



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

WELCOME

TO ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH



Thank you for choosing to worship with us this morning. We are so glad you're here! Royal Lane Baptist Church is a diverse community of faith united in the spirit of Jesus Christ. Since 1952, our church has sought to be a beacon of light in the city of Dallas and beyond.

Rather than escaping the world, we gather at Royal Lane with the hopes of transforming the world. We believe the heart of

the gospel is to share, in word and deed, the life-giving, liberating, and loving word of God. Therefore, we commit ourselves to a proclamation of the Christian faith that is responsible, socially concerned, and relevant to our needs as a caring and inclusive fellowship.

The Church is an imperfect institution, and Royal Lane is no exception. We do not presume to be a perfect place, but we do commit ourselves to the practice of faith and grace. If you're joining us this morning, our hope is that you'll sense God's love in our fellowship and that you'll come to know more deeply your own belovedness as a child of God. No matter who you are, you are welcome here. There are no prerequisites to your worthiness. We are all God's children, and it's a gift when we come together.

If you'd like to learn more about our church or how to become a member, please see the "New Here" card in the pew back in front of you. Thank you for being here!

In Christ,

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

THE WORSHIP OF GOD



SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

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

The great paradox of life is that those who lose their lives will gain them. This paradox becomes visible in very ordinary situations. If we cling to our friends, we may lose them, but if we are non-possessive in our relationships, we will make many friends. If fame is what we seek and desire, it often vanishes as soon as we acquire it, but if we have no need to be known, we might be remembered long after our deaths. When we want to be in the center, we easily end up on the margins, but when we are free enough to be wherever we must be, we often find ourselves in the center.

Giving away our lives for others is the greatest of all human acts. This will gain us our lives.

Henry J. M. Nouwen, Bread for the Journey:
 Reflections for Each Day of the Year

Voluntary

Son of Sorrow
arranged by Dale Wood

David Weigle

常 Call to Worship & Invocation

Congregation

Do not be afraid to answer the call to discipleship.

What does the call require?

Letting go of our life as we know it.

Following the way of the cross.

Aligning our soul with God's.

We step out in the way of Jesus by losing our life to save it.

Do not be afraid to walk in the way of Jesus.

We answer the call, unashamed and unafraid.

Let us pray:

O God, we are offered every opportunity to embrace the path that helps us gain the world at the expense of our soul. Instead, you have called us to yourself and to follow in the way of love and compassion. Teach us about Jesus' way and lure us away from the paths of self-absorption and greed. You have called us to discipleship, to self-emptying, and embracing your way with courage. May it be so. Amen.





Words of Welcome

Rev. Harry Wooten

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

If you are a guest with us this morning, we invite you to register your attendance by filling out a "New Here" card which can be found in the pew racks. You may also register online at royallane.org/register or with the QR code.



Scripture Lesson

Karen Carman

Mark 8:31-33

[Pew Bible page 820 of the New Testament]

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

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 3rd grade are invited to Godly Play.

You may collect your children following the service in the Christian Education Building.

常 Hymn 473

Congregation

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Order of Worship continues on the following page.

Lenten Confessions

Congregation & Cheryl Robinson, Racial Justice Team

Lord, hear our confession:

How can we feel secure in the world?

We have followed you, and credited you with our good times.

We thank you when we win the game, prosper, and succeed.

But how can we feel secure if you say that suffering lies ahead?

Deep is the hunger for security.

We have boasted of our confidence in you. How can we be confident when all is not well, and you expect the path to be lonely and rough?

Deep is the hunger for security.

Forgive us, for the easy path has been a substitute for security. Teach us to offer our thanks for your presence, rather than only being grateful for the absence of challenges.

Forgive us, and satisfy our hunger.

Hymn 184 *Congregation*

Beneath the Cross of Jesus ST. CHRISTOPHER (stanza one only)

Trusting in God's promises, let us pray for the world and for our needs, saying, Holy God, hear our prayer.

God, Jesus your Son called disciples to follow his way of sacrificial love. For all pastors and teachers, that they lead the church by humble example, take up their cross in faithful service, and life for the sake of the gospel. Holy God,

hear our prayer.

