

**\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER (in unison):**

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: #197**

*"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"*

THIRSTING

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

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

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

**\*POSTLUDE: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

arr. Carolyn Hamlin

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

## Sermon Notes

**" Longing for Peace"**  
Psalm 122

1. Every Christian must long for the place of peace (vv.1-2)
2. Every Christian must long for the blessings of peace (vv. 3-5)
3. Every Christian must pray for the coming of peace (vv. 6-9)

## Prayer Opportunities

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Dan and Cindy Sweeney in the marriage of their daughter Anna to Ryan Jamerson on November 9th.

**IN APPRECIATION:** *"My Dear Church Family, thank you for your many expressions of care and concern: the meals you provided, your cards, phone calls, and visits. I am both blessed and humbled by the outpouring of God's love through you. Thank you and God bless you all." -Sylvia Marsh*

**PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: The Salvation Army**

The Salvation Army, well-known throughout the world for its ministry of compassion to people in need, ministers in the city of Lynchburg through a number of programs, like the Red Kettle program (Sign up to ring the bell at Walmart on Old Forest Road December 19-24). Pray for gospel transformation in the lives of those the Lynchburg Salvation Army serves through casework and counseling, youth services, rehabilitation ministry, feeding programs, emergency shelter for the homeless, transitional housing for women and children, and day care.

# 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.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Today at 9:45 am, during the Sunday School hour.  
Ninth graders - all adults encouraged to attend.**

For the purpose of:

1. Electing a new class of Ruling Elders and Deacons
2. Electing a new class for the Officer Nominating Committee
3. Receiving as information financial and ministry updates

## Coming Up This Week

**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/Cheatham)

**Monday, December 9**

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

**Tuesday, December 10**

- 6:30 am Dawn Patrol
- 9:00 am Preschool

**Wednesday, December 11**

- 9:00 am Preschool
- 12:00 pm 60 Plus Lunch
- 6:30 pm Fostering Hope Informational Meeting (Room 204)

**Thursday, December 12**

- 10:00 am CBS Christmas Party
- 5:30 pm Administrative Committee Meeting (Conference Room)
- 6:00 pm Women's Ministry Advent Gathering (Cheatham Center)

**Saturday, December 14**

- 12:00 pm No Walls Picnic (HRCC)
- 5:30 pm 5th-8th grade Christmas Party (Eskridge Home)

**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)

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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 8, 2019  
*Second 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:

Redeemer God, come as we seek to open our hearts, creating a welcome space for You to abide. Awaken us from our laziness and rescue us from that which distracts us from knowing Your grace and love. Inspire our preparation and guide our worship, that our Advent waiting might lead us to Your throne, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### PRELUDE: "Come, Redeemer of Mankind"

J. S. Bach

Come, Redeemer of mankind;  
Born of virgin Thee we'll find:  
Cause of wonder to the earth,  
God Himself ordained such birth.

### THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pastor Ron Cox

### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively): Psalm 122

*"I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"*

**Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

*Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together,*

**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,**

*as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.*

**There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David.**

*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! "May they be secure who love you!*

**Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!"**

*For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!"*

**For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.**

### \*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #196

**"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

HYFRYDOL

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - Peace

**8:30 am: Matthew and Kelli Johnson together with their children  
Konner and Victoria**

**11:00 am: Andrew and Stephanie Pieleck together with their children  
Andrew, Jr., and Abigail**

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him, we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (Romans 5:1-2)

### THE CALL TO CONFESSION: Isaiah 1:2-4, 18

### THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION: (responsively)

*Therefore, Almighty God, we come confessing the ways that we have rebelled against the peace of Christ in our lives.*

**God of peace, hear our prayer.**

*The rushing and scurrying to get things done,*

**We confess to You, O God of peace.**

*The worry about the little details,*

**We confess to You, O God of peace.**

*The financial burdens we put on ourselves,*

**We confess to You, O God of peace.**

*The impatience and irritability we feel and take out on one another,*

**We confess to You, O God of peace.**

*The bickering and quarreling we get into because we are too busy,*

**We confess to You, O God of peace.**

*Though we make ourselves less than peaceful at this time of year, your peace is always there for us.*

**Instill within us Your peace, O God.**

*When we feel overwhelmed,*

**Instill within us Your peace, O God.**

*When we are filled with worry,*

**Instill within us Your peace, O God.**

*When we become irritable,*

**Instill within us Your peace, O God.**

*When the guilt of our ways threatens to overcome us, help us to remember that we are forgiven in Christ.*

**Instill within us Your peace, O God.**

### THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Isaiah 40: 1-2

### \*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:

**"Good Christian Men, Rejoice" (vs. 2,3)**

IN DULCI JUBILO

**Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;**

**Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!**

**He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.**

**Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**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 122 (page 517)

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**THE SERMON: "Longing for Peace"**

**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:

**Sanctuary Choir**

**"When Will He Come"**

Don Besig

Amid the cold of wintertime the world awaits a King;  
And true believers long to know the peace that He will bring.  
With restless hearts we watch each day and faithfully prepare the way.  
When will our Savior come, when will He come?  
When will our Messiah come?  
As prophets have foretold, our God will send a Son.  
Soon we will behold the Chosen, Promised One.  
We will see a sign; the earth and heav'n will ring.  
The world will know His name and proclaim Him Lord and King!  
Amid these dark and troubled times we live with doubts and fear,  
But God will send Emmanuel to dwell among us here.  
And He will come to make things right, to fill our lives with hope and light.  
When will our Savior come, when will He come?  
When will our Messiah come?

### \*THE DOXOLOGY:

OLD HUNDREDT

**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.**