

"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).

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, January 5 - 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)

Monday, January 6

7:00 am No Walls Bible Study (Room 201)
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, January 7

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, January 8

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

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

For more information, please visit inrivermont.com

Wednesday, January 8, continued

5:55 pm RFN Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
6:30 pm Bible Classes
6:30 pm Missionary Prayer & Care (Pastors' Lounge)
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 9

9:30 am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, January 10

1:00 pm Robert Gordon Family Visitation (Cheatham Center)
2:00 pm Robert Gordon Memorial Service (Sanctuary)

Saturday, January 11

10:30 am Youth Girls' Prayer Group (1600 Ward's Ferry Rd., Apt. 401)
10:00 am Pickleball in the Park (Riverside Park) 🏰
12:00 pm No Walls Second Saturday Picnic (Gospel Community Church College Hill)

Sunday, January 12

8:30 am Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:30 pm 20 Somethings+ Lunch on the Run (Mi Patron)
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
5:00 pm Stitching Circle (Locke Commons)
6:00 pm Youth SNL (Youth Center)



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

January 5, 2025

Epiphany Sunday

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.

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

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.

Preparation *for* Worship

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

THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

O GOD, Who by the shining of a star did guide the Wise Men to behold Thy Son our Lord: Show us Thy heavenly light, and give us grace to follow until we find Him, and, finding Him, rejoice. And grant that as they presented gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we now may bring Him the offering of a loving heart, an adoring spirit, and an obedient will, for His honor, and for Thy glory, O God Most High. Amen.

PRELUDE: (8:30)

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.
I need Thee, O I need Thee, ev'ry hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.
I need Thee ev'ry hour, Most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son.

Grayson Laughon, violin

arr. Ruth Coleman

(11:00)

"The Old Year Now Hath Passed Away"

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!

J. S. Bach

WELCOME:

Pastor Ron Cox

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Isaiah 60:1-3 (responsively)

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples;
But the LORD will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you.
And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
And shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #30

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

ST. ANNE

*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: 1 John 1:5-9

*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE: #499

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

TOPLADY

*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: Acts 1:1-11 (page 909)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON:

"An Empowered Mission"

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"

GLORIA

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)

"Psalm 86"

Sanctuary Choir

Carl J. Nygard Jr.

Hear my voice, O Lord, when I pray.
Hear my prayer when I cry from the lowly place;
In Your mercy, Lord, let me stay; hear my voice, O Lord, when I pray.
Hear my voice, O Lord, when I cry;
Hear my words when I call from the lowly place;
I will pray, O Lord, lest I die; hear my voice, O Lord, when I cry.
From the grave's descent You have taken me,
When the men of the world have forsaken me.
In my day of need and my time of grief,
Hear the prayer for my body and soul's relief.
In the morning, Lord, I will sing with a song that will rise from the holy place,
And my praises, Lord, it will bring; in the morning, Lord, I will sing.
Alleluia. Amen.

Hadley Hall – Accompanist

(11:00)

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.
I need Thee, O I need Thee, ev'ry hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.
I need Thee ev'ry hour, Most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son.

Grayson Laughon, violin

arr. Ruth Coleman

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: #172

"Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"

ALL SAINTS OLD

*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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