

**\*THE DOXOLOGY:**

OLD HUNDREDDTH

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: #311**

*"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"*

AURELIA

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

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

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

**\*POSTLUDE:**

*"Lift Up Your Heads"*

Edward G. Mead

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

### 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 can share your needs on a Connect Card, which can be found in the pew rack, and place it in the offering plate or one of the designated prayer boxes located outside the Library and in the Locke Commons. You may also submit a prayer request at [rivermont.org/prayer](http://rivermont.org/prayer) or email [janet@rivermont.org](mailto:janet@rivermont.org). All requests are confidential.

### 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](http://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](http://rivermont.org/sundayschool)).
- Join us for dinner and Bible Studies on Wednesday nights ([rivermont.org/rfn](http://rivermont.org/rfn)). This will resume on January 11, 2023.
- Attend men's, women's, or youth Bible studies and events throughout the year.
- Attend the next Getting to Know Rivermont class beginning on January 8, 2023. For more information and to sign up go to [rivermont.org/gtkr](http://rivermont.org/gtkr).

## Coming Up This Week

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

### Sunday, November 27 - First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)  
 8:30 am Worship Service  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Worship Service  
 4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)  
 6:00 pm 7th-12th Grade SNL (Youth Center)

### Monday, November 28

9:00 am Preschool  
 10:00 am Prayer Group (Room 206)  
 No Caregivers' Meeting

### Tuesday, November 29

6:26 am HS 626 (Chick-fil-A, Wards Rd.)  
 6:30 am Dawn Patrol Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall & via Zoom)  
 9:00 am Preschool

### Wednesday, November 30

4:30 pm Praise Ringers  
 5:15 pm Carillon, Cherub, Chapel & New Song  
 5:45 pm Potluck Dinner (Fellowship Hall)  
 6:30 pm Lighting of the Chrismon Tree (Cheatham Center)  
 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, December 1

10:00 am Community Bible Study

### Friday, December 2

6:30 pm Community Christmas Tree Lighting (Front of Church)

### Saturday, December 3

2:00 pm 20 Somethings+ Christmas Party (Fellowship Hall)

### Sunday, December 4 - 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  
 11:00 am Worship Service with Communion  
 4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)

## Contact Us

**MAIL:** 2424 Rivermont Avenue  
Lynchburg, VA 24503  
**PHONE:** (434) 846-3441  
**HOURS:** Monday - Friday 8:30AM-5:00PM

**EMAIL:** [rhonda@rivermont.org](mailto:rhonda@rivermont.org)  
**WEB:** [www.rivermont.org](http://www.rivermont.org)  
**FACEBOOK:** [facebook.com/rivermontepc](https://www.facebook.com/rivermontepc)  
**TWITTER:** [twitter.com/rivermontepc](https://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](http://www.epc.org).*



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

## ORDER of WORSHIP

November 27, 2022

*First Sunday of Advent*

## Preparation for Worship

*As the Prelude begins, 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:

(8:30) **Whitney Cairns, harp**

#### "What Child Is This?"

arr. Cairns

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.

#### "In the Bleak Midwinter"

arr. Cairns

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan;  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter long ago.  
Our God, heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain,  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:  
In the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty — Jesus Christ.  
What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a Shepherd I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

### (11:00) "A Lovely Rose Is Blooming"

Johannes Brahms

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.  
It came, a flow'ret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

### WELCOME:

**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:** John and Jennifer Neil together with their daughter Adelynn

**11:00 am:** Matt and Johanna Schubert together with their son Joshua

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

### \*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: Titus 2:11-14

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON: **"Confident Hope in Jesus Christ"**

**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 ad 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 RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

(8:30)

**Whitney Cairns, harp**

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

arr. Cairns

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!

(11:00)

**Sanctuary Choir**

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

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.  
**Hadley Hall – Accompanist**