



ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

MARCH 30, 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 30, 2025

THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

FOURTH 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

Jesus said, *"Who among you wouldn't leave the 99?
Who among you wouldn't look for the one?"*

Someone in the crowd probably rolled their eyes.
Someone squirmed and looked at their palms.
Someone sighed and thought to themselves,
*"This man doesn't understand the business.
What fool would leave 99 to look for one?"*

But maybe God was not talking about us.
Maybe God was talking about
God's own reckless love.
Maybe God was talking about
God's own willingness
to turn the world upside down
for me.

Voluntary

In the Garden
arr by Dan Miller

David Weigle

Call to Worship & Invocation

Rev. Harry Wooten & Congregation

Our God is a shepherding God.

Our God knows us by name.

Our God will never stop searching for us.

So if you feel lost,

then know that God is seeking you.

If you feel found,

then know that God will never leave.

This is the promise of scripture.

This is the promise of God's love.

Let us worship our with-us God.

Let us pray:

Shepherding God,

You look for us.

You search for us.

You turn every corner

and climb every mountain.

You call our name until your voice is hoarse.

When we lose our way,

you never stop seeking after us.

So once again we pray,

find us in this moment.

Look for us.

And then surround us with your presence,

so that we might feel you near.

With hope we pray, with hope we listen.

Amen.

Hymn 607

Congregation

I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

HYFRYDOL

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

Owen K.

Luke 15:1-7

[Page 850 of the pew Bible]

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

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

 **Hymn 587**

Congregation

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound
NEW BRITAIN

Call to Confession

Dan Thompson & Congregation

Friends, in the Christian tradition many have used “lost” and “found” labels to describe people “out there” versus people “in here.” Many have used “lost” and “found” language to create a damaging dichotomy that Christians are found and non-Christians are lost. But the truth is, each and every one of us is a little bit lost and a little bit found from time to time. Each and every one of us needs the love of the Good Shepherd. So join me in the prayer of confession, as people who know both ends of that spectrum.

The Confession of Sin

If God is a painter,

let us be the brush.

If God is a musician,

let us be the song.

If God is an architect,

let us be the tools.

Let us be the hands.

Let us be the builders.

But if God is a shepherd,
who never stops seeking,

**let us be willing to be found,
no matter how lost we feel.**

Our God is never far away.

Forgive us for forgetting this good news. Amen.

We now silently confess our sins together.

Promise of Forgiveness

We are all a little bit lost and a little bit found.

We grumble. We push back. We doubt God. We doubt ourselves.

We leave the flock and lose our way.

But fortunately for us, our God is a shepherding God who is always by our side.

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**No matter how far we wander,
we can never wander from the bounds of God’s grace.**

We are loved. We are forgiven. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn 405

Congregation

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BRADBURY
stanzas 1 & 2

Prayers of the People

Kenna Curry & Congregation

In peace let us pray to the Lord saying,

Lord, have mercy.

For the church throughout the world,
that all Christians may embody the reconciling love of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the nations of the world and its leaders,
that all may dwell in peace
and that justice may be tempered by mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the planet Earth, God's gift to humankind,
that all may share wisely its resources
and conserve its riches for our children's children,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies,
that we may regard them with the reconciling love
made manifest in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who are sick or in trouble,
for the defenseless, the weak, and the poor,
that they may be restored to wholeness of life and livelihood.

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

We now share silence together.

Let us pray:

**Loving God, hear the prayers of your people for the sake of our world, and our
Savior Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.**

Anthem

Choir

Come, Ye Sinners

by Joseph Hart, arr by Claude L. Bass

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power:
He is able, He is able,
He is willing, doubt no more;
Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him:
This he gives you, This he gives you;
'Tis the Spirit's glimmering beam;
Saints and angels, joined in concert, sing the praises of the Lamb;
While the blissful seats of heaven sweetly echo with his name:
O praise ye, O praise ye
Sinners here may do the same;
Amen.

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

“Lost & Found”

Moment of Contemplation

Choral Response

Choir

Breathe, Listen, and Notice

Words and Music by Paul Vasile

Help us speak less, slow judgement,
breathe, listen, and notice
what is present in the dissonance, discomfort, and in the questions.

Help us love well, walk humbly,
breathe, listen, and notice
God is calling us to faithfulness, compassion, and to courage.

Invitation to Generosity & Offertory Prayer

Isela C.

In gratitude for all that God has done for us and as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, let us share our gifts with God and God's world.

Hear now this prayer.

With glad hearts, we offer these gifts to you, O God. Transform them with the power of your Holy Spirit, that these gifts may bring forth new life. May our offering transform others' lives into the new creation you promise to all. Amen.

Offertory

Slow Movement from Concerto in D Minor

by Antonio Vivaldi

David Weigle

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



Benediction

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

As you leave this place,
may you find God in every messy middle.
May you know that the world is bigger than two sides.
May you trust that you are made in the image of God,
and therefore, you contain multitudes.
So may you move through this world with an open heart,
with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone.

God is with us in the mountains,

God is with you in the valleys,

God is everywhere in between.

Believe the good news, and go in peace.

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

Fanfares
by Craig Phillips

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.



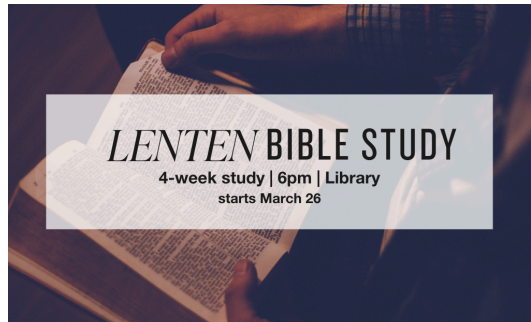
ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



Lunch + Learn

*Wednesday, April 2, 12:00pm, Vickrey Hall
(Lunch Line opens at 11:30am)*

We can't wait to welcome back Ariel Merivil of Wilshire Baptist Church! He will be joining us in our *Lenten Voices* series to share his musical gifts. We hope to see you there!



Bible Study

Wednesday, April 2, 6:00pm, Library

Our Lenten Bible Study led by ordination candidate, Mara Bim continues this week! This class gathers on Wednesday evenings in the Church Library. Dates are April 2, 9, and 16.



Royal Welcome Class

Sunday, April 6, 10:00am, Library

Are you interested in joining the church? Do you have friends who want to learn more? Our Royal Welcome class is the perfect opportunity to meet some of the staff and ask any and all questions. Light refreshments will be provided.



Church Conference

Sunday, April 13, 12:15pm, Vickrey Hall

Mark your calendars for April 13, as we will be voting on our proposed bylaw changes during this conference. Boxed lunches will be provided!

See Coming Events on our website for more information.

ROYALLANE.ORG

WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



Wednesday, April 2

- 10:00 am: Communion & Contemplation — Church Library
- 12:00 pm: Lunch + Learn — Vickrey Hall & Zoom (Lunch line opens at 11:30 am)
 - Menu: Fish tacos, rice & beans, and dessert
 - Program: Ariel Merivil, *Lenten Voices*
- 1:30 pm: Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building, Room 212 (1:30 - 3:30 pm)
- 6:00 pm: Lenten Bible Study led by Mara Bim — Church Library
- 6:15 pm: Children's Choir — Christian Education Building, Room 202
- 6:15 pm: Youth Gathering — Harris Youth Cottage
- 7:15 pm: Choir — Sanctuary

Saturday, April 5

- 2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

Sunday, April 6

- 9:45 am: Adult Christian Education — Christian Education Building & Library
- 9:45 am: Children's Christian Education — Christian Education Building
- 9:45 am: Youth Christian Education — Harris Youth Cottage
- 10:00 am: Royal Welcome Class — Church Library
- 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
- 12:15 pm: Missions Division Meeting — Christian Education Building, Room 212
- 12:15 pm: Youth First Sunday Lunch — Gazebo Burger
- 8:00 pm: Education Division Meeting — Zoom

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT

APRIL 25-26, 2025
SISTER GROVE FARM
VAN ALSTYNE, TX
Registration - \$70

Upcoming Women's Retreat

The annual Spring Women's Retreat is just around the corner! Please register by scanning the QR code and filling out the form. This year we will "love, embrace and find purpose in every stage of life." If you would like to spend a night on the farm before or after the retreat, reach out to Sarah Macias directly at sarah@sistergrovefarm.com or 903-312-0717. *Scholarships are available for those in need - contact the church office if you'd like more information.*



WALK THROUGH HOLY WEEK ROYAL KIDS

Easter Egg Candy and Goodies needed!

This year as we invite families to participate in Walk Through Holy Week on Saturday, April 19th, we will have an Egg Scavenger Hunt that children can participate in before or after the Walk Through. While this will be a little different than a traditional egg hunt, we hope it will allow families to participate in the activities at their own pace while also allowing us to adapt for different ages. We still need your help with candy and trinkets to fill the eggs! We're hoping to provide each kiddo with 10 eggs that they can find in the hunt, so please bring any donations to the box outside the sanctuary through Sunday, April 12th. Thank you!

HOPE SUPPLY DRIVE



A Huge Thank You!

We recently completed a hygiene kit drive benefitting Hope Supply. This ministry provides much needed resources to homeless and at-risk children. We are grateful to all those who participated, whether through donations or kit assembly last weekend!

WORSHIP NOTES

Hymn Notes

I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

Words: Francis H. Rowley, 1886

Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

Words: John Newton, 1779 (its. 1-4); Anonymous, ca. 1790 (st.5)

Music: Benjamin Shaw and Charles H Spilman's *Columian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Words: Attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836

Music: William B. Bradbury, 1859

Come, Ye Sinners

Joseph Hart, Arranged by Claude L. Bass

from the tune *Beach Spring*

The Sacred Harp, 1844

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Breathe, Listen, and Notice

Words and Music by Paul Vasile.

Commissioned by A Sanctified Art, LLC.

LovedIntoBeing Music, Copyright © 2025

Cover Art

Lost & Found by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Inspired by Luke 15:1-7

Newspaper & gold leaf collage with digital drawing

I began my artwork for this series by collaging torn strips of newspaper articles together, overlapping global headlines with photos of current events. Along the torn edges, I added gold leaf. Then I photographed the result, editing the photos in black and white. These photos would become the backdrop for my pieces, as I wanted my digital drawings to emerge within the noise of the world's deepest pains, divisions, and everything in between. The collage is also a reference to theologian Karl Barth's famous quote about reading the bible and the newspaper together. I wanted the gold leaf to represent God's presence in the spaces in between the events and forces that tear us apart.

On September 27th, 2024, I began drawing the Good Shepherd with the lost sheep tenderly wrapped around his shoulders. As I worked, rain pummeled our roof, saturating the ground with an endless deluge as the wide bands of tropical storm Helene reached our high-elevation town of Black Mountain, NC. The next day, winds roared and threw trees to the ground like dominos. We lost power, then water, then cell service. We didn't know it yet, but every creek and river had swelled with enormous force, sweeping away everything in their path. Landslides, sinkholes, and extreme flooding ravaged the entire region of Western North Carolina, taking homes, towns, and human lives.

We were incredibly and graciously spared, having no flooding in our house or trees on our roof, so as soon as the storm relented, we headed out to find our friends and family by foot. As we walked through our small town, we found ourselves in a maze-like wasteland, changing our route every other turn due to downed trees or power lines, or washed-out roads. Progressively, we found family and friends, greeting them with great relief and urgent questions: "Do you have enough water to drink? Do you have water for flushing? Do you need any food?" It would be nearly 6 days before any emergency relief could arrive with food, water, and supplies. Meanwhile, neighbors survived by the help of their neighbors. Churches opened their doors. Firefighters and first responders persisted, despite perilous rescue missions. Helicopters air-lifted stranded people to safety.

When I began this artwork, I naively hoped to gain insight into Jesus' parable of the lost sheep. In that process, I did not wish to *become* the lost sheep and live through the greatest natural disaster to hit my hometown in over a thousand years. But as I read this parable again, now over 6 weeks after the storm, what strikes me is the pursuit of the shepherd, so singularly focused on the one who is lost, vulnerable, and at-risk. The Good Shepherd steadies the sheep on his shoulders and steps out of the frame toward us. His gaze finds mine, and I almost hear him whisper, "I will never stop searching for the lost. I will never stop rejoicing when one is found."

—Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Liturgy Notes

Prayers and Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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

Dan Thompson and Kelley Keith

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



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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