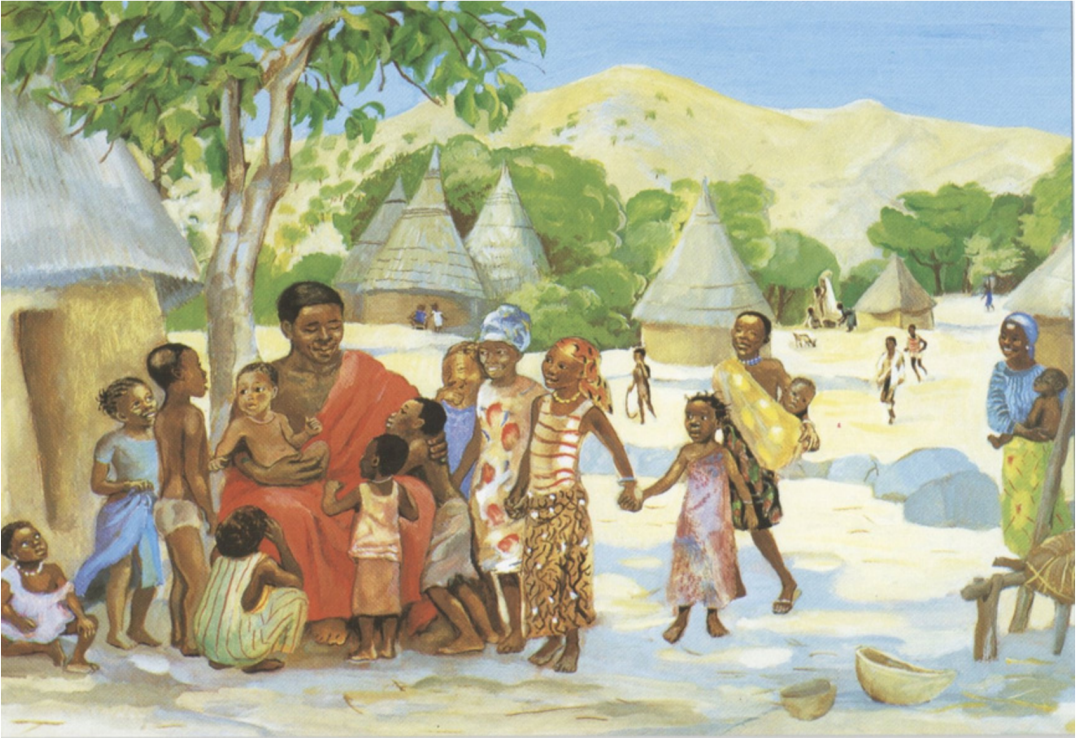




ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 22, 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, reading "Victoria Robb Powers".

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



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

Jesus said: “Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” Jesus said: “Whoever welcomes in my name one of these children, welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me, welcomes not only me but also the one who sent me.” Come, let us worship the God who reminds us of our responsibility to welcome all God’s children with enthusiasm, with respect, and with the open arms of the heart.

Voluntary

Jeanie Chuang

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

arranged by Diane Bish

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

Call to Worship & Invocation

Rev. Harry Wooten & Congregation

Jesus challenges us in today's gospel:

Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.

Then Jesus put a little child among them;

and taking the child in his arms, he said to them:

Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

And whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.

We are still learning today what Jesus came to teach us.

To change the world we must change the way we love

and welcome all God's children!

May we learn to love all of God's children as if they were our own!

Let us pray:

O God, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, narrow enough to shut out envy, pride, and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling-block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back evil's power. God, make the door of this house the gateway to your eternal kingdom. Amen.

Make Me a Captive, Lord

DIADEMATA



1. Make me a cap - tive, Lord, and then I shall be free,
 2. My heart is weak and poor un - til it mas - ter find;
 3. My pow'r is faint and low till I have learned to serve;
 4. My will is not my own till thou hast made it thine;



Force me to ren - der up my sword and I shall con - qu'ror be.
 It has no spring of ac - tion — sure, it va - ries with the wind.
 It lacks the need - ed fire to glow, it lacks the breeze to nerve.
 If it would reach a mon - arch's throne, it must its crown re - sign.



I sink in life's a - larms when by my - self I stand;
 It can - not free - ly move till thou hast wrought its chain;
 It can - not drive the world un - til it - self be driv'n;
 It on - ly stands un - bent a - mid the clash - ing strife



Im - pri - son me with - in thine arms, and strong shall be my hand.
 En - slave it with thy match - less love, and death - less it shall reign.
 Its flag can on - ly be un - furled when thou shalt breathe from heav'n.
 When on thy bos - om it has leant, and found in thee its life.

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

Welcome to Worship and Words of Greeting

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Rev. Brian Henderson

Executive Director, Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists (AWAB)

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

Leslie McKinney

Mark 9:30-37

[Page 821 of the New Testament]

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

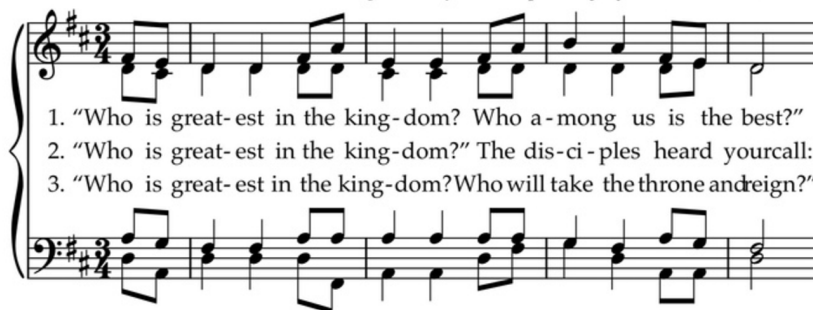
Barrett Wooten

Children 3-years of age through 3rd grade are invited to Godly Play.

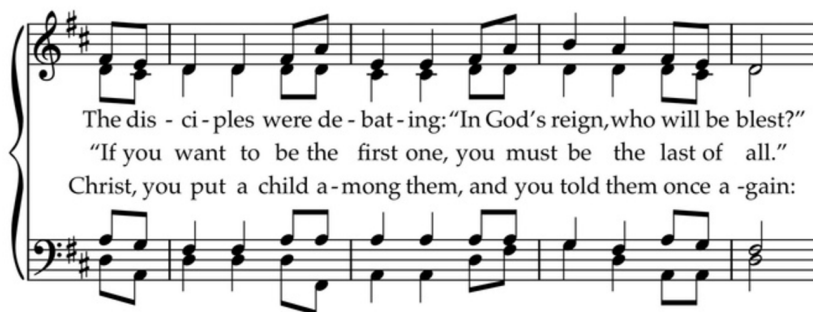
You may collect your children following the service in the Christian Education Building.

Who Is Greatest In the Kingdom

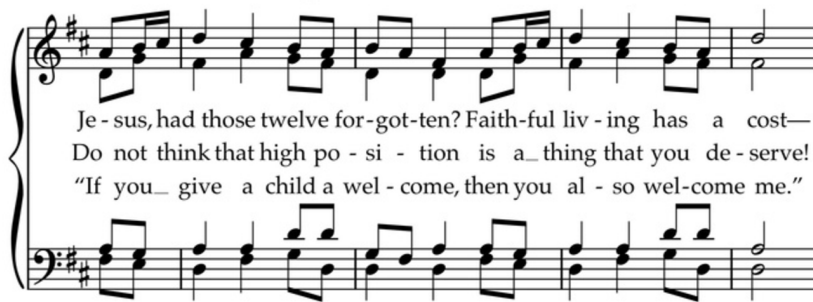
NETTLETON



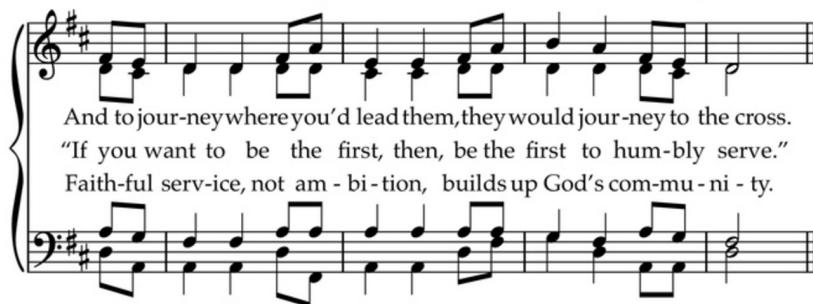
1. "Who is great-est in the king-dom? Who a-mong us is the best?"
 2. "Who is great-est in the king-dom?" The dis-ci-ples heard yourcall:
 3. "Who is great-est in the king-dom?Who will take the throne andreign?"



The dis - ci - ples were de - bat - ing: "In God's reign, who will be blest?"
 "If you want to be the first one, you must be the last of all."
 Christ, you put a child a-mong them, and you told them once a -gain:



Je - sus, had those twelve for-got-ten? Faith-ful liv - ing has a cost—
 Do not think that high po - si - tion is a_ thing that you de - serve!
 "If you_ give a child a wel - come, then you al - so wel-come me."



And to jour-ney where you'd lead them, they would jour-ney to the cross.
 "If you want to be the first, then, be the first to hum-bly serve."
 Faith-ful serv-ice, not am - bi - tion, builds up God's com-mu - ni - ty.

Call to Confession

Jeremy Pope-Levison & Congregation

Let us think about all the people in our own lives, our community's life, and in our world. What are their needs; where do we fail as individuals and community in welcome, nurture and care for them?

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

Dear God, we often have not welcomed your children as Jesus has commanded. Too many in our community and world suffer from violence, abuse, neglect and poverty. We know that if we were to join together to welcome and care, to celebrate and honor your children we would save ourselves and our world. We need forgiveness. We want to make amends. We want to change. We want to learn to welcome all, for in loving and caring for them, we welcome your reign of justice and peace. Amen.

We now share silence together.

Promise of Forgiveness

We give thanks for our savior and teacher Jesus Christ, who was born among us as a child needing nurture and care, and grew to reveal your power to make all things new.

We give thanks and rejoice that in Christ we are forgiven and given strength to grow in discipleship. Thanks be to God!

Hymn

Congregation

Let the Children Come IN BABILONE



Refrain:



Chil - dren trust in hap - py end - ings, bright with love that ne - ver fails.
Chil - dren’s voic - es lead the cho - rus, teach - ing all our hearts to sing.
Sheilds the young be - neath broad pin - ions, draw - ing all to peace and rest.

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

Prayers of the People

Kenna Curry & Congregation

God of understanding, through the Word read and proclaimed, and through your Word incarnate Jesus Christ, you give us the direction we need and show us that there is nowhere else to go but to you with our joys and our concerns.

Let us pray:

We pray for our world that too often follows the advice of wickedness that leads to war, to violence, to conflict between ethnicities, to fear. We pray for our children who have been called the first in God's heart and kingdom but are not welcomed, loved, heard, or spoken to. We believe in you, God of justice and mercy, and we ask, trusting in your power, to heal the wounded hearts, to restore the brokenness of the world, and to lead us to everlasting peace.

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:

Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Anthem

Choir

Be Thou My Vision

arranged by Skip Stradtman

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my redeemer, my love thou has won. Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only first in my heart, Great God of Heaven my Treasure Thou art.

Great God of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heav'n's joys, O Bright Heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all!

Sermon

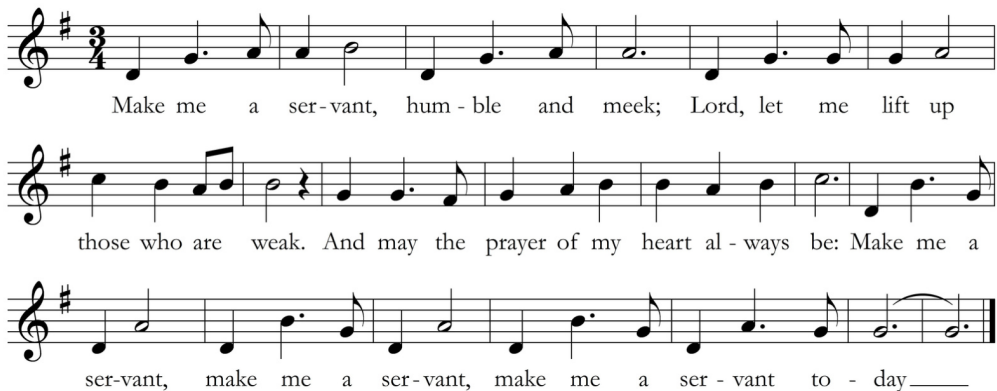
Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

“Extraordinary Math”

Moment of Contemplation

Make Me a Servant

 – *please rise in body or in spirit*



Make me a ser-vant, hum - ble and meek; Lord, let me lift up
those who are weak. And may the prayer of my heart al - ways be: Make me a
ser-vant, make me a ser-vant, make me a ser - vant to - day____

Invitation to Generosity & Offertory Prayer

Leslie Cechan

The righteousness of God sets aside bias and jealousy as we welcome the opportunity to care for God's children. Listen to the winds of hope. Look for the light of wisdom. May this light remain steadfast as we seek ways to share our treasures, talents, and time.

Hear now this prayer.

Beloved One, with the work of our hands, we create pathways of care. With open hearts, we welcome your abundant wisdom which invites us to share. May our gifts transform our communities into places of humility and generosity. Amen.

Offertory

Jeanie Chuang

Lord, Make Me an Instrument Of Thy Peace

John Rutter

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



Benediction

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Organ Dismissal

Jeanie Chuang

Great Day!

arranged by Robert J. Powell

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 with you.



WORSHIP *NOTES*

Cover Art

Jesus Welcomes the Children, by JESUS MAFA

From Art in the Christian Tradition.

A project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Used by Permission.

JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings were selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

Hymn Notes

Make Me a Captive

Text: George Matheson, 1890

Music: George J. Elvey, 1868

Public Domain

Let the Children Come

Text: Mary Louise Bringle

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Who Is Greatest in the Kingdom

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

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Make Me a Servant

Text & Music: Kelly Willard, Copyright © 1982

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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.



The Royal Lane Library

Did you hear Royal Lane is updating their library? Well, now there is a way for you to help! Scan the QR code or search "Royal Lane Baptist Church" in Amazon Registries to find our Library wish list! If you see any books on the list you would be willing to donate please do so. We are excited to fill our shelves with books that better reflect who Royal Lane is!

ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



Women's Night Out

Thursday, September 26, 7:00 pm

Ladies, you are invited to a relaxing evening at the home of Pastor Victoria.



Pumpkin Delivery & Opening of the Patch

Saturday, September 28, 9:00 am

The Pumpkins are coming and all hands are welcome to help unload the pumpkins and officially open the Pumpkin Patch. Have you signed up to volunteer? Sign up today on our website - royallane.org!



Young Adults

Saturday, September 28, 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Are you between the ages of 21-35(ish)? Come enjoy community, drinks, and food with other young adults at the church! Join us at The Wild Detectives, 314 W. 8th Street, Dallas, 75208.



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 6, 4:00 pm

Bring your furry, scaly, hairy, or feathered friends to the Blessing of the Animals. This event will take place in the Pumpkin Patch. Celebrate all creatures, great and small.

See Coming Events on our website for more information.

ROYALLANE.ORG

WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



Tuesday, September 24

9:30 am: Communion & Contemplation — Narthex

Wednesday, September 25

12:00 pm: Lunch + Learn — Vickrey Hall & Zoom (*Lunch line opens at 11:30 am*)

Menu: Creamy Cajun Shrimp Pasta

Program: Sarah Macias, *Creation Justice and Why It Matters*

1:30 pm: Holy Rollers — Vickrey Hall (1:30 - 3:30 pm)

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

6:30 pm: Youth Gathering — Host Home

7:15 pm: Choir — Sanctuary

Friday, September 26

7:00 pm: Women's Night Out — Pastor Victoria's Home

Saturday, September 28

9:00 am: Pumpkin Patch Delivery & Unloading — Pumpkin Patch

11:00 am: Memorial Service, Janet Mullinax Ramirez — Sanctuary & Columbarium
Reception — Vickrey Hall

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

5:30 pm: Young Adult Group — The Wild Detectives, 314 W 8th St, Dallas, 75208

7:45 pm: Gen X/Millennial Ladies, September Meet Up
Peace Middle East Cafe, 581 Campbell Rd, Richardson, 75080

Sunday, September 29 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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

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

REQUEST
PRAYER



Deacons on Call

Tex Quesada & Leslie Cechan

GIVING AT ROYAL LANE

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.

ONLINE
GIVING



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

Kenna Curry, Pastoral Intern
Rosa Barrientos, Housekeeping
Mike Hurder, Maintenance Director
Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician
Brandon Green, Audio Technician
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician