



ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

MARCH 9, 2025



WELCOME TO LENT

Welcome to this sacred season of Lent at Royal Lane Baptist Church. Whether you are a longtime member or joining us for the first time, we are grateful for your presence as we journey together through these forty days of reflection, growth, and transformation. Lent is a season of both challenge and grace, inviting us to turn our hearts toward God in preparation for the truth and celebration of Easter.

This year, our Lenten series, *Everything In Between*, is inspired by the Narrative Lectionary (Year 3) and guided by the Gospel of Luke. Throughout this season, we will explore the spaces between the polarities that so often define our lives—faith and works, rest and growth, grief and hope. These ideas are often seen as opposing forces, but scripture invites us into a deeper truth: these dichotomies are false. In the sacred in-between, we find nuance and complexity. And above all, we find God.

Lent is a time to open ourselves to transformation, to notice where God is meeting us beyond the categories we create. This season at Royal Lane is for anyone seeking a spiritual life that does not shy away from complexity but embraces it with faith and intention. May this journey draw us closer to God and to one another.

Welcome to Lent.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Victoria Robb Powers'.

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers, Senior Pastor

MARCH 9, 2025

THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

FIRST 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

When we talk about God, we say
she's never met a stranger.
She makes friends at the airport.
She waves to babies in the check-out line.

When we talk about God, we say
she'll leave the porch light on.
She'll have warm bread in the oven.
She'll have all the time in the world.

When we talk about God, we say
she'll look you in the eye.
She'll love you as you are.
She'll call you by your name.

When we talk about God, we never have to talk about
which side of the road she might walk down.
Wherever you are,
that's where she'll be.

Voluntary

Sons of Sorrow
by Dale Wood

David Weigle

Call to Worship & Invocation

Dan Thompson & Congregation

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

Who is my neighbor? How can I help?

What do I have to learn? Where is God in it all?

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

So, may we listen. May we learn.

May we stay curious, and may we look for God.

This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship our holy God.

Let us pray:

God of power and might, turn our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh. For only in loving can we lead lives worthy of your calling. Grant us the courage to live with the saints in the glory of your love. And fill us with your grace and peace, that we may know the richness of eternal life in your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

Congregation

We Sing Your Praise, O Christ

FESTAL SONG



1. We sing your praise, O Christ, With
2. When eyes are fixed a - bove Where
3. We fall up - on our knees And
4. Let praise we of - fer you Be

hearts ex - alt - ed high. For - give us when we
you in glo - ry reign, Lord, low - er them to
fold our hands in prayer. Lord, o - pen them that
ech - oed in our deeds. Let love of you be

fail to hear Our neigh - bor's an - guished cry.
earth a - gain To see a world
grace re - ceived Be grace we glad - ly share.
man - i - fest In serv - ing oth - er's needs.

Words of Welcome

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

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

Julia Jacobs

Luke 10:25-37

[Page 844 of the pew Bible]

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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

Rev. Beth Johnson

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

Children Grades 4 through 6, are invited to Young Theologians

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

I Saw a Stranger

KINGSFOLD

I saw a stran - ger on the road in need of help and
I laid there des - perate by the road in need of help and
In our em - brace the mem - o - ry re - turned from E - den's

3
care No clues to their i - den - ti - ty, just hu - man
care As one by one they passed me by, too bu - sy
dust Bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh, my kin whom

flesh laid bare A thought had flut - tered through my
or too scared Then one ap - proached and my first
I can trust The ar - ti - fi - cial walls we

mind: "Is this one of my own?" My tri - bal mind
thought was "Do they mean me harm?" To my sur - prise
build a - round the tribes we claim Make us for - get

14
made me for - get that they're bone of my bone
they met my eyes and held me in their arms
the gos - pel truth: "Be - lo - ved" is your name

Call to Confession

Christin Lavery, Racial Justice Team

Our faith tells us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves, but you and I know that is often easier said than done. Prayer can be a tool for transformation. When we are honest before God and each other, we open the door to growth and change. So join me in the prayer of confession.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is our neighbor? Do we have to love the stranger? Must we have compassion for our enemy? Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that we might see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass. With hope we pray, amen.

