

# ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

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*Diverse People United in Christ*



# *The Worship of God*

## *Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

August 27, 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

*This week's scripture from Exodus draws upon the themes of liberation, justice, and the call of people to use their gifts for action. We are provided with examples of what it means to take action and to live our faith in response to God's call. It is important to note that these are not easy stories. The strength and courage of Shiphrah and Puah, Miriam, Moses' mother, and the pharaoh's daughter is in response to unspeakable brutality. This reminds us that God still stands with and on behalf of the most vulnerable. How are we supported when we encounter a call to act amidst oppression and uncertainty? How do we discern the will of God in our lives and in the world?*

### Voluntary

*Nimrod* — Edward Elgar

David Weigle

### ✠ Call to Worship & Invocation

Sharon Vickrey & Congregation

Mothering God, midwife of all our experiences and dreams,

**we thank you for the ways you have brought us  
into new life over and over again.**

We praise you for protecting us when the threats of life ensue.

**We honor you for the cunning and ingenuity  
with which you have crafted our opportunities to grow and thrive.**

In humble devotion, we remember your rescuing intervention  
when the way has been difficult and the light has grown dim.

**Gathered as your people, wonderful and diverse,  
we join as one body in worship.**

*(continued)*

Let us pray:

**Liberating God, you call us to take action and to live in the world — a world of brokenness and pain. We thank you for all those who act on behalf of others; we thank you for those who use your gifts to do your will. May they inspire us to live into your call to act. Amen.**

†Hymn [ see insert ]

Congregation

*Bravely the Hebrew Midwives Spoke Up* — NEUMARK

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

Christine Nicolette-Gonzalez

Exodus 1:8-22 [ Pew Bible page 43 of the Old Testament]

<sup>8</sup>Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. <sup>9</sup>He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. <sup>10</sup>Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” <sup>11</sup>Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. <sup>12</sup>But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. <sup>13</sup>The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, <sup>14</sup>and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

<sup>15</sup>The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, <sup>16</sup>“When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” <sup>17</sup>But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live.

*(continued)*

<sup>18</sup>So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” <sup>19</sup>The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” <sup>20</sup>So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. <sup>21</sup>And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. <sup>22</sup>Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

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 – Paws in the Pews

Leslie Cechan & Beth Johnson

Commissioning & Blessing of the Guide Dogs  
God of Creation, Imagination and Wonder

Congregation

**You bless us with our children, who surround us today to give your blessing to these puppies, and those who have trained them.**

We are mindful that your word teaches us “unless we become like children, we will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

**Forgive us, God, when we neglect playfulness, wonder, and imagination in our lives. Give us courage to follow the lead of our children and to receive their blessing today. Hear now the prayer of blessing offered by children in the laying on of hands.**

Bless the trainers, who must now say goodbye and let go of their puppies. Give them a measure of your grace and hear their grief. Bless these puppies, gifts of your creation, given to help make life better for their new owners.

**May these puppies be like the good shepherd to lead them by the green grass for rest, the cool waters for recreation and through the dangerous places, places where there is no light to guide the way. We give this blessing in the name of Jesus Christ, the one who knows our name and is our Good Shepherd. Amen.**

*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

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul* — ABERYSTWYTH  
(stanza one only)

Call to Confession

Margaret Darden & Congregation

Like the Egyptians who had power yet feared those oppressed by it, we confess that there are times when we do not recognize the power and privilege you have given us. We have been ruthless and have closed our eyes to the possibilities for transformation within our neighborhoods, nation, and the world. We have lacked creativity and thrown up our hands in frustration.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

**We confess that we have not always been willing to risk going against the powers of our world to enable life to thrive. We have denied our gifts. Forgive us. Show us the hidden blessings floating through the rivers of our fatigue and despair. Embolden us to resist the oppression that may be commanded or expected. O God of justice, forgive us. Amen.**

*We now share silence together.*

Promise of Forgiveness

God is the midwife of our lives. God does not abandon us, even when we abandon each other.

