

# Sermon Notes

“The Everlasting Kingdom of Jesus Christ”  
Psalm 72:8-11

## 1. The Kingdom of Jesus Christ

## 2. Characteristics of His Kingdom

## 3. How We Enter His Kingdom

## 4. How We Spread His Kingdom

# Prayer Opportunities

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- Frank and Heather Canning on the birth of their son, Edmund Mordecai, who was born on December 23rd. Proud siblings are: Brenna, Cecily, Mara, Micah, Sawyer and Silas.
- Joshua and Audrey Ashcroft on the birth of their son, Gregory Kenneth, who was born on December 19th.

**CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY ARE EXTENDED TO** Ketreena Ruth in the loss of her father, Jacob Devadanam.

### PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: Chris and Lori Gassler, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Yaounde, Cameroon

Chris and Lori Gassler are missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators, in Yaounde, Cameroon, where Chris directs the Ethnomusicology/Arts group. As an arts specialist, Chris' calling is to connect with local artists to spark the creation of new worship expressions using their traditional music, drama, and dance forms. You are invited to pray for the people of Central Africa to be moved to worship God and that they would create new expressions of worship using their own art forms. Please also pray for Chris and Lori as they seek to see the nations worship the Lord with their heart in their mother tongue.

# 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.

**GETTING TO KNOW RIVERMONT:** Pastor Brett and Pastor Ron will host an eight-week class about the life, ministry and mission of Rivermont EPC, during the Sunday School hour. We will have a brunch to kick-off the class beginning January 12, from 9:45 am to 10:40 am in Room 205. This class is designed for the curious, as well as for those desiring to pursue formal membership at Rivermont EPC. Please call Janet at the church office (846-3441) for more information or to register.

## Coming Up This Week

### 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 Adult Combined Sunday School with Missionary Chris Gassler (Sanctuary)  
11:00 am Worship Service with Communion  
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)

### Monday, January 6

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

### Tuesday, January 7

6:30 am Dawn Patrol  
9:00 am Preschool  
10:30 am 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 (Conference Room)

### Wednesday, January 8

9:00 am Preschool  
12:00 pm Elder Pool Lunch (Country Gardens)  
3:45 pm Rivermont Ringers  
4:30 pm Praise Ringers and Rivermont Chimes  
5:00 pm Building and Grounds Meeting  
5:15 pm Carillon, Cherub, Chapel, New Song

### Wednesday, January 8 (continued)

5:45 pm RFN Meal (Fellowship Hall)  
6:30 pm Bible Studies  
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 9

9:30 am Oasis (Quinlan Room)  
10:00 am CBS (Fellowship Hall)

### Saturday, January 11

12:00 pm No Walls Second Saturday Picnic (HRCC)

### Sunday, January 12

8:00 am Prayer for the Services (Family Room)  
8:30 am Worship Service  
9:30 am 20-Somethings+ Coffee Corner  
9:45 am College Hour (Rivermont A)  
9:45 am 20-Somethings+ Sunday School (Country Gardens)  
9:45 am Sunday school  
9:45 am Getting to Know Rivermont Brunch (Room 203)  
11:00 am Worship Service  
11:00 am Westminster Canterbury Service  
12:45 pm 20-Somethings+ Lunch on the Run (East Coast Wings - 19399 Forest Rd.)  
4:00 pm Prayer Meeting (Chapel)

## Contact Us

**MAIL:** 2424 Rivermont Avenue  
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**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](http://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

January 5, 2020  
Epiphany Sunday

## Preparation for Worship

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

### THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:

The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed; He has put on strength as His belt. Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting....Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore. Give us grace to obey You, our Sovereign; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### PRELUDE:

*"Improvisation and Toccata on 'Crown Him with Many Crowns' "* Lani Smith

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:  
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

### THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pastor Ron Cox

### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: from Psalm 47:1-7 (responsively)

*Clap your hands, all peoples!*

**Shout to God with loud songs of joy!**

*For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared,*

**a great King over all the earth.**

*He subdued peoples under us,*

**and nations under our feet.**

*He chose our heritage for us,*

**the pride of Jacob whom He loves.**

*God has gone up with a shout,*

**the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.**

*Sing praises to God, sing praises!*

**Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

*For God is the King of all the earth;*

**sing praises with a psalm!**

### \*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #441

*"Jesus Shall Reign"*

DUKE STREET

### \*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

### \*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Ephesians 2:4-10

### \*THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:

*"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" (vs. 1 & 2)*

GERMANY

**Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness my beauty are, my glorious dress;**

**'Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, with joy shall I lift up my head.**

**Bold shall I stand in Thy great day; for Who aught to my charge shall lay?**

**Fully absolved through these I am from sin and fear, from guilt and shame.**

### \*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 72:8-11 (page 485)

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### THE SERMON:

Pastor Lowell Sykes

**"The Everlasting Kingdom of Jesus Christ"**

### THE PRAYER FOR A RIGHT RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

### \*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE PHILIPPIAN CREED based on Philippians 2:6-11 (in unison)

We believe in Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death — even death on a cross! Therefore, God has highly exalted Him and given Him the name that is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. 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 RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

*"Beautiful Savior"*

Sanctuary Choir

David Allen

Beautiful Savior! King of creation! Son of God and Son of man!  
Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.  
Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels in the sky.  
Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine!

### \*THE COMMUNION HYMN: #421

*"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"*

SCHMUCKE DICH

### 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: #448

*"We Have Heard the Joyful Sound" (v. 1)*

JESUS SAVES

### \*THE BENEDICTION

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

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

### \*POSTLUDE:

*"In Thee Is Gladness"*

J. S. Bach

\*The congregation standing. Please feel free to be seated if you need to do so.  
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**"THE DAY OF EPIPHANY"** (January 6 each year, after the "Twelve Days of Christmas") is the day traditionally commemorating the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem. The word epiphany means "appearance" and refers to the appearance of the star which signaled the birth of the King of the Jews (Numbers 24:17) and led the Magi to Jesus. The Magi from the east were Gentiles, yet they were led by the light of the star to worship the King of the Jews, Jesus, Who is "the light to the nations" (Isaiah 49:6). Isaiah prophesied, "Nations will come to Your light, and kings to the brightness of Your rising" (Isaiah 60:3).

## 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.

## Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Stephanie Gowen Locke, who was born January 6, 1937.