

# ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

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*Diverse People United in Christ*



# *The Worship of God*

## *Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

July 23, 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.*

Chiming of the Hour

*In this house of God, angels traverse ladders of holy love. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

Opening Voluntary & Introit

David Weigle & Choir

*Surely the Presence of the Lord* — Lanny Wolfe

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel his mighty power and his grace.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

✠ Call to Worship & Invocation

Congregation

This is none other than the house of God.

This is nothing less than the gate of heaven.

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

God hems us in, behind and before,

and lays hands of blessing upon us.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for us.**

**It is so high we cannot attain it.**

Rest in the majesty of our God.

Give thanks and sing of God's glory.

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Let us pray:

**Caretaker of our souls, you search us and know us; you are acquainted with all of our ways. Your Spirit hems us in, behind and before. You discern our thoughts from afar. If we take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead us, and your might shall hold us fast. How can we bear such wonder? How can we fathom such awe and splendor? Breathe your Spirit upon us, and claim us as children of light, that we might be found worthy of your love and care. Amen.**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* — CWM RHONDDA

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](http://royallane.org/register) or see QR code following Organ Dismissal.*

*If you would like to profess your faith or identify with this fellowship,  
please refer to pew rack card – “New Member Card” – and leave it in the offering plate.*

Scripture Lesson

Madge Cruse

**Genesis 28:10-19a** [Pew Bible page 22 of the Old Testament]

<sup>10</sup>Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. <sup>11</sup>He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. <sup>12</sup>And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. <sup>13</sup>And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; <sup>14</sup>and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. <sup>15</sup>Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

<sup>16</sup>Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” <sup>17</sup>And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.” <sup>18</sup>So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. <sup>19</sup>He called that place Bethel.

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

Beth Johnson

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

✠Hymn [ see insert ]

Congregation

*As Jacob with Travel Was Weary* — Traditional English Melody

Call to Confession

Alan Greider & Congregation

Trusting in God's mercy, let us acknowledge to ourselves and each other those ways we fall short from what God intends for us, all of which God already knows.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

**God, we often confuse your time for our time, your world for our world.  
We lose sight of what is truly important and think we have all the answers.  
When we feel strong and confident, we forget you and your dreams for us,  
this church, and the world. Help us see that we are wound up in a tangled  
web of community, with you always at the center. Amen.**

*We now share silence together.*

Promise of Forgiveness

Our God is patient and understanding. We are waiting and groaning, but God is at work already revealing hope that we cannot quite see. Still, this hope saves us. Our God redeems us and revives our spirits again. This is the mystery and the glory.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

Hymn 635

Congregation

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* — SOJOURNER

Prayers of the People

Garey Wisdom & Congregation

Oil has long traditions of use for healing. We pour this oil on this stone to remind us that this too, is the house of God. As we bring our prayers for healing, know that God is here.

For all who struggle with grief or fear, anger or pain,  
**hear our prayers . . .**

*(continued)*

For all who face a crossroads, a time of choosing,

**hear our prayers . . .**

For all who find it hard to come into the presence of God, or who have found the church non-receptive and ungracious,

**hear our prayers . . .**

For all on their journey home, for all setting out on new ways, for all who feel trapped and unable to move,

**hear our prayers . . .**

**May the spirit be poured on us all. Amen.**

Anthem

Choir

*Jacob's Ladder* — arranged by Gilbert M. Martin  
*We are climbing Jacob's ladder. We are climbing Jacob's ladder.*  
*We are climbing Jacob's ladder, soldiers of the cross.*

Ev'ry round goes higher, higher. Ev'ry round goes higher, higher.  
Ev'ry round goes higher, higher, soldiers of the cross.

Sinner, do you love my Jesus? Sinner, do you love my Jesus?  
Sinner, do you love my Jesus? Soldiers of the cross.

If you love him, why not serve him? If you love him, why not serve him?  
If you love him, why not serve him? Soldiers of the cross.

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

## **“ The Traffic Never Ends ”**

†Hymn 619

Congregation

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine* — ASSURANCE

Invitation to Generosity & Offertory Prayer

Patricia McNutt

God blesses us that we might carry that blessing into the world.  
Let us give with grateful hearts.

Hear now this prayer.

God of mystery and grace, you have met us and blessed us with such abundant promise. In gratitude we offer what we carry in our hearts and our pockets. As we bring these worn and freighted offerings, we pray that you would use us, for we come in the name of Jesus and by the movement of your Spirit in this place. Amen.

Offertory

David Weigle

*I Want a Principle Within* — arranged by David Schwoebel

*We invite you to use this time to give to Royal Lane's Ministry.*

*See back cover for ways to give.*

✠Benediction

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

*How Dear to Me Is Thy Dwelling* — arranged by Robert J. Powell

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Register Your Attendance

[Royallane.org/register](http://Royallane.org/register)



## Cover Art

*Dream of Jacob* by John August Swanson

[www.johnaugustswanson.com](http://www.johnaugustswanson.com)

From Art in the Christian Tradition

A Project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

Used by permission.

John August Swanson makes his home in Los Angeles, California, where he was born in 1938. He paints in oil, watercolor, acrylic and mixed media, and is an independent printmaker of limited edition serigraphs, lithographs and etchings.

His art reflects the strong heritage of storytelling he inherited from his Mexican mother and Swedish father. John Swanson's narrative is direct and easily understood. He addresses himself to human values, cultural roots, and his quest for self-discovery through visual images. These include Bible stories and social celebrations such as attending the circus, the concert, and the opera. He also tells of everyday existence, of city and country walks, of visits to the library, the train station or the schoolroom. All his parables optimistically embrace life and one's spiritual transformation.

John Swanson studied with Corita Kent at Immaculate Heart College. His unique style is influenced by the imagery of Islamic and medieval miniatures, Russian iconography, the color of Latin American folk art, and the tradition of Mexican muralists.



## Hymn Notes

### Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*Text: William Williams, trans. Peter Williams, Music: John Hughes, 1907  
Public Domain*

### As Jacob with Travel was Weary

*Music: arr. John Stainer, 1871, Public Domain*

### I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

*Harmonization, Milburn Price, Copyright © 2010 Celebrating Grace, Inc.  
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### Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

*Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873, Music: Phoebe Palmer Knapp, 1873, Public Domain*

## *Jacob's Ladder* by Menachem Boas

*(Artwork is on display today at the front of the Sanctuary)*



Menachem Boas was born in Melbourne, Australia in 1949, to a family distinguished for seven generations in its dedication to religious and secular activities. He settled in Israel in 1968 and thereafter began his studies in sofrus (the centuries-old art of scribing) in Jerusalem. In 1974-75 he continued his studies in Armentieres, France. For several years Menachem practiced as a sofer (scribe) and he also illuminated text on parchment. Then, in 1989, his love for the power and mystery of the Hebrew alphabet and the Torah inspired him to begin creating beautiful and complex paintings using the painstaking technique of color micrography.

Micrography, a Jewish art form developed in the ninth century, utilizes minute Hebrew letters to form representational, geometric, and abstract designs. Colored micrography is especially distinctive due to the fact that these rare artworks are customarily rendered in black and white. In micrography, the word literally becomes the vision, as thousands upon thousands of Hebrew characters blend and weave together to tell a story. Richly symbolic and steeped in the grand tradition of the Jewish heritage, this remarkable art form is both intellectually and visually stimulating.

In creating his paintings, Menachem Boas labored steadily for months on each image. Menachem is one of the very few micrography artists in the world to use colored and pastel metallic inks.

## As Jacob with Travel Was Weary One Day

*He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. Gen. 28:12*

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 2/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains four numbered verses. The second and third systems contain the main body of the song. The fourth system is the refrain, marked with a 'T' and the word 'REFRAIN' above the staff.

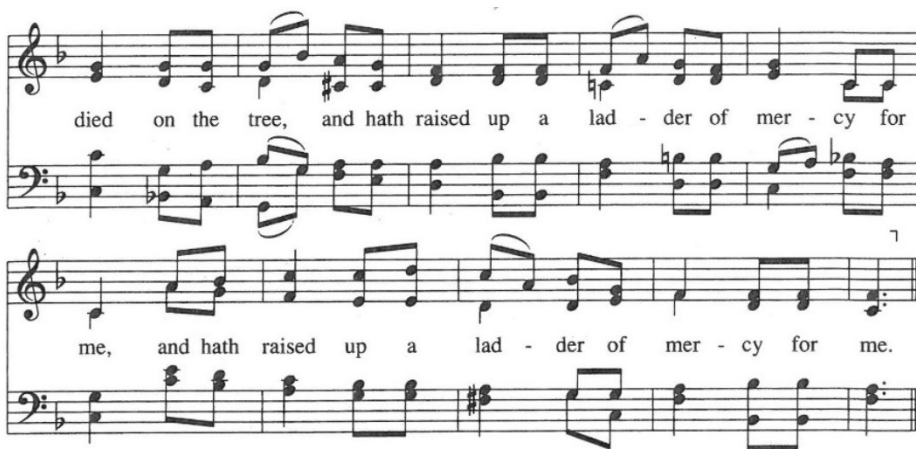
1. As Ja - cob with trav - el was wea - ry one day, at  
2. This lad - der is long, it is strong and well made, has stood  
3. Come, let us as - cend! All may climb it who will; for the  
4. And when we ar - rive at the ha - ven of rest, we shall

night on a stone for a pil - low he lay; he saw in a  
hun - dreds of years and is not yet de - cayed; man - y mil - lions have  
an - gels of Ja - cob are guard - ing it still; and re - mem - ber, each  
hear the glad words, "Come up hith - er, ye blest, here are re - gions of

vi - sion a lad - der so high, that its foot was on  
climbed it and reached Si - on's hill, and thou - sands by  
step that by faith we pass o'er, some proph - et or  
light, here are man - sions of bliss." Oh, who would not

REFRAIN  
earth and its top in the sky.  
faith are climb - ing it still. Al - le - lu - ia to Je - sus, who  
mar - tyr hath trod it be - fore.  
climb such a lad - der as this?