God, your reign encompasses all the earth, though many do not remember your gracious sovereignty. For peace among the nations and for integrity within governments, that your will be done on earth as in heaven. Holy God.

hear our prayer.

God, you hear the cry of the poor, and you satisfy the hungry with good things. For the poor and the oppressed, that they may find deliverance, and for all who voluntarily take up the cross of self-denial to serve the poor and alleviate human misery. Holy God,

hear our prayer.

God, you know the needs of the afflicted and you hear their cries. For those who suffer illness of mind or body, that they may find relief from suffering and be restored to wholeness.

Today we pray especially for those we name now silently or aloud...

We now share silence together.

(You may speak aloud the first name of those for whom you wish to pray. Or consider silently praying the Prayer of Loving-Kindness:

May all sentient beings be safe.

May all sentient beings be peaceful.

May all sentient beings live with ease.)

Let us pray:

Grant these prayers, Holy God, by your grace. Stir up in us the will to seek out your kingdom with the dedication of our lives in ministry to the world, for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

It Is Well With My Soul

arranged by Tom Trenney

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul. It is well. All shall be well. It is well, it is well with my soul!

He lives: O the bliss of this glorious thought:
My sin, not in part, but the whole
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well. All shall be well. It is well, it is well! All shall be well!

Lord hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul.

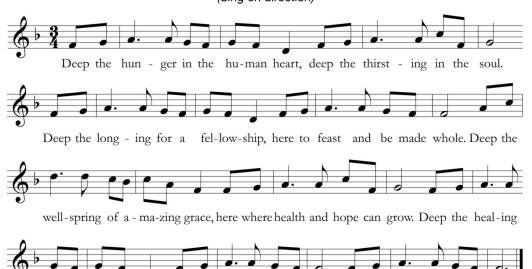
Sermon Rev. Virzola Law "Deep Is the Hunger for Security"

We now share silence together.



Deep the Hunger

(Sing on direction)



for the hun-gry heart, deep the love we seek to know, love that will not let us go.

Invitation to Generosity & Offertory Prayer

Sharon Vickrey

In a world that offers a vision of never enough, we share in God's abundant provision for all. While we could gain the world but lose our soul, it is from within our soul that we share in a generous spirit of giving.

Hear now this prayer.

Giving God, Jesus invited us to give our lives away, take up our cross, and to follow. Rather than exchanging our souls, may the sharing of these gifts nurture our commitment to walk in your way. In the name and way of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Offertory

Rhosymedre arranged by Ralph Vaughn Williams

We are accepting gifts for North Dallas Shared ministries throughout Lent to support The Gathering. David Weigle

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



♯ Benediction

Rev. Virzola Law

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

If Thou but Suffer God arranged by Paul Manz



ROYAL LANE GUEST PREACHER

Rev. Virzola Jo-Nan Law

Rev. Law is a fourth-generation member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and was baptized at her home church, University Christian Church in Houston, Texas. Her parents, Elder Thomas and Virginia Law, have been her biggest supporters and cheerleaders since she accepted her call to ministry at 15. Rev. Law currently serves as Senior Pastor at Northway Christian Church in Dallas, Texas. Prior to Northway, she was Senior Pastor at the historic Lindenwood Christian Church in Memphis, Tennessee. She was and is the first



elected female and African American to serve in this capacity at both congregations. Prior to being called to Lindenwood, Rev. Law served in various pastoral assignments at Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church and was Senior Pastor at Woodland Christian Church in Houston, Texas.

Prior to full time ministry, Rev. Law received a Masters of Divinity degree from Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, Oklahoma and a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas. She also studied at Brite Divinity School at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. During her seminary years, Rev. Law served as Associate Pastor at First Christian Church in Carrollton, Texas.

Rev. Law is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She enjoys a good book, traveling, lakes, oceans, and spending time with her friends and families. Rev. Law is passionate about building bridges in divided communities (doing the root work of cocreating anti racist churches), radical hospitality around food and fun, and preaching the love of God made known in Jesus Christ that transforms the world. Her greatest gifts are her grandchildren, Ava Jo-Nan Law Williams and Aiden Thomas Williams.

ROYAL LANE HAPPENINGS



Free Concert by Red Line Brass

Tuesday, February 27, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary Concert presented by Julliard Graduates. Works by Shostakovich, Piazzola, Schumann, Bernstein.





Mission Trip Info Meeting

Sunday, March 3, 12:15 pm, Library Join us for an informational meeting with Fellowship Southwest as we make plans for the May 20-26 Mission Trip to Brownsville, Texas.



Called Church Conference

Wednesday, February 28, 6:15 pm The finance committee will present the 2024 budget for consideration and adoption.



Racial Justice Team

If you are interested in taking a next step and engaging with the work of racial justice, we invite you to join our Racial Justice Team. For more information you can contact Sandy Washington at sandy.washington@gmail.com. All are welcome.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, February 27

7:00 pm: Concert, Red Line Brass - Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 28

3:30 pm: Holy Rollers — Vickrey Hall (3:30 - 5:30 pm)

5:30 pm: Midweek Dinner — Vickrey Hall

Menu: Chicken Noodle Soup, Salad, Bread, Dessert 6:00 pm: Midweek Gathering — Vickrey Hall & Zoom

6:15 pm: Called Church Conference — Presentation of 2024 Budget for Approval Sermon Encounter with Jonathan Greer in Conversation with Victoria Powers

6:00 pm: Children's Gathering — Godly Play Room

6:30 pm: Youth Gathering — Youth Portable

7:15 pm: Choir — Sanctuary

Thursday, February 29

11:30 am: Lenten Book Study with Jonathan Greer — Library (*Bring your own lunch.*) "Deep Is the Hunger" by Howard Thurman

Saturday, March 2

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

Sunday, March 3 - Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 am: Children & Youth Committee — Vickrey Hall

9:45 am: Parent's Small Group - Vickrey Hall

9:45 am: Adult Christian Education — Christian Education Building

9:45 am: Children's Sunday School Classes — Christian Education Building

9:45 am: Youth Sunday School Class — Youth Portable

10:55 am: Morning Worship — Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel

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

Children 3-year through Third Grade

12:15 pm: Missions Division & Mission Trip Overview — Library

8:00 pm: Education Division — Zoom

HOW TO CONNECT

Event Details

See the Weekly Mosaic or Web Calendar for Links and details for In-Person, Livestream, Virtual or Zoom events royallane.org/resources/event

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 <u>royallane.org/prayer</u>. Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plate.



Deacons on Call

Garey Wisdom & Sharon Vickrey

GIVING at royal lane

When WE Give: we can use our gifts and talents to help those in need. 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.





December 2023 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues*	\$ 815,539
Expenses	\$ 852,828
Surplus (Deficit)*	\$ (37,289)

^{*}Includes annual pledges paid in full.

WORSHIP NOTES

Cover Art

Lent 2024 created for Royal Lane Baptist Church by John Stuart, stushieart.com

Lenten Confessions

Written for Royal Lane Baptist Church by Dr. Terre Johnson

Hymn Notes

Make Our Church One Joyful Choir

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, Copyright © 1994

Oxford University Press
OneLicense: Annual License

w/Reprint/Podcast/Streaming, A-722998

Will You Come and Follow Me

Text & Music: John L. Bell, Copyright © 1987 The Iona Community / WGRG (North America)

OneLicense: Annual License

w/Reprint/Podcast/Streaming, A-722998

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Public Domain

Deep the Hunger

Text & Music: Ken Medema

For Lent 2024 at Royal Lane Baptist Church

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.



ROYAL Lane Staff Rev. Victoria Robb Powers, Senior Pastor

Rev. Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship Beth Johnson, Minister to Children, Youth, & Families

Barbara Merry, Ministries Assistant David Doom. Ministries Assistant David Weigle, Organist
Ellen Miers, Housekeeping
Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician
Brandon Green, Audio Technician
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician

