



# ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



*WELCOME TO WORSHIP*

APRIL 21, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victoria Robb Powers". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers


APRIL 21, 2024

# THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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**

We come this morning because we know how much we need faith, hope, and love. We understand that love never gives up, and faith, hope, and patience never fail when we truly love. May God's spirit descend on us as we worship that love may be rekindled in our lives, and as it burns within us, it may ignite all our actions.

## **Voluntary**

*David Weigle*

Two Pieces from Judas Maccabeus

G. F. Handel

## **Call to Worship & Invocation**

*Congregation*

From a world filled with hate and enmity, we are called to worship a God of love.

**We may have all the faith needed to move mountains,  
but if we have no love, we are nothing.**

We come to worship the source of all love, the fountain of life.

**We come to drink from the fountain that we may go  
from this place to demonstrate God's love to all we meet.**

**Thanks be to the God of love!**

*(continued next page)*

Let us pray:

**God of life, death, and resurrection, we are grateful for life and all its gifts. Increase in us the stuff that life is made of—faith, hope, and love, but especially love—that we may abide with you eternally through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

 **Hymn #222**

*Congregation*

Thine Is the Glory

**MACCABEUS**

**Scripture Lesson**

*Anna Mays*

**1 Corinthians 13:1-13**

*[Pew Bible page 934 of the New Testament]*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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.

## Hymn #281

Congregation

### Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

BEECHER

## Prayer in Celebration of Religious Liberty

Patsy Meier & Congregation

Elected officials are not by virtue of their office to meddle with religious or matters of conscience, to force or complete people to any form of religions.

—John Smyth, 1612

**We rejoice in our freedom,  
and accept the charge to live faithfully within it.**

Every person ought to be left free with respect to matters of religion. The Holy Author of our religion needs no compulsive measures for the promotion of God's cause.

—General Committee of Baptists in Virginia, 1785

**We rejoice in our freedom  
and accept the charge to live faithfully with it.**

Everyone must give a personal account to God, and therefore all people ought to be at liberty to serve God in a way that each can best reconcile to their own conscience.

—John Leland, 1791

**We rejoice in our freedom  
and accept the charge to live faithfully within it.**

We believe in free churches within a free state. We believe religious liberty to be an inalienable human right and indispensable to human welfare. Profoundly convinced that any deprivation of this right is a wrong to be challenged, we condemn every form of compulsion or restraint in religion.

—The American Baptist Bill of Rights, 1939

**We rejoice in our freedom  
and accept the charge to live faithfully within it..**

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*The Order of Worship continues  
on the following page.*

**Hymn #697**

*Congregation*

**This Is My Song**  
**FINLANDIA**

**Call to Confession**

*Barrett Wooten & Congregation*

Trust in the One who made us and redeemed us. Let us confess our sin.

**The Confession of Sin**

Let us pray:

**God of life, we admit to you and to each other that we have not always lived lives of love. We have lost patience and been rude. We have been irritable and insisted on our own way. We have even let love end. Forgive us and heal us, dear God, through Jesus Christ, your love incarnate. Amen.**

*We now share silence together.*

**Promise of Forgiveness**

God has loved us since the beginning, and God's love for us will never end. Do not fear, therefore, but have faith in God's steadfast love, God's healing power, and God's ability to make all things new.

**By the grace of Christ, God forgives us in love,  
and calls us to abide in faith, in hope, and in love.  
Thanks be to God!**

**Anthem**

*Choir*

**O Love**  
**Elaine Hagenburg**

*O Love that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, That in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.*

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, O I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain  
That morn will tearless be.

**Sermon**

*Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush*

“Shall the Christian Nationalists Win?  
The Critical Role of Congregations in  
Protecting Our Diverse Democracy”

**Moment of Reflection**

 **Response**

*Congregation*

Where True Charity and Love Abide

**UBI CARITAS ET AMOR**

The musical score is written for a congregation response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 2/4. The first system contains the lyrics: "U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, / Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,". The second system contains the lyrics: "u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est. / God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there." The second system includes a triplet of eighth notes over the word "dwell" in the second line.

## ☩ Offertory Prayer

*Jess Lamberth*

Hear now this prayer:

With awe and wonder before you, O God, we dare to enlist all our efforts toward the realization of your realm. Where there is injustice, we would champion those oppressed and misunderstood. When some feel rejected, we reach out to accept them in Christ's name. May these offerings preach and teach and heal. Amen.

## Offertory

*David Weigle*

Love Divine  
arranged by Charles Callahan

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



## ☩ Benediction

*Rev. Victoria Robb Powers*

## Organ Dismissal

*David Weigle*

Voluntary on “Thine Be the Glory”  
Matthew H. Carl

*At the close of the service, if you would like to receive prayer, several of our deacons will remain at the front of the sanctuary and would be glad to pray for you.*





# ROYAL LANE *GUEST PREACHER*

Sunday, April 21

## Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush

The Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush is president and CEO of Interfaith Alliance. An ordained Baptist minister, Rev. Raushenbush is a longtime leader in the interfaith movement working to protect an inclusive vision of religious freedom for people of all faiths and none. As the great-grandson of the first Jewish Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis and great-grandson of Baptist theologian Walter Rauschenbusch, a key figure in the Social Gospel movement, Rev. Raushenbush's commitment to interfaith advocacy comes in part from his own interfaith background.



Prior to coming to Interfaith Alliance, Rev. Raushenbush served as senior vice president of the Auburn Seminary, the founding and executive editor of HuffPost Religion, associate dean of religious life and the chapel at Princeton University, and a founding editor of Beliefnet.com. Most recently, he was the senior advisor for public affairs and innovation at Interfaith America.

In addition to his work as president, Rev. Raushenbush also serves as host of State of Belief Radio, Interfaith Alliance's weekly radio show and podcast. Rev. Raushenbush previously hosted Huffington Post's podcast "All Together" where he interviewed a diverse array of guests working at the intersection of religion and politics, including President Jimmy Carter, Patti Smith, RuPaul, Bishop T.D. Jakes, and Rabbi Jonathan Sacks.

Rev. Raushenbush has spoken about religious diversity and the importance of inclusive religious liberty at colleges, churches and institutes around the country including The Chautauqua Institute, the Center for American Progress, the New America Foundation and the Aspen Institute. He is regularly invited to offer commentary on issues of religion and civil rights in national outlets including CNN, CBS, ABC, MSNBC, NPR, New York Times, Washington Post, Al Jazeera, BBC, The Hill, Vice, and Religion News Service. He has published two books and contributed essays to several volumes on faith in public life.

# WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



## **Sunday, April 21 – Fourth Sunday of Easter**

12:15 pm: Social Justice Team — Christian Education Building, Room 212

## **Tuesday, April 23**

9:30 am: Communion & Contemplation — Sanctuary

## **Wednesday, April 24**

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

5:30 pm: Midweek Dinner — Vickrey Hall

Menu: Green Chili Stew, Flour Tortillas, Salad, Dessert

6:00 pm: Quarterly Church Conference — Vickrey Hall & Zoom

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

6:30 pm: Youth Gathering — Youth Portable

7:15 pm: Choir — Sanctuary

## **Saturday, April 27**

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

## **Sunday, April 28 – Fifth Sunday of Easter**

8:30 am: Children & Youth Committee — 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

11:00 am: Morning Worship — Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel

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

Children 3-year through Third Grade

# ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



## Communion & Contemplation

*Tuesdays, 9:30 am, Sanctuary*

Join us for a time of quiet and reflection each week with communion & contemplation.



## Quarterly Church Conference

*April 24, 6:00 pm, Vickrey Hall & Zoom*

Agenda and minutes from the previous meeting to be posted on the church website. <https://bit.ly/44598cm>



## Artist Reception

*May 11, 4:00 - 6:00 pm, Box Gallery*

You are invited to a reception to meet artist, Terri Muldoon, and learn more about her work now on display in Royal Lane's Box Gallery.



## Joining Sunday

*May 12, 11:00 am Service*

Interested in membership at Royal Lane? Want to join with a group of other folks? Our next Joining Sunday is May 12, and we'd love to welcome you. Contact our pastor for more information at [vpowers@royallane.org](mailto:vpowers@royallane.org).

*See Coming Events on our website for more information.*

**ROYALLANE.ORG**

# LOOKING TO *GRADUATION*

## To Families with Graduates!

Graduates will be recognized on May 19, 2024. Please notify the church office of students associated with Royal Lane who will be graduating this spring—high school, college, post-graduate degree or other. We would like a picture and brief bio for each student by Thursday, May 9, for publication in the bulletin on Graduation Recognition Sunday, and an issue of the Mosaic.



## **Bruce & Anna Marie Lowe Scholarship**

A flyer is available in the narthex and the church office to give you an opportunity to contribute to the Bruce & Anna Marie Lowe Scholarship. The Scholarship Committee is grateful for your contributions and support of this fund that benefits recipients of this scholarship each year.

### **Donations may be made:**

- Online at [royallane.org/give](https://royallane.org/give), “The Lowe Scholarship Fund”
- Contact the church office at 214-361-2809
- By check with “Scholarship Fund” in the memo line

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*ONLINE  
GIVING*



# HOW TO *CONNECT*

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

## Deacons on Call

Patsy Meier & Barrett Wooten

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*REQUEST  
PRAYER*



# *GIVING* AT ROYAL LANE

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**When WE Give: we can reach out in support of global needs.** 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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*ONLINE  
GIVING*



## March 2024 Financials

	<i>YTD Actual</i>
Revenues*	\$ 282,645
Expenses	\$ 252,664
Surplus (Deficit)*	\$ 29,981

*\*Includes annual pledges paid in full.*

# WORSHIP *NOTES*



## Cover Art

*Jesus Mural of Faith, Hope, Love, and Peace* - Chicago, Illinois

This mural places Jesus centerstage with arms outstretched, welcoming all people to him. Incorporated into the figure of Jesus is a mosaic quality that undoubtedly represents his multifaceted nature as well as the ability for all peoples to claim him as their own. Surrounding him is a diverse group holding hands in unity. One of the scripture passages listed for this image gives us the second greatest commandment: “to love one’s neighbor as oneself.” In loving one another, we stimulate peace, faith, and hope for the war-torn and unjust world in which we live. This painting reminds us that it is in our love for one another—a love that seeks equality and justice for all—that we show true, deep, and abiding love for God as well.

From *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN  
Used by permission.

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



# HYMN *NOTES*



## **Thine Is the Glory**

Text: tr. Richard Birch Hoyle, 1923

Music: George Frederick Handel,

Text: Copyright © World Student Christian Federation

## **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Text: Charles Wesley

Music: John Zundel

Public Domain

## **This Is My Song**

Text & Music: Copyright © 1961, The Lorenz Corporation

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## **Where True Charity and Love Abide**

Text & Music: Jacques Berthier, Copyright © 1979

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## **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



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