

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023

10:55 A.M.

*Worship begins with the Chiming of the Hour and the Voluntary.
To help maintain the spirit of worship, please silence all electronic devices.
✠ – Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Voluntary

David Weigle

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee NEUMARK — arranged by Paul Manz

Chiming of the Hour

The choices God gives us have the power to set us free. Help us to choose life this day. Help us choose reconciliation over our pride, self-compassion over self-condemnation, committed love over reckless desire, and hope-filled friendships over competition. Every day, and in each moment, may God teach us to love ourselves and this world in the way you always love us.

Choral Introit

Choir

If You Love Me— John Ness Beck

If you love me, keep my commandments.

If you love me, heed my law.

If you seek me, you shall surely find me;

if you search for me with all your heart.

✠Call to Worship & Invocation

Margaret Darden & Congregation

We delight to draw near to you, gracious God.

We rejoice in the many gifts you have given us.

We lift up our hearts and voices in praise.

We humble ourselves before the God of all worlds.

We gather to remember God's commandments.

We seek for ourselves the wisdom God imparts.

The wisdom of God is not like any other.

It draws us away from the world's agenda.

Let us pray:

God of blessing, you call us to be one with you and your creation in love, faithfulness, and truth. Help us to carry out the vows we make: to adore you with our whole heart, to live in mutual support of one another, and to love as if your reign has fully come. Amen.

✠Hymn 345 [see insert]

Congregation

When Morning Gilds the Skies — LAUDES DOMINI

Words of Welcome

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Christ be with you ... and also with you!

*[Please record your attendance in the blue booklet at the end of the pew and pass it to others.
You may also register online at royallane.org/register or see QR code following Organ Dismissal.]*

Scripture Lesson

Sheryl Gambill

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 [Pew Bible page 163 of the Old Testament or see insert]

For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,
Thanks be to God!

Time for Young Disciples

Barrett Wooten

*Children 3-year through 5th grade are invited to Godly Play,
You may collect your children in the Godly Play Room located in the Education wing following the service.*

✠Hymn 478 [see insert]

Congregation

God Is Calling Through the Whisper — W ZLOBIE LEZY

Call to Confession

Sharon Vickrey & Congregation

Our God is a loving God. Therefore, let us confess our sins that we may choose life.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

Holy God, we confess that we bow down before other gods; we have turned our hearts way from you. Our worship of work and devotion to consumerism disorders our love of you and each other. Forgive us, God, and mend what is broken, that we may be one with you. Amen.

We now share silence together.

Promise of Forgiveness

Children of God, by the mercy of Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn [see insert]

Congregation

Love the Lord Your God — GREAT COMMANDMENT

Prayers for the People of Syria & Turkey

Tex Quesada & Congregation

God of mercy, we join in prayer for our siblings in Syria and Turkey, and all other regions affected. In the face of the terrible images that come to us, we ask that your Spirit, O God, once again move in the midst of chaos and destruction.

May your Spirit be with the first responders, neighbors putting their lives at risk to help those around them, and anyone assisting during this time of emergency. May you provide protection, energy and strength through your presence.

Let us pray:

**Dear God, be with those
who weep,
who are angry,
who have lost hope,
who mourn out loud and in silence,
who don't know what the future will bring.
May the prayers of your children rise to you.**

May they feel your presence and comfort in the embrace of a stranger,
your love in the care of their neighbors and loved ones,
your grace in every word and every silence,
and may your Spirit mourn with them and bring healing.

**We pray that you may guide us as we look for ways to share your compassion
and hope with those who suffer. That we may be ambassadors of your peace,
your mercy, and your abundant love. Through Jesus, who weeps with those
who weep and heals every heart. Amen.**

Anthem

Choir

I Choose Love — Mark Miller

In the midst of pain, I choose love.

In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,

I wait the sun again, I choose love.

In the midst of war, I choose peace.

In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score,

I will seek the good once more.

When my world falls down, I will rise.

When my world falls down, explanations can't be found,

I will climb to holy ground, I will rise.

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

“ Life or Death? ”

✠Hymn of Commitment 76 [see insert]

Congregation

If You Will Only Let God Guide You — NEUMARK

*If you would like to profess your faith or identify with this fellowship,
please refer to pew rack card – “How to Become a Member”*

Offertory Prayer

Jeff Hill

O God, these offerings belong to you, for you are the source of every blessing and joy. Employ these gifts to build your realm. Send them into the world to heal the sick, feed the hungry, and reconcile us to one another. By our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, make your church a true instrument of peace. Amen.

Offertory

David Weigle

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus — arranged by Paul Manz

*We invite you to use this time to give to Royal Lane’s Ministry.
See back cover for ways to give.*

Presentation of Decisions

Affirmation: **Thanks be to God!**

✠Sending Forth

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense — arranged by Paul Manz

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Register Your Attendance

Royallane.org/register



Cover Art

Mosaic from Lullingstone Villa

Lullingstone is the site of one of the earliest known Christian chapels in the British Isles, dating from the 4th century. The mosaics and wall paintings have been well preserved, offering an understanding of the symbolic natures of early Christian worship.

From Art in the Christian Tradition

A project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

Used by permission.

Hymn Notes

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Text: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828

Translated, Edward Caswall, 1954 & Robert Bridges, 1899

Music: Joseph Barnby, 1868

Public Domain

God Is Calling Through the Whisper

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, Copyright 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music Harmonization: Wilbur Lee, Copyright © 1958 Lifeway Christian Resources

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Love the Lord Your God

Text & Music: Jean and Jim Strathdee, Copyright © 1991, Desert Flower Music

If You Will Only Let God Guide You

Text & Music: Georg Neumark, Text translated: Catherine Winkworth

Public Domain

Wednesday, February 22

We invite you to join us in Vickrey Hall at 6:15 PM as we transition, in prayer, to the Sanctuary for the 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service.



When Morning Gilds the Skies

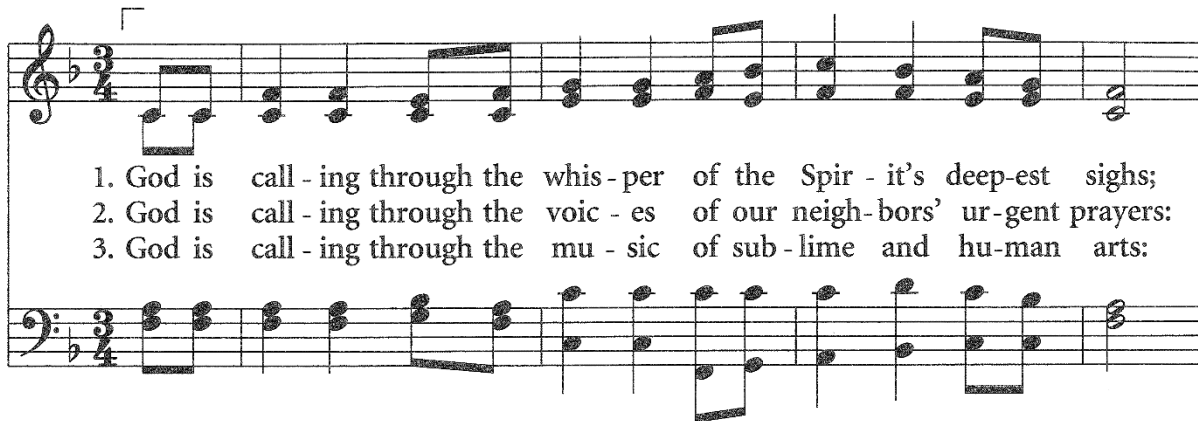
1. When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries,
2. The night be-comes as day, when from the heart we say,
3. Ye realms of hu-man - kind, in this your con-cord find:
4. In heaven's e - ter - nal bliss the love-liest strain is this,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! The powers of dark-ness fear,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let earth, and sea, and sky

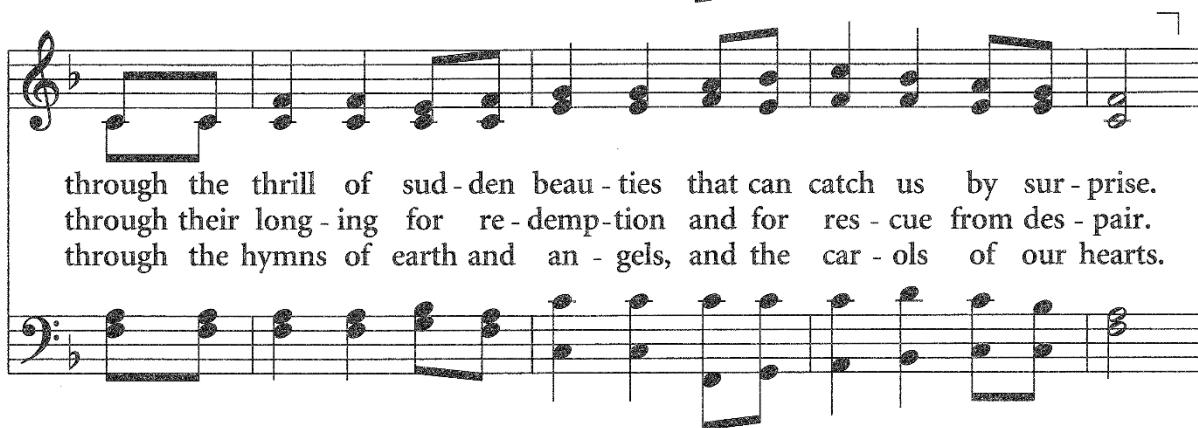
to Je - sus I re - pair; may Je - sus Christ be praised!
when this sweet song they hear, may Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
from depth to height re - ply, may Je - sus Christ be praised!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff for the voice part and a grand staff (treble and bass) for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into three systems, each with four vocal parts and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

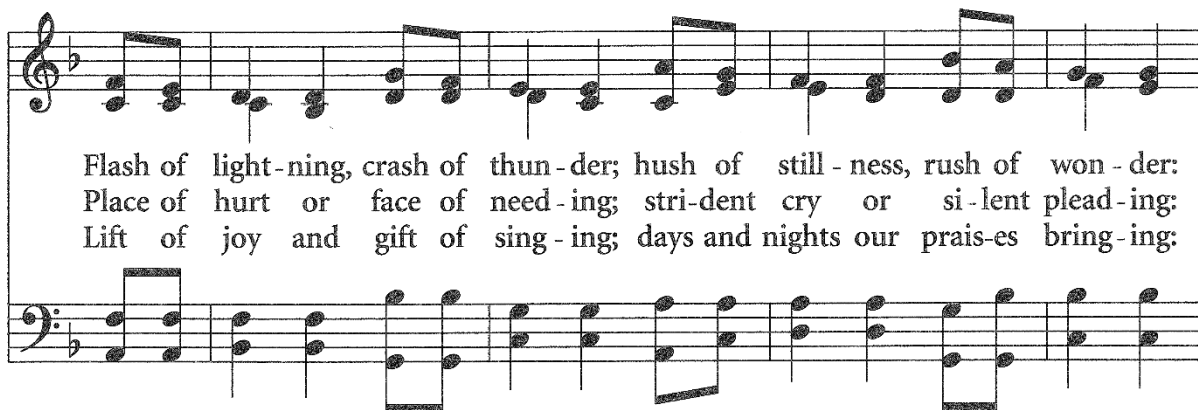
God Is Calling Through the Whisper



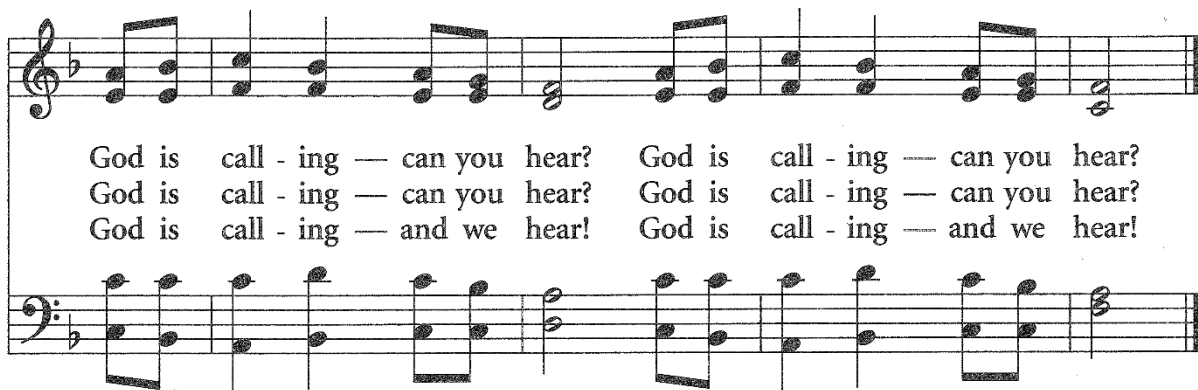
1. God is call - ing through the whis - per of the Spir - it's deep - est sighs;
2. God is call - ing through the voic - es of our neigh - bors' ur - gent prayers:
3. God is call - ing through the mu - sic of sub - lime and hu - man arts:



through the thrill of sud - den beau - ties that can catch us by sur - prise.
through their long - ing for re - demp - tion and for res - cue from des - pair.
through the hymns of earth and an - gels, and the car - ols of our hearts.



Flash of light - ning, crash of thun - der; hush of still - ness, rush of won - der:
Place of hurt or face of need - ing; stri - dent cry or si - lent plead - ing:
Lift of joy and gift of sing - ing; days and nights our prais - es bring - ing:



God is call - ing — can you hear? God is call - ing — can you hear?
God is call - ing — can you hear? God is call - ing — can you hear?
God is call - ing — and we hear! God is call - ing — and we hear!

Love the Lord Your God

Love the Lord, your God, _____ with all your

heart. _____ Love the Lord, your God, _____ with

all your soul. _____ Love the Lord, your

God, _____ with all your mind. _____ Love the

Lord, your God, _____ with all that you are. _____

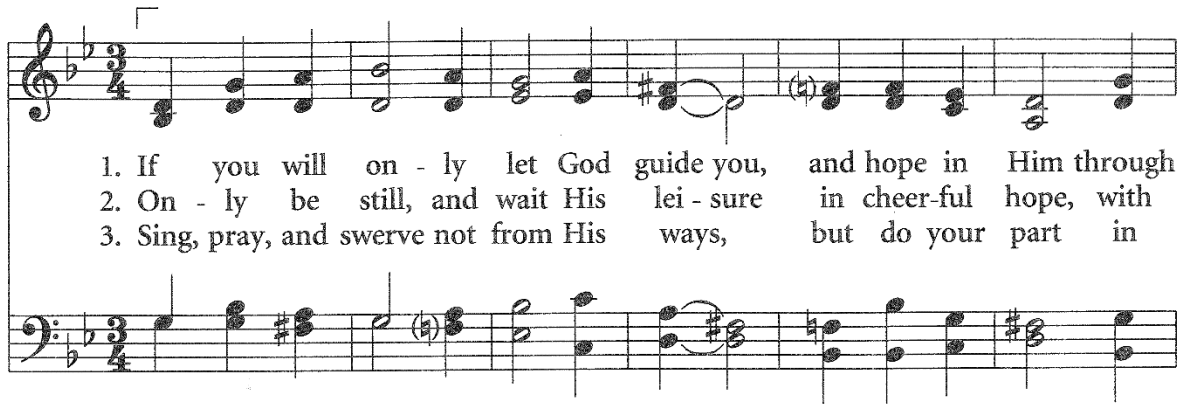


Please visit the Dialogue Institute Dallas for opportunities to support the relief fund for the people of Turkey and Syria.

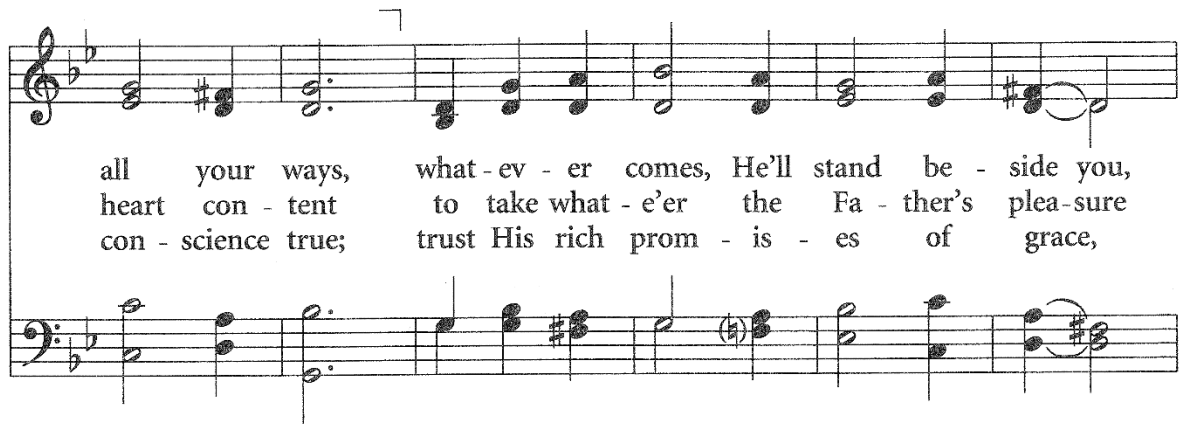
<https://www.dialoguedallas.org/>



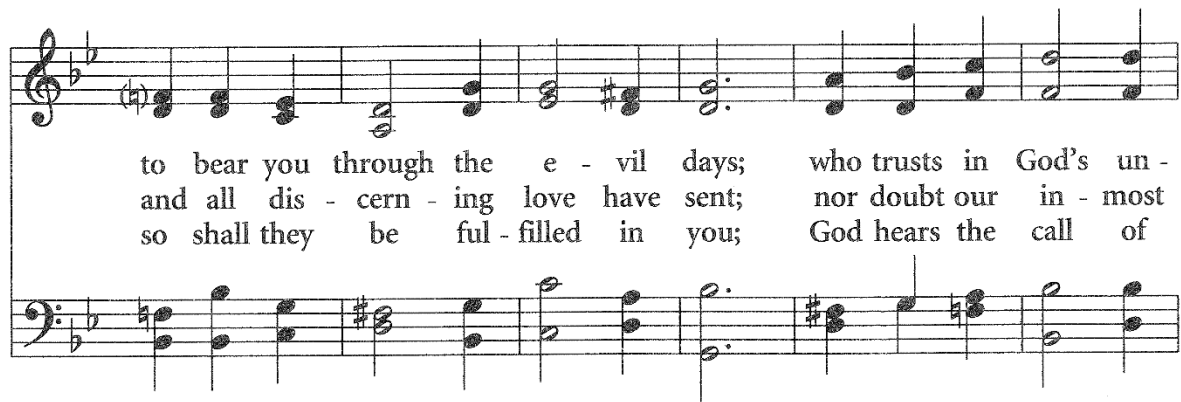
If You Will Only Let God Guide You



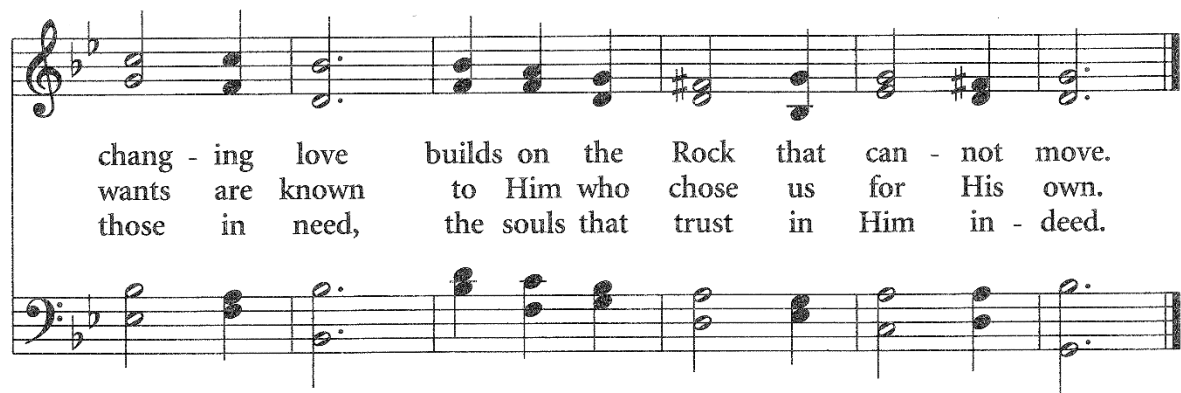
1. If you will on - ly let God guide you, and hope in Him through
2. On - ly be still, and wait His lei - sure in cheer - ful hope, with
3. Sing, pray, and swerve not from His ways, but do your part in



all your ways, what - ev - er comes, He'll stand be - side you,
heart con - tent to take what - e'er the Fa - ther's plea - sure
con - science true; trust His rich prom - is - es of grace,



to bear you through the e - vil days; who trusts in God's un -
and all dis - cern - ing love have sent; nor doubt our in - most
so shall they be ful - filled in you; God hears the call of



chang - ing love builds on the Rock that can - not move.
wants are known to Him who chose us for His own.
those in need, the souls that trust in Him in - deed.

The Scripture this morning is Deuteronomy 30:15-20, which may be found on page 163 of the Old Testament of the pew Bible or as an insert in your order of worship.

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.
(NRSV)

For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us, **Thanks be to God!**

Study for Wednesday Evening

Conversations with Victoria

Scriptures for Next Sunday
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

For the Children!

Children's bulletins are included in activity packets for ages 3+ and 7+.
Don't miss the Secret Code to allow your child to unlock on-line games, in a safe environment,
that supplement today's scripture at
games.childrensbulletins.com/games/playcode.aspx



Please recycle your order of worship in a marked bin.

Red Cross Blood Drive – Tuesday, February 21

Recent winter storms forced blood drives to cancel, causing approximately 620 donations to go uncollected. Blood donations are especially needed in the coming days so that patients can continue to receive the lifesaving treatments they need. Your commitment to help save lives is truly appreciated and makes a difference in the lives of patients in need.

In thanks for helping keep hospital shelves stocked, all who come to give in February will get a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email, thanks to Amazon. Those who come to donate this month will also automatically be entered to win a trip for two to Clearwater Beach, Florida.



To make your appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter royallanebaptist to schedule an appointment or point to the QR code.

Blood Drive

Royal Lane Baptist Church

Vickrey Hall
6707 Royal Ln
Dallas, TX 75230

Tuesday, February 21, 2023
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



The Texas Legislature is in session and Jesus's command to love our neighbor needs to be heard. If you are able, please join Pastor Victoria Robb Powers in Austin on February 28 for
Fellowship Southwest Advocacy Day
along with an advocacy zoom training on February 13 at 5pm.

It will be a day filled with networking, breakout sessions with key leaders, worship, and visits with Texas legislators where we will advocate on topics such as Public Education, Immigration, Hunger, and Criminal Justice/Death Penalty.

A schedule and registration information can be found at
<http://bit.ly/advocacydayfsw> or point to QR code.
Please notify the church office if you plan to attend.



Attention all Women of our Church:

Please **SAVE THE DATE**
for our spring women's retreat at Sister Grove Farm!

Friday, April 28th at 6pm – (includes dinner and retreat introduction)
till Saturday, April 29th at 8pm (includes dinner and closing worship)

We are delighted to have LeAnn Gardner join us as our facilitator in
"The Enneagram Path Towards Growth and Grace."

Whether you are new to this ancient spiritual tool or already know your number, join us as we explore how the Enneagram can transform our relationships with ourselves, God, and others. We will focus on spiritual practices and how the Enneagram can lead us to a deeper understanding of our own gifts and offerings to the world. Our time together will be spent learning about each number, small group work, engaging in spiritual practices, fellowship, and free time on the farm!

Learn more about LeAnn at www.leanngardner.com and stay tuned for registration details.



Image credit: HALEY KEIZUR/FOGHORN

Schedule for the Week

- Sunday** **February 12 – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**
12:15 pm Racial Justice Committee — Vickrey Hall
- Wednesday** **February 15**
3:30 pm Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building (3:30 - 5:30 pm)
5:30 pm Midweek Dinner — Vickrey Hall
 Creamy Mushroom Chicken served over egg noodles, Garlic Bread. Salad,
 Italian Cream Cake
6:15 pm Midweek Study — Vickrey Hall & Zoom
7:00 pm Youth Gathering — Youth Portable
7:15 pm Choir — Sanctuary
- Saturday** **February 18**
 Third Sunday Youth Activity
2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom
- Sunday** **February 19 – Transfiguration Sunday**
9:45 am Adult Christian Education — Christian Education Building
9:45 am Children's SS Classes — Christian Education Building
10:00 am Youth SS Class — Youth Portable
10:10 am Non-Traditional Class — Christian Education Building, Room 212
10:55 am Morning Worship — Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel
12:15 pm Safety Sum Committee — 201
8:00 pm Church Affiliation Committee — Zoom

The deadline for Calendar listings is Monday, 5:00 p.m., prior to publication.

February 19-21 – Texas Impact – “For the Time Being...”

Texas Interfaith Advocacy Days

Point to QR code to register:



Let the church office know if you will be attending this event.
First United Methodist Church of Austin, 1300 Lavaca Street, Austin, TX 78701

How to Connect

See the Weekly Mosaic or Web Calendar for Links and details for
In-Person, Livestream, Virtual or Zoom events — royallane.org/resources/events
Group hosts and leaders will provide links for events with no published link.

Prayer Requests

We invite you to use the Prayer Cards, available in the “pockets”
on the back of each pew, to submit prayer requests
or the Prayer Request Form, available on the website at royallane.org/prayer
Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plate.



Deacons on Call – Margaret Darden & Sharon Vickrey
Safety Shepherd – John Helms

When WE Give:
We can reach out in support of global needs!

December 2022 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues*	\$ 694,125
Expenses	\$ 760,279
Surplus (Deficit)*	\$ (66,154)

*Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.

Text “GIVE” to 214-609-1200. Follow the prompts to complete the process.

Standard text message rates may apply.

Donate online at royallane.org/give/



Royal Lane Baptist Church

6707 Royal Lane • Dallas, Texas 75230

[214] 361-2809 • <http://www.royallane.org>

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Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant
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Rev. Victoria Robb Powers, Senior Pastor

Janet Schultz, Administrative Assistant
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician
David Weigle, Organist
Rev. Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship