

Incllement 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 published on the church website, the church's voicemail, and WSET-TV; 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 online 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.

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 starting January 8, 2025. 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 on January 26, 2025. For more information and to register, go to rivermont.org/gtkr.

Coming Up This Week

For more information, please visit rivermont.org/events

Sunday, December 1 - First Sunday of Advent

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 Sermon Q & A (Chapel)

Monday, December 2

7:00 am No Walls Bible Study (Quinlan)
9:00 am Preschool
10:00 am Prayer Group (Country Gardens)
11:00 am Story Time (Room 207) 🏰
5:30 pm Chess Club (Youth House) 🏰
7:30 pm WEEE Connect (Room 201)

Tuesday, December 3

6:26 am High School 626
(Biscuitville, Old Forest Rd.)
6:30 am Dawn Patrol Men's Bible Study
(Fellowship Hall)
9:00 am Preschool
10:30 am Women's Circle (Country Gardens)
6:30 pm Mission Steering Committee (Library)

Wednesday, December 4

9:00 am Preschool
12:00 pm Monthly Prayer Meeting (John Knox)
4:30 pm Rivermont Chimes & Praise Ringers
5:15 pm Carillon
5:15 pm Cherub, Chapel & New Song Choirs
5:45 pm Chrismon Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
6:30 pm Chrismon Service (Cheatham Center)
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 5

7:00 pm Women's Advent Fellowship
(John Knox)

Friday, December 6

10:30 am GriefShare (Country Gardens)

Saturday, December 7

9:30 am Youth Strings Rehearsal (Choir Room)
10:00 am Pickleball in the Park (Riverside Park) 🏀
11:00 am Embrace Grace Baby Shower
(Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, December 8

8:30 am Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
5:00 pm Sermon Q & A (Chapel)
6:00 pm Youth SNL (Youth Center)

🏰 = In Rivermont for Rivermont Event
(Members Welcome!)
For more information, please visit inrivermont.com

Contact Us

MAIL: 2424 Rivermont Avenue
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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
X: x.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 to awaken gospel renewal through Spirit-empowered worship, discipleship and mission, beginning in our church, extending to our neighborhood and our world.*

ORDER of WORSHIP

December 1, 2024

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 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.

Preparation *for* Worship

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

THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

Redeemer God, come as we seek to open our hearts, creating a welcome space for You to abide. Awaken us from our laziness and rescue us from that which distracts us from knowing Your grace and love. Inspire our preparation and guide our worship that our Advent waiting might lead us to Your throne, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE: *"Come, Redeemer of Mankind"* J. S. Bach
Come, Redeemer of mankind; born of virgin Thee we'll find:
Cause of wonder to the earth, God Himself ordained such birth.

WELCOME: Dr. David Weber

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 89:15-18 (responsively)**
Blessed are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O LORD, in the light of Your face,
Who exult in Your name all the day and in Your righteousness are exalted.
For You are the glory of their strength; by Your favor our horn is exalted
For our shield belongs to the LORD, our king to the Holy One of Israel.

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #194**
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - HOPE

8:30 am: Nehemiah and Eden Jantomaso
11:00 am: Nathan and GraceAnn Siff

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 ADORATION AND CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:**
"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" (vs. 2 & 3) ANTIOCH
Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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**
"Grace to you and peace from Him Who is and Who was and Who is to come."
(Rev 1:4)

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

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE: 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (page 996)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON: *"The Transforming Power of Scripture"* Pastor Ron Cox

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 RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM: Sanctuary Choir
(8:30) *"Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room"* Lloyd Larson

O sing Your praise! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long!
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, and ev'ry voice a song!
He comes, He comes to set the pris'ner free.
He comes, yes, He comes to reign triumphantly.
He comes, He comes to save, this King of kings.
He comes, yes, He comes with healing in His wings.
Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
Hadley Hall – Accompanist

(11:00) *"In the Bleak Midwinter"* Rachel Love, soloist
In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan.
Earth stood hard as iron and water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.
Angels and archangels may have gathered there.
Cherubim and seraphim filled the air.
But only His mother in her maiden bliss
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.
What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I'd bring to Him a lamb.
If I were a wise man I would do my part.
Yet what would I give Him? I'd give to Him my heart.
Grayson Laughon – violin

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 Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

The Concluding Communion Prayer

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: #208** *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* ADESTE FIDELES

*THE BENEDICTION

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

***POSTLUDE:** *"Come, Redeemer of Mankind"* Johann Pachelbel

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