**God is with us, forgiving,  
embracing, loving, renewing.  
In this let us be assured.  
Thanks be to God!**

Solo

Suré Eloff

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* — Horatius Bonar/Roger Quilter

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

**“ Show Some Respect ”**

†Hymn [ see insert ]

Congregation

*There Came a Time in Egypt* — AURELIA

Offertory Prayer

Karen Miller

We offer these gifts in our desire to live by your story rather than someone else's story. Help us to use them, dear God, to bring hope in despair and compassion where there is distress. Bless these gifts and every gift we offer with your love. Amen.

Offertory

Choir

*The Majesty and Glory of Your Name* — Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night skies  
and see the work of your fingers;

The moon and stars suspended in space.

Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

You have given man a crown of glory and honor,  
And have made him a little lower than the angels.

You have put him in charge of all creation:

The beasts of the field, The birds of the air,

The fish of the sea.

Oh, what is man?

Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of your name  
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.

O Lord, our God; little children praise You perfectly

*And so would we. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

—Psalm 8

*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

*Is This Not the Land of Beulah?* — arranged by Eleanor Whitsett

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Register Your Attendance

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



## Paws in the Pews Puppies in Training

### Puppy Raisers

Bill & Cheryl Smith  
Janet Mills  
Leslie Cechan  
Troy & Laura Ledbetter  
Carey & Melissa Leslie

### Puppies

Poppi  
Shanti  
Sloan  
Murphy  
CB



Pictured: Emily Anderson\*      John

## Ambassador Puppies

### Puppy Raisers

Tim & Missy Griffy

### Puppies

Millie & Lucinda

*\*Represented today by her parents, David & Kami Anderson*

## RLBC Pumpkin Patch

The pumpkins are coming! Our annual pumpkin patch helps us bring in funds that support all of our ministries, and we need everyone's help to make it a success. Please scan the QR code and sign up for a shift. Volunteering at the pumpkin patch is a fun way to get to know our Royal Lane family and connect with our community. You don't need to be able to lift a pumpkin to volunteer, we have spots for everyone of all abilities. We'll see you at the pumpkin patch!



# Bravely the Hebrew Midwives Spoke Up

*Exodus 1:15-22*

1. Brave - ly the He - brew mid - wives spoke up, thwart - ing the e - vil  
2. Bold - ly the mid - wives fol - lowed Wis - dom, sav - ing the He - brew  
3. Mid - wife Di - vine filled them with pow - er, giv - ing them strength to

Pha - raoh's plans; Pu - ah and Shi - phrah wise - ly woke up,  
ba - by boys; Pu - ah and Shi - phrah claimed their free - dom  
stand for life; Pu - ah and Shi - phrah did not cow - er;

tak - ing the pow - er from his hands. These fear - less wom - en  
from all of Pha - raoh's wick - ed ploys. They dis - re - gard - ed  
they showed a way for end - ing strife. With them we rise to

saved their race, act - ing with cour - age, faith, and grace.  
his com - mands, chose to re - sist un - just de - mands.  
chal - lenge wrong, keep - ing our faith and cour - age strong.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the vocal and bass lines of each system.

