

Sermon Notes

"The Christmas Dragon"
Revelation 12:1-17

1. The Declaration of War

2. The Battle Begins

3. The Victory Won

Prayer Opportunities

ONGOING PRAYER: Tom Chaffin, Willy Clingenpeel, Paul Cowras, Priscila Ribeiro-Cummings, Scott Ferrell, Nadine Gilmore, Lucy Harris, Michael Herbert, Connie Pearson, Joan Pennock, Barbara Steadman, Tami Urbina and CJ Weaver

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY are extended to Scott Wade and family on the death of his father, James J. Wade on December 13. He was from Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

MISSIONARY SPOTLIGHT: CAMPUS OUTREACH NEW YEAR'S CONFERENCE

December 28th -31st Campus Outreach will hold their annual New Year's Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina. Students from more than thirty-five college campuses across the Southeast will be involved. This number includes students from both Liberty University and the University of Lynchburg, as well as Rivermont students who attend other colleges. Please pray that the Lord would speak powerfully through His Word and that all involved would return to their campuses with a heart to live for God's glory.

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 (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.

Sunday, January 1 - New Year's Day

8:30 am Worship Service with the Lord's Supper

9:30 am - Fellowship Hour

11:00 am Worship Service with the Lord's Supper

No Children's Church or Sunday School

The Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Ways to give:

1. By placing your offering in the offering plate.
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.

YEAR-END DONATIONS: For tax purposes, year-end donations for 2022 must be received or postmarked by Saturday, December 31. The church office will be closed Dec. 26 - Jan. 2 however the outside black mailbox will be monitored during this time to receive donations. Those needing an update on their donations before the end of the year, please contact Kelly Nelson at the office, or by email: Kelly@rivermont.org.

Contact Us

MAIL: 2424 Rivermont Avenue
Lynchburg, VA 24503

PHONE: (434) 846-3441

HOURS: Monday - Friday 8:30AM-5:00PM

EMAIL: rhonda@rivermont.org

WEB: www.rivermont.org

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

December 25, 2022

Christmas Day

Preparation for Worship

As the Prelude begins, prepare your heart for worship and please silence your mobile devices.

THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

Glory be to You, O Father everlasting, Who did send Your only-begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. Glory be to You, O Lord Jesus Christ, Who has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Glory be to You, O Holy Spirit, who unites us to Christ, and sheds His love in our hearts. You are blessed Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God; and may Your glorious name be blessed forever. Amen.

PRELUDE:

"What Child Is This?"

Grayson Laughon, violin

arr. Kristin Campbell

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.

WELCOME:

Pastor Ron Cox

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:

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 HYMN OF PRAISE: #194

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE: # 208

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

*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)*

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE: Revelation 12:1-17 (page 1034)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON:

"The Christmas Dragon"

Dr. David Weber

THE PRAYER FOR A 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)

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:

Rachel Love and Jeffrey Smith, duet

"Angel Carol"

arr. Anna Laura Page

Hear the bells of Christmas ringing, allelu, alleluia;
Swift the wings of angels singing alleluia.
Angels singing, noels ringing, gladsome tidings bringing:
Christ is Lord of all.
Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new;
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow:
Christ the Babe was born for you.

*THE DOXOLOGY:

**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.**

OLD HUNDREDTH

*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER (in unison):

Almighty Father of everlasting love, we give You thanks for the gift of life, for the blessings of Your providence, and for the promise of Your presence with us through Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the power of Your Spirit. We praise You for all the spiritual blessings which You have lavished upon us through Your Son, our Savior – for the gift of new birth, new life, the forgiveness of our sins, our adoption as Your children, and the hope of glory! All praise, honor, and glory be to You, the Sovereign God of life and life everlasting. Amen.

*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: #207

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

IN DULCI JUBILO

*THE BENEDICTION

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

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

*POSTLUDE:

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

J. S. Bach

*The congregation standing. Please feel free to be seated if you need to do so.
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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 or email janet@rivermont.org. All requests are confidential.