

Sermon Notes

"Longing for Justice"
Psalm 72

1. Longing for an earthly King

2. Longing for a heavenly King

3. Longing for an eternal King

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.

Next Steps to Connect:

We invite you to take some additional steps to get more connected to this church body.

- Attend a Sunday School class at 9:45 am between worship services.
- Join us for dinner and classes on Wednesday nights during the fall and spring.
- Attend men's, women's, or youth Bible studies and events throughout the year.
- Join one of our Life Groups which meet throughout the week in member homes.
- Sign up for our next Getting To Know Rivermont class at www.rivermont.org/gtkr.

If you would like more information about these opportunities, stop by our Welcome Table!

Coming Up This Week

Sunday, December 15 *Third Sunday in Advent*

8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)
8:30 am Worship Service
9:30 am 20-Somethings+ Coffee Corner
(Locke Commons)
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am College Hour
11:00 am Worship Service
3:00 pm 9th-12th Grade Christmas Party
(Matney Home)
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)
7:00 pm Messiah Presentation (Sanctuary)

Monday, December 16

9:00 am Preschool
10:00 am Prayer Group (Room 202)

Tuesday, December 17

6:30 am Dawn Patrol
6:36 am High School Boys 636
(Biscuitville, Old Forest Road)
9:00 am Preschool
11:00 am Preschool Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 18

9:00 am Preschool
5:00 pm Carillon
5:15 pm New Song
6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Party (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, December 22 *Fourth Sunday in Advent*

8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)
8:30 am Worship Service
9:30 am 20-Somethings+ Coffee Corner
(Locke Commons)
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am College Hour
11:00 am Worship Service
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)

PARKING AND OUR NEIGHBORS: As we remember to love our neighbors as ourselves, this is a friendly reminder not to block our neighbors' driveways when we park for worship. Please also reserve closer parking for our visitors and senior saints, particularly during this Christmas season. Graciously, Randolph College allows use of their parking lots: Maier Museum and the Upper Gym lot. Also, Magnolia Foods has graciously allowed use of their parking lot. Thank you!

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.



RIVERMONT
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

ORDER of WORSHIP

December 15, 2019

Third Sunday in Advent

Prayer Opportunities

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS to all those who have signed up to ring the bell for the Salvation Army; our volunteer list is complete. It's a wonderful way to share God's love and help for those in need. Sincerely, Brian and Lyn Nash

PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: Daniel and Priscila Ribiero-Cummings, Christian Health Services Corps - Kalukembe, Angola

Let's thank God for a new partner, Dr. Lena, who has arrived and is starting clinical work. Pray for the remaining funds to renovate the 18 crumbling adobe staff homes. Ask God's blessing on next week's two-day Maternal/Child Health seminar. And pray that Daniel, Priscila and their three children (Zeke, Eliel and Naomi) will remember and celebrate Christ's coming.

Preparation for Worship

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

THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

Gracious and ever-faithful God, over the centuries Your people have prayed "Maranatha, Come, Lord Jesus, come!" As we continue our journey this Advent season, be among us with Your guiding Spirit. Open our eyes that we might see, open our ears that we might truly worship in spirit and truth Your Son Who is coming again. In anticipation we pray this in Jesus' mighty name. Amen.

Prelude: **"Carol of the Bells"** Praise Ringers
arr. Kevin McChesney

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Brett Eubank

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively): Psalms 97:1; 98:7-9

*The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;
Let the many coastlands be glad!
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!
Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD,
For He comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.*

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #195 **"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"** ANTIOCH

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - Joy

8:30 am: Bill and Carole Cox
11:00 am: Keith and Amanda Taylor together with their children
Jackson, Ryleigh and Bryson

In Luke 2:10 the angel told the shepherds, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: 1 John 1:9

*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE: **"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!" (vs. 5 & 6)** TRURO

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
Let me Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

*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)*

Even as the Lord greets us in His word let us greet one another.

CHAPEL CHOIR: **"Royal David's City"** Joseph M. Martin
Lori Flowers – Director; Charis Jantomaso – piano

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 72 (page 485)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON: **"Longing for Justice"** Dr. David Weber

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 PASTORAL PRAYER, 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 TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heaven before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

*THE DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER (in unison):

Dear Father, in response to Your great gift to us, we offer ourselves to You, with thanksgiving and joy. Accept these tokens of our lives; bless and multiply them for the spread of the gospel, the strengthening of Your church, and the increase of Your kingdom, to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: #203

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" MENDELSSOHN

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CONGREGATIONAL AND CHORAL RESPONSE (sung by all):
"Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!"

*POSTLUDE: **"Overture from 'Unto Us a Child Is Born' "** J. S. Bach

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

Part I of Handel's MESSIAH
THIS EVENING AT 7:00pm

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES at REPC

5:00 pm - Family Worship Service

(Especially for families with young children)

7:00 and 9:00 pm - Traditional Communion Services
(Special brass and string prelude beginning at 6:30 & 8:30)