you, and call upon Him while He may be found. Come, all who thirst; come to the waters. Restore your soul, for the Lord has called you. I shall make a covenant with you – restore your soul in mercy and in truth. I have promised glory unto you; you shall go out with joy!

***THE DOXOLOGY:** **OLD HUNDREDT**

**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: #72** *"Amid the Fears That Oppress Our Day"* **LANGHORNE**

***THE BENEDICTION**

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

***POSTLUDE:** *"Toccata for Organ"* **John Weaver**