

Sermon Notes

"We Are Dusty People"
Psalm 103

1. The Lord Remembers

2. The Lord is Merciful and Gracious

3. The Lord is Forgiving

Prayer Opportunities

PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: Steve and Joan Tinsley - Kontakmission - Member Care - International

The Tinsleys had a profitable three-week trip to encourage missionaries in September (France, Albania, Greece and Ireland) followed by traveling in the States (family, friends, Naval Academy Reunion and various missionary visits). We loved having them at Rivermont this month and hearing Joan sing Messiah with the Sanctuary Choir. Let's join them in asking the Lord of the Harvest to send forth the next generation of missionaries into His harvest field, and to guide their travel to care for missionaries in Spring 2020.

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.

YEAR-END DONATIONS: For tax purposes, year-end donations for 2019 must be received or postmarked by Tuesday, December 31. There are several ways to make your donation. You may drop your offering in the mail or offering plate, set up a bank ACH transfer, or transfer money securely online by going to our website, www.rivermont.org, and selecting the Give tab.

Coming Up This Week

Sunday, December 29 *First Sunday in Christmastide*
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 No Sunday School: Fellowship Hour
11:00 am Worship Service
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)

Monday, December 30
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 31
Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 1
Church Office Closed

Sunday, January 5 *Epiphany Sunday*
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 Combined Sunday School with Missionary Chris Gassler (Sanctuary)
9:45 am College Hour (Rivermont A)
11:00 am Worship Service with Communion
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)

Inclement Weather Policy

The final decision to cancel Sunday worship services will be announced by 6:30 am on Sunday. An announcement will be placed on the church website, WSET-TV, and the church's voicemail, and a church-wide email will be sent. If the 8:30 am service is cancelled, Sunday School is also cancelled. RFN will be held at the discretion of the pastoral staff. A decision will be made no later than noon on Wednesday. Music rehearsals will be held at the discretion of the Director of Music Ministry and notifications will be sent by email.

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 29, 2019

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 God, You have poured on us the new light of Your Incarnate Word: may that same light burn in our hearts and shine in our lives; and may that light be evident this morning as we gather to worship You in glory. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRELUDE:

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"

Whitney Cairns, harp

J. S. Bach, arr. Robertson

Jesus, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright;
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying round Thy throne.
Through the way where hope is guiding, hark, what peaceful music rings;
Where the flock, in Thee confiding, drink of joy from deathless springs.
Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure; theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure.
Thou dost ever lead Thine own in the love of joys unknown.

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pastor Mike Palombo

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: John 1:1-5, 14 (responsively)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made.

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #214

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Psalm 103:11-12

*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice" (vs. 3)

IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

*THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

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 103 (page 502)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON:

"We Are Dusty People"

Pastor Shane Whelan

THE PRAYER FOR A RIGHT RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

THE APOSTLES' CREED (responsively)

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"

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 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:

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Whitney Cairns, harp

Holst/Darke, arr. Cairns

In the bleak midwinter, frost wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.
Our God, heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.
Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But His mother only, in her maiden bliss
Worshiped the Beloved with a kiss.
What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.

*THE DOXOLOGY:

OLD HUNDREDETH

**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):

Almighty Father of everlasting love, we give You thanks and praise that, in the fullness of time, You sent forth Your Son, born of woman, born under the law, that we might be redeemed from the curse of sin to live as Your beloved children! We offer ourselves to You as we offer these gifts which we have received from Your hand. May Your glory fill the earth, may all the peoples praise You, and may all the world come to know that Jesus Christ is the Savior Whom You have sent into the world. Amen.

*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: #500

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

NEW CITY FELLOWSHIP

*THE BENEDICTION

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

"A-men, A-men, A-men!"

THE POSTLUDE:

"Gavotte and Bourree"

Adelheid Terry, piano

Johann Krieger

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