

"THE DAY OF EPIPHANY" (January 6 each year, after the "Twelve Days of Christmas") is the day traditionally commemorating the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem. The word epiphany means "appearance" and refers to the appearance of the star which signaled the birth of the King of the Jews (Numbers 24:17) and led the Magi to Jesus. The Magi from the east were Gentiles, yet they were led by the light of the star to worship the King of the Jews, Jesus, Who is "the light to the nations" (Isaiah 49:6). Isaiah prophesied, "Nations will come to Your light, and kings to the brightness of Your rising" (Isaiah 60:3).

*Dear Rivermont Family,
Thank you for the steadfast loving kindness you extended to our family during my mother's lengthy illness and recent passing. You ministered to us as the hands and feet of Christ and bear witness to His glory. Your faithful prayers and expressions of comfort and love provided blessings beyond measure.
Becky and Jeff Griffith*

*Dear Rivermont Presbyterian Church Family,
On behalf of my mom, Marie Moore, our family would like to express our gratitude for all you do to care for Mom. I live pretty far away and it limits the times I can visit Mom. It gives me a great peace of mind knowing that she has her church family come for visits, to provide communion and Dr. Weber's messages in the mail. Mom really enjoys and looks forward to all of these things as well. We are thankful for those gifts and appreciate all that you do to care for the members of the congregation. Sincerely, Marie Moore and her family.*

Sanctuary Floral Arrangement

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John and Stephanie Locke.

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.

Emergency Phone Line

For Acute Illness and Death
Evenings and Weekends: (434) 426-3774
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00: (434) 846-3441
Please leave a message for an appropriate response.

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 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 Class beginning on January 7. For more information and to register go to rivermont.org/gtkr.

Coming Up This Week

For more information, please visit rivermont.org/events

Sunday, January 7 - Epiphany Sunday

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)
5:00 pm Stitching Circle (Locke Commons) 🏰
6:00 pm Youth SNL (Youth House)

Monday, January 8

7:00 am No Walls Bible Study (Quinlan)
9:00 am Preschool
9:30 am Story Time (Youth House) 🏰
10:00 am Prayer Group (Library)
11:00 am Caregivers' Support Group (Room 203)
5:30 pm Chess Club (Youth House) 🏰
6:00 pm Art with Amy (Youth House) 🏰

Tuesday, January 9

6:30 am Dawn Patrol Men's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
9:00 am Preschool
1:00 pm Shepherding and Care (Room 203)

Wednesday, January 10

9:00 am Preschool
4:30 pm Rivermont Chimes & Praise Ringers
5:15 pm Carillon



🏰 = In Rivermont for Rivermont Event (Members Welcome!)

For more information, please visit inrivermont.com

Wednesday, January 10, continued

5:15 pm Cherub, Chapel & New Song Choirs
5:45 pm Rivermont Fellowship Night Meal
6:30 pm Bible Studies
6:30 pm Missionary Prayer & Care (Pastors' Lounge)
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 11

9:30 am Women's Bible Study (Room 203)
10:00 am Community Bible Study

Friday, January 12

6:00 pm High School Progressive Dinner

Saturday, January 13

10:00 am Pickleball in the Park (Riverside Park) 🏰
12:00 pm No Walls Second Saturday Picnic (Gospel Community Church College Hill)

Sunday, January 14

8:30 am Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:30 pm 20 Somethings+ Lunch on the Run (Oliver's, Rivermont Ave.)
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
5:00 pm Stitching Circle (Locke Commons) 🏰

Contact Us

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PHONE: (434) 846-3441
HOURS: Monday - Friday 8:30AM-5:00PM

EMAIL: rhonda@rivermont.org
WEB: www.rivermont.org
FACEBOOK: 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 MISSION: *For the glory of God and the good of His people, REPC seeks to follow Jesus Christ in His mission to awaken gospel renewal through Spirit-empowered worship, discipleship and mission, beginning in the Rivermont Community and extending to the ends of the earth.*

ORDER of WORSHIP

January 7, 2024

Epiphany Sunday

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 dear Father, Who has given Your only Son to be both the sacrifice for our sin and the example of the godly life to which You have called us: grant us grace, we pray, that we may truly and thankfully trust in Jesus as our Savior, and also daily endeavor to follow in the steps of His most holy life, obeying Him as Lord; by the sanctifying grace of the Holy Spirit; to the glory of Your name. Amen.

PRELUDE:

(8:30) **"The Old Year Now Hath Passed Away"** J. S. Bach

The old year now hath pass'd away, we thank Thee, O our God, today,
That Thou hast kept us through the year, when danger and distress were near.
There shall we thank Thee and adore, with all the angels evermore;
Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith to praise Thy name through life and death!

(11:00) **"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"** Grayson Laughon, violin
arr. James Michael Stevens

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

WELCOME: Dr. David Weber

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 28:6-9 (responsively)

"Blessed be the LORD!

For He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

The LORD is my strength and my shield;

In Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him.

The LORD is the strength of His people;

He is the saving refuge of His anointed.

Oh, save Your people and bless Your heritage!

Be their Shepherd and carry them forever."

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #34 **"The God of Abraham Praise"** LEONI

*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Romans 8:34-35; John 3:16

*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (v. 1) SOLID ROCK

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

*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: Hebrews 11:17-19 (page 1008)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON: **"An Eternal Perspective"** Pastor Shane Whelan

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"** GREATORIX
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 RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

(8:30) **"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"** Grayson Laughon, violin
arr. James Michael Stevens

(11:00) **"Beautiful Savior"** Sanctuary Choir
arr. David Allen

Beautiful Savior! King of creation! Son of God and Son of man!
Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels in the sky.
Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine!
Miriam Amos – Accompanist

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:

If you are not a member of this congregation but are a baptized believer who is welcome to receive Communion in your home church, then you are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us. Baptized children of this congregation are welcome to receive the Sacrament after they have received instruction and admission by the Session. After reviewing the Communion packet with your child, contact the church office to set up a meeting with the pastors. The packet may be found at www.rivermont.org/communion.

The Words of Invitation and Institution

The Prayer of Consecration, 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 the Bread and the Cup

The Concluding Communion Prayer

*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: #679 **"'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"** TRUST IN JESUS

*THE BENEDICTION

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

*POSTLUDE: **"In Thee Is Gladness"** J. S. Bach

*The congregation standing. Please feel free to be seated if you need to do so.
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