



ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

DECEMBER 29, 2024

WELCOME

TO ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH



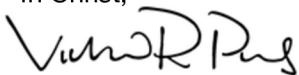
Thank you for choosing to worship with us this morning. We are so glad you're here! Royal Lane Baptist Church is a diverse community of faith united in the spirit of Jesus Christ. Since 1952, our church has sought to be a beacon of light in the city of Dallas and beyond.

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

DECEMBER 29, 2024

THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



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 Word made flesh has come before us. Though just boys, Jesus and Samuel found themselves in the temple mesmerized by the teachings of the teachers and scholars. They not only asked questions, they ministered to others in their own right. Let us bring honor and praise as we immerse ourselves in psalms, hymns and songs, and in the teachings of Christ, the Word made flesh.

Voluntary

David Weigle

God Rest Ye Merry
arranged Aaron Shows

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

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Harry Wooten & Congregation

We gather this morning ready to listen.

Open our ears, O God.

We gather this morning ready to learn.

Open our minds, O God.

We gather this morning ready to love.

Open our hearts, O God.

We gather this morning ready to worship.

Open our spirits to receive you, O God.

We gather to praise God Almighty!

Let us pray:

O God, into a realm of clerics and kings you sent your child to teach the wise and show the world what power there is in love. Keep us vigilant to hear the voices of those who speak your truth. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Hymn 122

Congregation

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

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

Lin Sivakumar

Malachi 3:1-6

[Page 778 of the Hebrew Bible]

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished.

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

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

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

Hymn 124

Congregation

The First Nowell Traditional English Carol

Call to Confession

Sarah Vickrey & Congregation

Because we have passed through the waters of baptism, we dare to bare our souls before God and reveal the bitterness that dwells in our hearts. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

God of wonder, you surround us with signs of your glory and surprise us with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you place before us. Forgive our dullness and make us alert to the ways you make yourself known, that we might be witnesses to your good news and proclaim your extravagant love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

We now share silence together.

Promise of Forgiveness

As God has forgiven us,
let us also forgive one another.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn 139

Congregation

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly W ZLOBIE LEZY

Prayers of the People

Joey Belgard & Congregation

People of God,
in Jesus, God's Word became flesh
to birth love in our hearts and peace in our world.

As we celebrate this gift of life in Christ,
let us pray for the church and the world saying,

O God of Love, draw us together in peace.

Your messenger announces peace in shouts of breathless joy;
drive out the warring ways of our world
and protect all who face danger this day
as you guide our feet to travel with the One who is your peace.

O God of Love, draw us together in peace.

When shepherds met your newborn Christ,
they eagerly ran to tell the news;
make us joyful messengers of your good news
who freely share your love in the world.

O God of Love, draw us together in peace.

From your majesty on high to the lowliness of the stable,
your Word has power to sustain all things,
and through him we become your precious children;
comfort those who are hungry, sick, or suffering,
and in all our afflictions anoint us with the oil of gladness
as you visit us with your salvation.

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.

Let us pray:

O God, receive our prayers through Christ who is our glorious light. May we, like him, shine forth like the sun in bodies, breath, and beating hearts to sing your praise forevermore, and as holy partners in a heavenly calling, dwell with you eternally. Amen.

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

Solo

J.T. Hauser

Sleep, Sweet Jesus, Sleep

Harold Abbey

Look away down in the valley, look away down a mile from town,
to the barnyard, to the stable, to the Christ child, where He is found.

Sleep, sleep, sweet Jesus, sleep.

See the farmer, see the wiseman, on a cold, night, and starry morn,
all arriving for to worship, by the manger where He is born.

Sleep, sleep, sweet Jesus, sleep.

Sermon

Kenna Curry

“Leaning Into Peace”

Luke 2:41-52

Moment of Contemplation



Hymn 143

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

Offertory Prayer

Patsy Meier

Loving God: We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Receive the gifts we offer in union with Christ's gift for us. Clothe us with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, that we may be Christ for others. In his name we pray. Amen.

