

# Sermon Notes

*"Longing for Restoration"*  
*Psalm 80*

**1. Pleas to the Sovereign Shepherd**

**2. Pleas to the Merciful Vinedresser**

**3. Pleas for the Gracious Son of Man**

## Prayer Opportunities

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

- Luke and Molly Orth on the birth of their daughter, Amelia Kate Orth , who was born on November 22. Big brother is Mason Steele!
- Ross Meyer and Sherry McFaden, who were married on November 23.

**PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: Phil and Diane Thrash**

Phil serves as the Eastern U.S. Associate for Missions Advancement and as Missionary Prayer Network Coordinator for the Eastern U.S. in EPC's World Outreach department. He travels throughout the eastern U.S. to visit EPC churches and to promote prayer for EPC World Outreach missionaries around the world, as well as to promote the "Engage 2025" initiative of our denomination. Pray that God will raise up prayer leaders in our presbytery as well as churches that will send church planting teams to unengaged Muslim areas.

### Prayer Ushers

Prayer Ministry teams are available after each morning service for those who would like someone to pray with them about a personal need, large or small. The Prayer Ushers will meet you at the Family Room off the Cheatham Center. They will be identified with name tags. This ministry is available to visitors as well as members. All prayer requests are confidential.

You can also share your prayer 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.

# Welcome to Rivermont!

Whether you are new to Lynchburg or new to 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 Connect Card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Please visit the Welcome Table in the Narthex (lobby) to receive a special gift as our way of saying thanks for coming.

## Coming Up This Week

**Sunday, December 1** *First Sunday in Advent*

- 8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)
- 8:30 am Worship Service with Communion
- 9:30 am 20-Somethings+ Coffee Corner (Locke Commons)
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am College Hour (Rivermont A)
- 11:00 am Worship Service with Communion
- 4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
- 6:30 pm 7th-12th Grade SNL (Youth Center)

**Monday, December 2**

- 9:00 am Preschool
- 10:00 am Prayer Group (Room 202)
- 6:30 pm. BRITE Class (Room 205)

**Tuesday, December 3**

- 6:30 am Dawn Patrol
- 6:36 am High School 636 (Biscuitville)
- 9:00 am Preschool
- 10:30 am Circle #1 and Circle #4 (Country Gardens)
- 12:00 pm Prayer and Fasting (Chapel)
- 4:00 pm Shepherding and Care Meeting (Room 204)
- 5:00 pm Relational Discipleship Meeting
- 6:00 pm BRITE Class (Room 205)

**Wednesday, December 4**

- 9:00 am Preschool
- 12:00 pm Preschool Christmas Party
- 12:00 pm Elder Pool Lunch (Country Gardens)
- 5:00 pm Building and Grounds Meeting
- 5:45 pm Chrismon Dinner (Fellowship Hall)\*
- 6:30 pm Lighting of the Chrismon Tree (Cheatham)

**Thursday, December 5**

- 9:30 am Oasis (Quinlan Room)
- 10:00 am CBS (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30 am CBS Luncheon (Rivermont A)

**Friday, December 6**

- 6:00 pm LIFE Christmas Party (Cheatham)

**Saturday, December 7**

- 10:00 am Officers' Brunch

**Sunday, December 8** *Second Sunday in Advent*

- 8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)
- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:30 am Congregational Meeting
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 11:00 am Westminster Canterbury Service
- 12:45 pm 20-Somethings+ Lunch on the Run (JoJo Pizza, Lakeside Drive)
- 4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm Hymn Sing & Cookie Exchange (Sanctuary)

**\*December 4 - Potluck Dinner and Lighting of the Chrismon Tree** will begin at 5:45 pm in the Fellowship Hall with dinner. The church will provide ham and rolls. Those members whose last name begins with **A-M** are asked to bring a side dish; those members whose last name begins with **N-Z** are asked to bring dessert. Please bring enough to feed your family with additional to share. Dinner will be followed by a service to light the Chrismon Tree. Family, friends and neighbors are always welcome.

**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  
**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.*



**RIVERMONT**  
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**OUR PASSION:** *the renewing of lives through God's compelling love in Lynchburg and the world.*

## ORDER of WORSHIP

December 1, 2019  
*First Sunday in Advent*

## Preparation for Worship

*As you enter the Sanctuary, prepare your heart for worship and please silence your mobile devices.*

### THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, Who orders all things in heaven and in earth, and Who made all ages a preparation for the coming of Your Son: prepare us by Your Holy Spirit for the coming of Him Whom You sent, that we may behold His glory and receive the fullness of Your blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### PRELUDE: "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"

J.S. Bach

Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying:

Awake, Jerusalem, at last!

Midnight hears the welcome voices and at the thrilling cry rejoices:

Come forth, ye virgins, night is past!

The Bridegroom comes, awake! Your lamps with gladness take;

Alleluia!

And for His marriage feast prepare, for ye must go to meet Him there.

### THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pastor Brett Eubank

### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: from Isaiah 40:3-5 (responsively)

*Prepare the way of the Lord!*

**Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!**

*Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low;*

**And the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.**

*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together,*

**For the mouth of the Lord has spoken!**

### \*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #194

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vs. 1-4)*

VENI EMMANUEL

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

8:30 am: David and Lisa Sosin

11:00 am: Charles and Peggy Hooks

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 CONFESSION: (in unison)

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed: we have not loved You with all our heart and soul and mind and strength; neither have we loved our neighbor as ourselves, nor one another as Christ has loved us. We confess our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and self-pity, our faithless anxiety and willful waywardness; our lack of compassion toward others; and all the sinful affections and impure secrets of our hearts.

Have mercy upon us, O God; and forgive what we have been. In Your great goodness and love, and by the sanctifying power of Your Holy Spirit, help us to amend what we are; and, for the sake of Your glory, direct what we shall be; that we may walk in the light of life, living lives pleasing in Your sight; through Your Son, our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ; in Whose name we pray. Amen.

### THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: I John 2:1-2

### \*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:

*"Joy to the World! The Lord is Come" (vs. 1 & 3)*

ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.**

**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

*"Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."*

*(Romans 15:7)*

### THE SPECIAL TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

### THE INTERLUDE:

During the interlude, children ages 4 to first grade may be dismissed for Children's Church to the Orange Room #115.

### THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 80 (page 491)

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### THE SERMON:

*"Longing for Restoration"*

Pastor Ron Cox

### 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:

*"Praise and Glory to the Father"*

REGENT SQUARE

**Praise and glory to the Father, praise and glory to the Son,  
Praise and glory to the Spirit: ever Three and ever One;  
One in might and One in glory, while unending ages run!**

### THE RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

*"Of the Father's Love"*

Sanctuary Choir

arr. Barry Talley

Of the Father's love begotten, so the world began to be.  
Of the things that are, that have been, and future years shall ever see.  
He is the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, He.  
Of the Father's love begotten, born for you and me.  
O that birth forever blessed, Mary filled with grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving bore the Savior of our race.  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer first revealed His sacred face,  
Of the Father's love begotten in that lowly manger place.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Now He shines the long expected, let creation praise its Lord.  
Of the Father's love begotten, evermore and evermore.  
O ye heights of heav'n adore Him, angels sing His praise.  
Powers and dominions bow before Him, songs of adoration raise.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring.  
Of the Father's love begotten, born to us our heav'nly King.  
Born to set His people free. Born to us our heav'nly King.

### \*THE COMMUNION HYMN: #193

*"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" (vs. 1 & 2)*

PICARDY

### 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](http://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: #194

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v. 5)*

VENI EMMANUEL

### \*THE BENEDICTION

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

*"Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!"*

### \*POSTLUDE:

*"Lift Up Your Heads"*

arr. Edward G. Mead