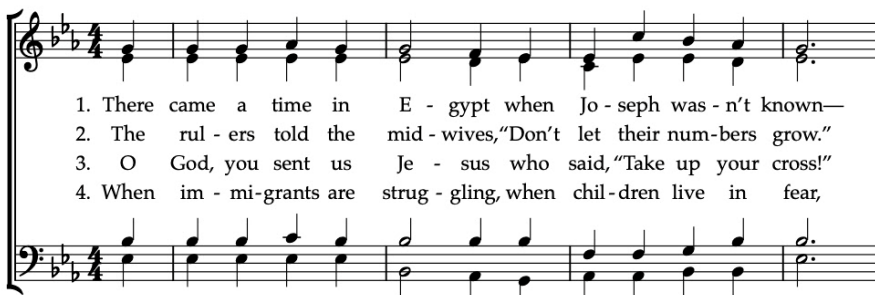


# There Came a Time in Egypt

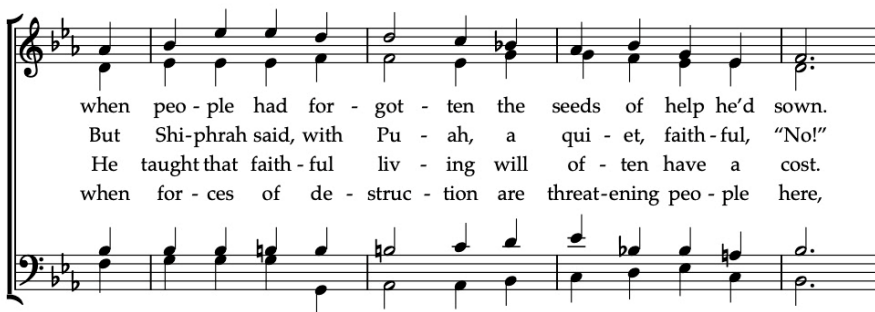
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2023

Aurelia

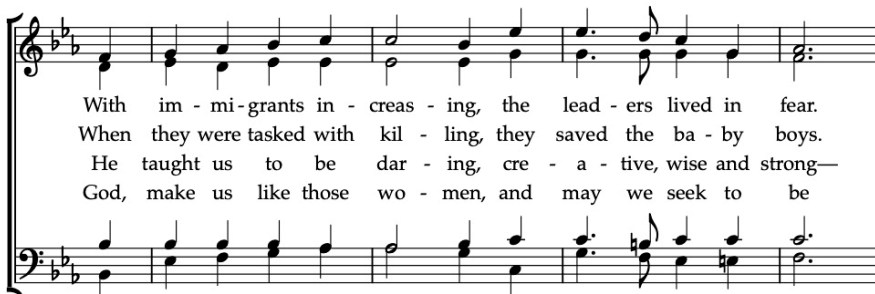
Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864



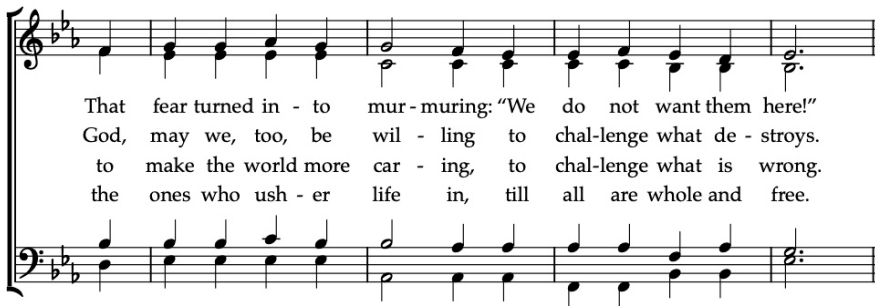
1. There came a time in E - gypt when Jo - seph was - n't known—  
2. The rul - ers told the mid - wives, "Don't let their num - bers grow."  
3. O God, you sent us Je - sus who said, "Take up your cross!"  
4. When im - mi - grants are strug - gling, when chil - dren live in fear,



when peo - ple had for - got - ten the seeds of help he'd sown.  
But Shi - phrah said, with Pu - ah, a qui - et, faith - ful, "No!"  
He taught that faith - ful liv - ing will of - ten have a cost.  
when for - ces of de - struc - tion are threat - ening peo - ple here,



With im - mi - grants in - creas - ing, the lead - ers lived in fear.  
When they were tasked with kil - ling, they saved the ba - by boys.  
He taught us to be dar - ing, cre - a - tive, wise and strong—  
God, make us like those wo - men, and may we seek to be



That fear turned in - to mur - muring: "We do not want them here!"  
God, may we, too, be wil - ling to chal - lenge what de - stroys.  
to make the world more car - ing, to chal - lenge what is wrong.  
the ones who ush - er life in, till all are whole and free.