Offertory

David Weigle

Mendelssohn

James Biery

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



Sending Forth

Kenna Curry

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

The First Nowell

Ashley Grote

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*

Hymn Notes

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Public Domain

The First Nowell

Public Domain

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Text: Edith M. G. Reed, 1925

Harmonization: Wilbur Lee, 1958

Copyright © 1958, Broadman Press

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Text: John W. Work Jr., 1907

Music: John W. Work III, 1940

Copyright © 1940, Oregon Catholic Press

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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! Link: <https://amzn.to/3YmIR8b>



The Young Adults are having a White Elephant Gift Exchange...TONIGHT! Want to brighten someone's day? Want to ruin it? Whatever your gift may be, wrap it and it will go home with someone else! Join the young adults of Royal Lane for a gift exchange tonight at 5:00pm, at Kenna's house. Bring a gift and your favorite Christmas cookies (spending limit of \$20)! Text or email Kenna for address or more details.

ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*

WEDNESDAY LUNCH+LEARN SERIES



Lunch + Learn

Wednesday, January 8, 12:00pm

(Lunch Line opens at 11:30am)

Let's start the New Year together with our Lunch and Learn series. We'll be joined by Garrett Vickrey for "The Art and Joy of Preaching."

YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Dinner & Mavs Game

Friday, January 17, 6:00pm

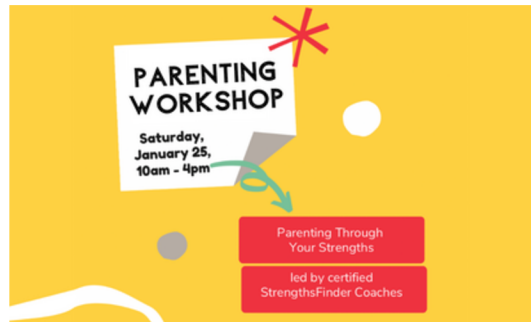
The Young Adult group will be attending a Mavs Game! **The deadline to sign up is December 31st**, so be sure to let Kenna know if you'd like to attend asap. We will carpool from the church.



Royal Welcome Class

Sunday, January 19, 10:00am, Library

Open to all visitors! Come learn more about us, hear from our pastors, ask questions, etc. Coffee and pastries provided.



Parenting Strengths Workshop

Saturday, January 25, 12:00pm, Vickrey Hall

Mark your calendars for this workshop, where we will explore how your strengths shape your parenting style, influence your relationship with your children, and impact their growth. A \$10 fee covers snacks, coffee, and lunch. Join us! Register at <https://bit.ly/41Q8NLo>



See Coming Events on our website for more information.

ROYALLANE.ORG

WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



Tuesday, December 31 & Wednesday, January 1

Church office closed — No church activities

Saturday, January 4

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

Sunday, January 5 – Sunday

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 Cottage

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

Tuesday, January 7

9:30 am: Communion & Contemplation — Narthex

Wednesday, January 8

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

Menu: Chicken Spaghetti, Tossed Salad with Ranch Dressing, Dessert

Program: Garrett Vickrey, "The Art and Joy of Preaching"

1:30 pm: Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building, Room 212 (1:30 - 3:30 pm)

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

6:15 pm: Youth Gathering — Youth Cottage

7:15 pm: Choir — Sanctuary

Saturday, January 11

11:00 am: Memorial Service Dorothy (Dot) Johnson — Sanctuary

Reception following — Vickrey Hall

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom



Southwestern Watercolor Society

Presents

Small Works

By SWS Members

**Hosted by Royal Lane Baptist Church
and the Box Gallery**

January 5-March 29, 2025

***“Art is not what you see, but what you
make others see.” Edgar Degas***

**Painting is a passion and a challenge and an
artistic journey. We welcome these artists
and you, the viewer, to be part of that
journey.**

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.

Deacons on Call

Patsy Meier & Joey Belgard

REQUEST
PRAYER



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



November 2024 Financials

	<i>YTD Actual</i>
Revenues*	\$ 811,983
Expenses	\$ 899,796
Surplus (Deficit)*	(\$ 87,813)

ROYAL LANE STAFF

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers, Senior Pastor
Rev. Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship
Beth Johnson, Minister to Children, Youth, & Families
David Weigle, Organist
Barbara Merry, Ministries Assistant
David Doom, Ministries Assistant
Tori Jones, Communications & Ministry Coordinator

Kenna Curry, Pastoral Intern
Mike Hurder, Maintenance Director
Ellen Miers, Housekeeping
Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician
Brandon Green, Audio Technician
Brian Stinecipher, Audio Technician
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician



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