We now silently confess our sins together.

Promise of Forgiveness

Family of faith,

When we set limits on love,

God loves extravagantly.

When we forget that we are neighbors,

God claims us as God's own.

When we judge, hold back, or harm,

God surrounds us with grace.

There is nothing we can do or leave undone
that could separate us from the love of God.

This is the good news of the gospel. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Hymn 650

Congregation

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service
JOYFUL SINGING

Prayers of the People

Leslie Cechan & Congregation

Gracious God,
we love to ask you questions.
We love to throw our wonderings at the sky,
to bring our curiosity to your feet,
to examine, beseech, and imagine all day long.
But when the answers come,
we don't always like what we hear.
Awaken a curiosity in us.
Awaken a penchant for listening,
and make room in our spirits for your Word to land.

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

We now share silence together.

Let us pray:

**With hope we question,
we wonder,
we dream,
we listen.
Amen.**

Anthem

Choir

Lord, Here Am I

John Ness Beck

text found in Hymn 510 of Celebrating Grace hymnal

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

“Stranger and Neighbor”

Moment of Contemplation

Let Your Heart Be Broken

WYE VALLEY

stanzas 1 & 4

Offertory Prayer

Melissa Walker-Luckett

Hear now this prayer.

Bountiful God, your love bears the fruit of hope and grace; your ways lead to fullness of life. May today's offering bear fruit in our world, that your love may cause old hatreds to cease, old wounds heal, and old divisions mend. Amen.

Offertory

David Weigle

Aria on a Chaconne

by Joel Martinson

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



Benediction

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

Allegro from “Concerto Grosso in C Minor”

by G.F. Handel

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.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Last Week for Donations!

Donations for the Baby Hygiene Kit supply drive are due this Saturday, March 15th! An assembly event will take place the following Saturday, March 22nd from 1-3pm in Vickrey Hall.

Items still needed include:

Baby shampoo, large size

Baby wash, large size

Baby lotion, large size

Baby brush or comb

Diaper rash cream



Pam D. Keith Memorial Service

Thursday, March 13th at 10:00am in the Sanctuary.
Inurnment immediately afterwards in the Columbarium.
Reception to follow in Vickrey Hall.

Dr. Bradley Carter Memorial Service

Saturday, March 29 at 11:00 am at The Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Dallas.
Inurnment Committal Ceremony at Royal Lane Columbarium after the service.
Reception will follow in Vickrey Hall.

RLBC WOMEN'S RETREAT

THROUGH EVERY AGE AND STAGE

Come enjoy time for personal reflection and connection with one another, God and nature at Sister Grove Farm, as we encounter an empowering framing story for our lives as women. Together we'll travel the spiritual path of transformation to understand the archetypes of Maiden, Mother, Queen and Crone and how they offer us insight into who we are and who we're meant to be.

APRIL 25-26, 2025
SISTER GROVE FARM
VAN ALSTYNE, TX

Registration
\$70



SPEAKER: KIM VERRIERE
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR
& RETREAT LEADER

FOLLOW QR CODE
TO REGISTER

If you would enjoy staying overnight on the farm for a night (or two or three), comfortable lodging can be guaranteed by booking with Sarah Macias before March 15. (Inquiries can be made after that date but not guaranteed) - Contact Sarah at 903-312-0717 or sarah@sistergrovefarm with your needs and the name(s) of your roommate so that billing can be made directly from the farm.



ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



New Caregiver Group

Tuesday, March 11, 6:00pm, Church Library

The new Caregivers Group will be meeting this Tuesday at 6pm in the library – if you or someone you know is a caregiver or want to learn how to better support caregivers, this group is for you! Please contact Trish at tgbrim@gmail.com to RSVP.



WEDNESDAY
LUNCH+LEARN SERIES

Beth Johnson

Ministry with Adolescents

Lunch + Learn

Wednesday, March 12, 12:00pm, Vickrey Hall

(Lunch Line opens at 11:30am)

This Wednesday, Rev. Beth Johnson will lead us in a conversation about her passion for ministry with adolescents. Join us in learning about our current youth ministry and all Beth's hopes for the future.



Women's Night Out

Thursday, March 27, Pastor Victoria's Home

Come have dinner and fellowship with other women in the community at Pastor Victoria's. Get to know new members of the community and reconnect with those you already know!



Gen X/Millennial Women's Dinner

Saturday, March 29, 7:45pm, Blue Sushi Sake Grill

The RLBC Gen X/Millennial Ladies will be meeting for food and fellowship on the evening of February 8th. Contact Jessica at jessicalamberth@gmail.com with any questions and feel free to bring a friend.

See Coming Events on our website for more information.

ROYALLANE.ORG

WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



Tuesday, March 11

6:00 pm: New Caregiver Group — Church Library

Wednesday, March 12

10:00 am: Communion & Contemplation — Church Library

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

Menu: Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers, Salad, and Dessert

Program: Beth Johnson, Ministry with Adolescents

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

5:00 pm: Properties Committee Meeting — Christian Education Building, Room 212

6:15 pm: Youth Gathering — Harris Youth Cottage

7:15 pm: Choir — Sanctuary

Thursday, March 13

10:00 am: Memorial Service for Pam D. Keith — Sanctuary

Saturday, March 15

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

Sunday, March 16

8:30 am: Program Council Meeting — Vickrey Hall

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

9:45 am: New Sunday School Class with Brad Eason — Theresa Helms' home

9:45 am: Children's Christian Education — Christian Education Building

9:45 am: Youth Christian Education — Harris 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

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

WORSHIP *NOTES*



Cover Art

Neighbors by Steve Prince | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Inspired by Luke 10:25-37

Ink on paper

Each individual carries generations within them, made up of billions of people who have occupied this earth before us. We have an individual and collective responsibility to be good stewards (Good Samaritans) of our bodies, neighbors, and communities, rooted in love. Every day we make a dance of life and death—celebrating the entrance and exit of life, the progression of age and maturity, and the expansion of our tent, grafting to people who share our blood and our beliefs. We are the structures, those temporal buildings that weather the storms, that creak and wither away daily, but are fortified by our relationships to each other and with the sharing of the good news planted by the Heavenly Father. This dance is an open profession of our vow to live by God's commandments and find a way to collectively preserve the truth of our origin while moving as one communal body into an untouched future. —Steve Prince

Liturgy Notes

Liturgy and poem by Avery Arden | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Hymn Notes

We Sing Your Praise, O Christ

Herman Stuempfle, Copyright © 1997, GIA Publications, Inc.

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

Words: Albert F. Bayly, 1961, alt.

Music: Hal Hopson, 1992

Words © 1988 Oxford University Press.

Reproduced by permission.

Music © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

I Saw a Stranger

© Anna Strickland, 2024. Commissioned by A Sanctified Art, LLC.

Music: English trad., arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906

Let Your Heart Be Broken

Words: Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1975

Music: James Mountain, 1876

Words © 1975 The Evangelical Covenant Church

HOW TO *CONNECT*

Event Details

See the Weekly News & Journal 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 green prayer cards, available in the “pockets” on the back of each pew, to submit prayer requests. You can also submit requests by filling out the prayer request form on the website at royallane.org/prayer. Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plate.

*REQUEST
PRAYER*



Deacons on Call

Leslie Cechan and Cathy Walling

GIVING AT ROYAL LANE

We encourage you to support the missions and ministries of our church. Text “GIVE” to 214-609-1200 or scan the QR code. Follow the prompts to complete the process. Standard text message rates may apply. You can also donate online at royallane.org/give.

*ONLINE
GIVING*



January 2025 Financials *YTD Actual*

Offerings & Revenues	\$ 109,304
Expenses	\$ 81,954
Surplus (Deficit)*	\$ 27,350

ROYAL LANE STAFF

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

Mike Hurder, Maintenance Director
Eloisa Rodriguez, Housekeeping
Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician
Brandon Green, Audio Technician
Brian Stinecipher, Audio Technician
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician



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