## New Members

Today we welcome the following new members to Royal Lane Baptist Church.

Paul Hood-Patterson  
Beth & Jonah Johnson  
Todd Kettler & Laila Sanguras  
Amanda Tyler & Phelps Behrendt

## Baptism Class

- **What:** Royal Baptism: The History, Theology, and Practice of Baptism
- **When:** Sundays at 9:45am (September 10, 17, and 24)
- **Where:** Senior Pastor's Office
- **Who:** For anyone interested in receiving baptism, join us for a three-week course led by our Senior Pastor. (If you have a child or youth interested in baptism, parents/guardians are encouraged to attend.) The study will focus on the history, theology, and practice of baptism. We will answer the following questions: What is baptism? What does it mean to be baptized? Am I ready for baptism?

**RSVP:** Please let us know if you plan to attend by emailing  
Rev. Victoria Robb Powers at [vpowers@royallane.org](mailto:vpowers@royallane.org)

## Cover Art

*Awake My Soul* by Mike Moyers  
From Art in the Christian Tradition  
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## Hymn Notes

### Bravely the Hebrew Midwives Spoke Up

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### Jesus. Lover of My Soul

*Text: Charles Wesley, 1738, Music: Joseph Perry, 1879, Public Domain*

### There Came a Time in Egypt

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## *Schedule for the Week*

### **Wednesday August 30**

- 3:30 pm Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building – Room 201 (3:30 - 5:30 pm)
- 5:30 pm Midweek Dinner — Vickrey Hall
  - Greek Night: Villager’s Salad (aka Greek Salad), Moussaka, Bread, Dessert
- 6:00 pm Midweek Gathering & Study with John Greer — Vickrey Hall & Zoom
- 6:15 pm Children’s Activities — Godly Play Room
- 7:00 pm Youth Gathering — Youth Portable
- 7:15 pm Choir — Sanctuary

### **Saturday September 2**

- 2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom

### **Sunday September 3 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

- 9:45 am Adult Christian Education — Christian Education Building
- 9:45 am Children’s SS Classes — Christian Education Building
- 9:45 am Youth SS Class — Youth Portable
- 10:10 am Non-Traditional Class — Christian Education Building, Room 212
- 10:55 am Morning Worship – Holy Communion Offered
  - Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel
  - Godly Play (following Time for Young Disciples) — Godly Play Room
  - Children 3-year through Fifth Grade
- 12:15 pm Racial Justice Committee Christian Education Building, Room 212
- 12:15 pm First Sunday Lunch for Children, Youth, and Families
- 7:30 pm Education Division — Zoom

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

## **Study for Wednesday Evening “Show Some Respect” with Jonathan Greer**

Join Royal Lane member and Brite student, Jonathan Greer, and our Senior Pastor Victoria Robb Powers this Wednesday night. Following dinner, Jonathan will lead a conversation with Victoria about today’s Sunday morning sermon. Learn about what inspired Victoria’s message and what drew her to the scripture. Then join in conversation about what God is stirring in you and how you might live out the message in your own way. A resource list will be provided with anything mentioned in the sermon — poems, books, articles, etc.

## 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** – Margaret Darden & Sharon Vickrey

**Safety Shepherd** – Scott Bryant

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When WE Give: we can provided space for community groups and service organizations.

### July 2023 Financials

|                    | YTD Actual |
|--------------------|------------|
| Revenues*          | \$ 459,622 |
| Expenses           | \$ 474,453 |
| Surplus (Deficit)* | \$(14,831) |

\*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*

6707 Royal Lane • Dallas, Texas 75230

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

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

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