

*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: #455
"And Can It Be That I Should Gain" (verse 5)

SAGINA

*THE BENEDICTION

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

*POSTLUDE: "The Trumpet Shall Sound" G. F. Handel

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

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 September 3.
- Attend men’s, women’s, or youth Bible studies and events throughout the year.
- Attend the next Getting to Know Rivermont Weekend Class on May 16 and 17. For more information and to register, go to rivermont.org/gtkr.

Coming Up This Week

For more information, please visit rivermont.org/events

Sunday, May 4
8:30 am Worship Service with Communion
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service with Communion
12:15 pm 20 Somethings+ Lunch on the Run (Oliver's, 2496 Rivermont Ave.)
4:00 pm Rivermont Choir Concert (Sanctuary)
5:30 pm Youth Fundraiser (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, May 5
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 (Riverside Park) 🏰
5:30 pm Chess Club (Youth House) 🏰
7:30 pm WEEE Connect (Room 201)

Tuesday, May 6
6:30 am Men's Dawn Patrol Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
9:00 am Preschool
10:30 am Women's Circle (Country Gardens)
6:30 pm Mission Steering Committee (Library)

Wednesday, May 7
9:00 am Preschool
12:00 pm Prayer Meeting (John Knox)
5:00 pm Handbell Polishing (Chapel)
6:30 pm Missionary Prayer & Care (Pastors' Lounge)
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

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

Sunday, May 11
8:30 am Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

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

Contact Us

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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

May 4, 2025
Second Sunday in Eastertide

Preparation *for* Worship

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

THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

Our Father in heaven, Creator and Sustainer of all, Who in boundless grace called forth light from darkness and brought life into being through Your Word: We thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who reconciles us to You, making all things new. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us as we gather in Your presence. Grant us hearts of true repentance, turning from the desires of the flesh to embrace the new creation You have fashioned in us through Christ. May we, by Your Spirit, deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Jesus, in Whom our true identity is found. Let our lives reflect Your transformative work, that we might bear witness to the hope and renewal found in Christ alone. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE:

(8:30)

"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"

arr. Charles W. Ore

I know that my Redeemer lives; what comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, Who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living Head.

(11:00)

Praise Ringers

"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

arr. Matthew Compton

Rejoice, the Lord is King: your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
Hadley Hall – Director

WELCOME: Pastor Shane Whelan

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 96:1-9 (responsively)

Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Sing to the LORD, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.
Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
Splendor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary. Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts!
Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before Him, all the earth!

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #297

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

DIADEM

*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:

"Before the Throne of God Above"

BEFORE THE THRONE

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea;
A great High Priest Whose name is Love, Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, My name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heaven He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died my sinful soul is counted free;
For God the just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb, my perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace.
One with Himself I cannot die; my soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God!

*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: Acts 5:17-42 (page 913)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON:

"Gospel Persecution"

Dr. David Weber

THE PRAYER FOR A RIGHT RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from Colossians 1:15-20 (in unison)

We believe in Christ Jesus: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

*THE GLORIA:

"Gloria Patri"

GREATOREX

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)

"He Came Down"

Chapel Choir

Joseph M. Martin

He came down! Listen to my story. Listen to my song.
He came down from glory to a cattle stall.
Little tiny Stranger, born on Christmas day,
To a wooden manger, to a bed of hay!
The angels singing! Hallelujah! He came down!
From the holy, holy, to the dusty trails,
To the meek and lowly, to the poor and frail.
Reaching out to others, with a touch of grace.
Listen, sisters, brothers, He taught a better way.
The angels singing! Hallelujah!

Jesus was born in a cattle stall, though He was King of all kings!
He was a Servant and Friend to all, patient and humble in ev’rything!
He gave His life to save us. He died on Calvary.
On the cross He gave us life eternally.
While skies were dark and stormy, they placed Him in a grave.
He went up! Then, on Easter Sunday, the stone was rolled away!
And we know that one day, He’s gonna come again.
The angels singing! Hallelujah! He came down! He went up!
He’s gonna come again!
Lori Flowers – Director; Miriam Amos – Accompanist

(11:00)

Praise Ringers

"Jesus Shall Reign"

arr. Anna Laura Page

Jesus shall reign where’er the sun does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
Let every creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!

*THE HYMN OF PREPARATION: #455

"And Can It Be That I Should Gain" (verses 1-4)

SAGINA

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