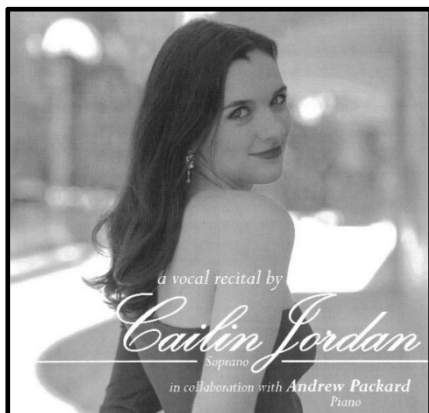
## Scriptures for Next Sunday

**Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b**

**Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

## 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](http://games.childrensbulletins.com/games/playcode.aspx)



## Studio Voice Recital by Cailin Jordan

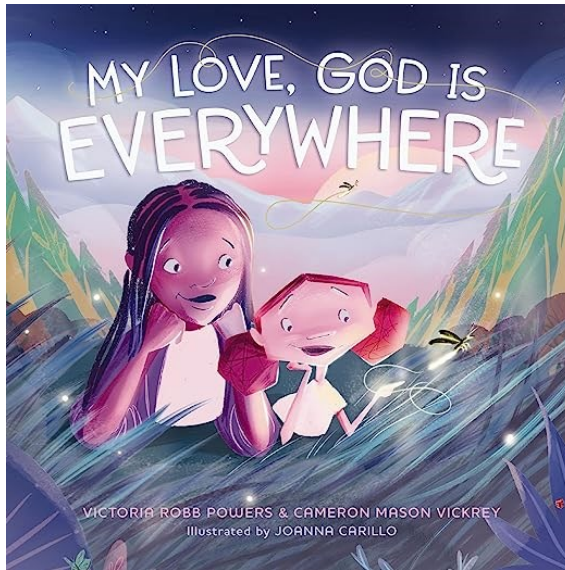
**Our Summer Choral Scholar.**

August 6, 3:00 pm, Vickrey Hall

Reception to Follow

A concert to support Cailin's transition to Graduate School at Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music.

Featuring works by:  
Bizet, Mozart, Libby Larsen & More



## Book Launch

“My Love, God is Everywhere”  
by Victoria Robb Powers &  
Cameron Mason Vickrey

August 15, 6:00 pm  
Royal Lane Baptist Church

Reading – Sanctuary

Reception and Book Signing – Vickrey Hall

(Books will be available to purchase on site  
from Interabang Books.)

View Evite Invitation at <https://bit.ly/44zXoxW> or point to QR Code.



## *Schedule for the Week*

**Sunday July 23 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Through Tuesday, July 25**

Children's Camp — Passport Camp, Heart of Texas, Brownwood, Texas

**Wednesday July 26**

3:30 pm Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building – Room 201 (3:30 - 5:30 pm)

6:00 pm Wacky Wednesdays at White Rock Lake

Youth and their parents are invited to join this week's Wacky Wednesdays at White Rock Lake, T&P Hill

No Adult Wednesday Evening Activities

**Saturday July 29**

2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom

**Sunday July 30 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

Godly Play (following Time for Young Disciples) — Godly Play Room

Children 3-year through Fifth Grade

*The deadline for the Weekly Mosaic and the Mosaic is Monday, 5:00 p.m. prior to publication.*

## **Coming in August – Adult Sunday School Summer Sabbatical**

The objective of Summer Sabbatical is to give adult Sunday School teachers a break from teaching and allows the opportunity to fellowship and learn with members of other Sunday school classes. During August we choose relevant topics that expand awareness, engage and educate. The themes are meant to encourage, Living Out the Faith. All members, neighbors and friends are encouraged to attend this program. It is a good bridge for reaching out and recruiting members for regular Sunday School Classes. Sabbatical also provides a natural entry point for those who would like to visit or join a class.

**August 6, 9:30 – Dr. Shari Mackinson**, Associate Professor of Religion and Black Religion in the USA at TCU.

**August 13, 9:30 – Kevin Dougherty**, Professor of Sociology at Baylor University. Alliance of Baptist THRIVE partner. Discussing the THRIVE Project with Q&A.

## 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](http://royallane.org/prayer)  
Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plate.



**Deacons on Call** – Mike Keith & Garey Wisdom

**Safety Shepherd** – Jeff Hill

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When WE Give: our children attend camp and grow in faith.

### June 2023 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues*	\$ 395,240
Expenses	\$ 415,172
Surplus (Deficit)*	\$(19,932)

\*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/](http://royallane.org/give/)



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## *Royal Lane Baptist Church*

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Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician  
Brandon Green, Audio Technician  
Beth Johnson, Minister to Children,  
Youth & Families  
Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant

Ellen Miers, Housekeeping  
Rev. Victoria Robb Powers  
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician  
David Weigle, Organist  
Rev. Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship