



# ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



*WELCOME TO WORSHIP*

APRIL 6, 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


APRIL 6, 2024

# THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF 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

As children we were taught to tell the teacher.

(Justice was dealt when we spoke up.)

As children we were taught to always be kind.

(Friends were made when we spoke love.)

As children we were taught that Zaccheus climbed a tree.

(But we cut that tree down a long time ago.)

So what are the rules for this day and age?

Can we turn black and white into shades of gray?

Do we call each other out, for righteousness sake?

Do we call each other in? Do we grab something to eat?

As always, love is somewhere in between.

## Voluntary

Sheep May Safely Graze

by J.S. Bach

*David Weigle*

## **Call to Worship & Invocation**

*Rev. Harry Wooten & Congregation*

We come to worship because we long for mercy.

**We long for community.**

**We long for God.**

We come to worship because we need a good word.

**We need connection.**

**We need reminders.**

We come to worship because we are in between:

**hope and grief,**

**faith and doubt,**

**joy and longing,**

**curiosity and conviction.**

So we come to worship and God meets us here.

**Surely, we are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God for meeting us in the middle! Amen.**

Let us pray:

**Loving God,**

**Week after week we return to this space,  
because we long to see you.**

**Like Zacchaeus who climbed a tree  
to get a peek at you as you walked by,  
we come to this sanctuary hoping to get a peek  
of your goodness,  
of your joy,  
of your light.**

**So speak to us in this time of worship.**

**Let us get a peek of the love that lingers here.**

**Gratefully we pray, amen.**

## **Hymn 295**

*Congregation*

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON



## 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](http://royallane.org/register) or with the QR code.*



## Scripture Lesson

*Dylan W.*

**Luke 19:1-10**

*[Page 854 of the New Testament]*

"He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'"

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.*

## Call to Confession

*Cathy Webb & Congregation*

Friends, our faith calls us to live with both mercy and righteousness.

Somewhere along the way, however, we have forgotten that truth.

Somewhere along the way, we began arguing about who deserves mercy and whether or not they had acted with enough righteousness to receive it.

Fortunately, God does not act that way.

No matter what mistakes we have made or wrong turns we've taken, God consistently meets us with mercy and invites us to try again. So let us lean into that good news, and go to God in prayer.

## The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

**Merciful God,  
When we fail to be righteous,  
show us mercy.  
When we fail to be merciful,  
show us what is right.  
Again and again,  
bring us closer to you.  
Again and again,  
show us the way.  
Amen.**

*We now silently confess our sins together.*

## Promise of Forgiveness

Family of faith, hear and believe this good news:

When we fail to be righteous,

**God is merciful.**

When we fail to be merciful,

**God invites us to try again.**

Again and again,

**God moves closer to us.**

Again and again,

**God shows us the way.**

**Thanks be to God for this unending love.**

## Righteous Mercy

## HYFRYDOL

Since our child - hood you have taught us what is wrong  
Though there's wide - ness in your mer - cy, let us not  
Far too of - ten we hold on - to an - ger dressed

and what is right Nur - tur - ing our sense of  
a - buse that grace Called in - to this Chris - tian  
as righ - teous - ness We for - get we serve a

8  
jus - tice, fuel - ing us to work and fight Keep that  
jour - ney, let our lives re - flect our faith When we  
God who calls us to re - la - tion - ship So when

14  
fire for jus - tice burn - ing in the sha - dow  
fal - ter and fall short of our com - mit - ment  
those who caused us harm re - pent and choose a

19  
of our fear E - ven there your Spi - rit's stir - ring,  
to your will Hold us, wrap - ping us in your love  
bet - ter way Spi - rit move our venge - ful hearts

25  
light - ing us a path that's clear  
as we work toward whole - ness still  
to choose love in - stead of wrath

## Offertory Prayer

*Jack Mullinax*

God of many blessings, as Zacchaeus before us, we long to see your face and know the power of your presence. In moments of sharing and generosity, we see visions of how our lives and world are healed and made whole. Work within these offerings and in our very lives, that the world may know your hope and your love. Amen.

## Offertory

*Choir*

### Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love

based on "Pavane" by Gabriel Faure  
by Russell A. Kane and Allan Robert Petker

*Lamb of God, what wondrous love,  
O my soul, that Thou, for me, shouldst die.  
Lord of grace, What matchless love, O my soul.  
Son of God, Thou loving sacrifice for me.  
Here, O Lord, am I, fearful, sinful, man,  
guilty and condemned, Thy death is surely mine.  
Cross of God, I would to turn away,  
yet Love it bids me to stay, O my soul.  
Can it be the very death I fear  
is that which draws me near, Lord, to Thee?  
Lamb of God, Thou died for me.*

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



## Sermon

*Rev. Victoria Robb Powers*

### "Righteousness and Mercy"

## Moment of Contemplation

## Response

*Choir*

### Let Us Break Bread Together

**BREAK BREAD**

*Let us break bread together on our knees,  
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

## Communion

*All Believers, Rev. Victoria Robb Powers*

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

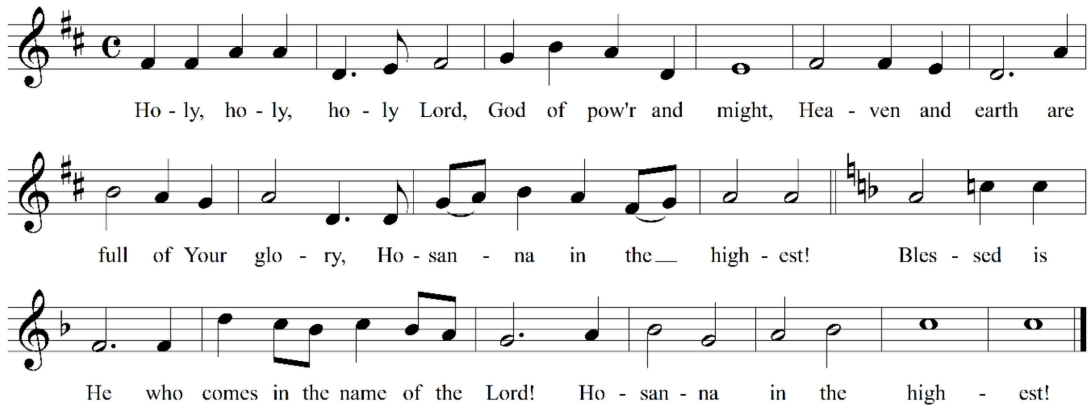
**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the God we love.

**We freely give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

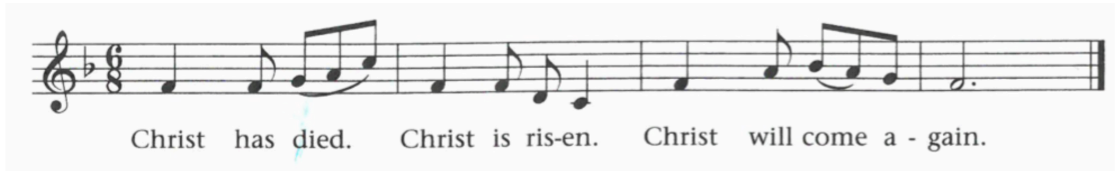
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, Hea - ven and earth are  
full of Your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bles - sed is  
He who comes in the name of the Lord! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

## Words of Institution

**Response:** And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,  
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,  
and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory  
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,  
With the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, God,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Following the choir, please move by way of the center aisle to partake  
of communion and return via the outside aisles.  
The Communion elements are gluten free.*

## **Passing of the Peace**

The Lord offers us everything we need without price. In celebration of this great gift, let us share our joy by passing the peace of Christ with one another.

The peace of Christ be with you... **And also with you.**

## **Sung Response**

*Congregation*

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **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*

In These Stones Horizons Sing

by Karl Jenkins

*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.*





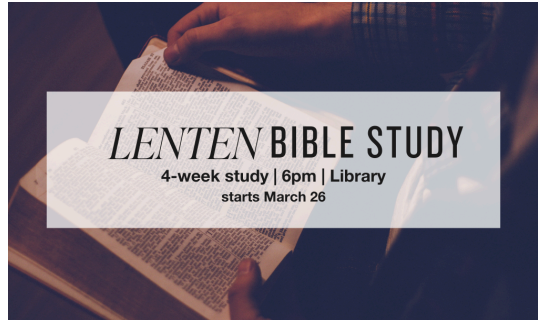
# ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



## Lunch + Learn

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

Our *Lenten Voices* series continues this week, with our own Jonathan Greer and guest, Katrina Burggraf. Come to lunch with us!



## Bible Study

*Wednesday, April 9, 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 9 and 16.



## Gen X/Millennial Women's Dinner

*Saturday, April 12, 7:45pm, La Casita Bakeshop  
in Half Price books*

This group heads to the Half Price Books at 5801 E Northwest Highway next Saturday! Contact Jessica at [jessicalamberth@gmail.com](mailto:jessicalamberth@gmail.com) with any questions and feel free to bring a friend.



## 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!

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

**ROYALLANE.ORG**

# WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*

## **Sunday, April 6**

8:30 am: Discipleship Committee Meeting — Library

12:15 pm: Youth First Sunday Lunch

12:15 pm: Missions Division Meeting — Christian Education Building, Room 212

## **Tuesday, April 8**

6:30 pm: New 'Life Support' Group — Christian Education Building, Room 205

## **Wednesday, April 9**

10:00 am: Communion & Contemplation — Library

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

Menu: Chicken Cobbler, salad, and dessert

Program: Jonathan Greer and Katrina Burggraf, *Lenten Voices*

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

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

6:00 pm: Lenten Bible Study led by Mara Bim — Library

6:15 pm: Children's Choir — Christian Education Building, Room 202

6:15 pm: Youth Gathering — Youth Cottage

7:15 pm: Choir — Sanctuary

## **Saturday, April 12**

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

7:45pm: Women's Meet Up (Gen X/Millennial Ladies) — La Casita Bakeshop

## **Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday**

8:30 am: Deacon's 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 — 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

Young Theologians — Christian Education Building, Room 202

Children Fourth through Sixth Grade

**12:15 pm: Community Lunch/Church Conference — Vickrey Hall**

# COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ON VIEW  
IN THE  
BOX  
GALLERY:

"God's Gift of Seeing"  
by David Clanton  
Now through June 28



In this exhibition, presented during the season of Lent, I invite you to reflect on the profound gift of sight—both physical and spiritual—as we journey together through this sacred time of reflection, repentance, and renewal. "A Celebration of God's Gift of Seeing" seeks to deepen our understanding of how we see, how we perceive, and how our vision of the world is shaped by our faith in God.

The digital photographs in this collection offer a visual celebration of God's creation—moments of light, beauty, and presence found in the everyday world. These representational images remind us that our eyes are blessed with the ability to witness the divine in both the ordinary and the extraordinary, from the delicate unfolding of a flower to the serenity of a quiet landscape. Through these photographs, I seek to encourage a mindfulness that sees the presence of God in all things, urging us to slow down, observe, and be grateful for the wonders around us.

However, as we reflect on the season of Lent, we are also invited to go beyond mere physical sight. The digital collages in this exhibition push the boundaries of what we can see, offering an abstract dimension that represents the unseen—those aspects of faith that cannot be captured by the camera but are felt in the depths of our hearts. The fragmented, layered, and reimagined images invite us to explore the inner vision granted by the Holy Spirit, the deeper understanding that transcends the visible world. These abstract pieces reflect the spiritual journey of Lent—where we move from darkness into light, from self-reflection to renewal, and where our vision of God's will for our lives becomes clearer.

In combining both representational and abstract elements, "A Celebration of God's Gift of Seeing" calls attention to the dual nature of our sight—the physical, which connects us to the world around us, and the spiritual, which connects us to the eternal. This exhibition encourages us to open our eyes not only to the beauty of creation but also to the transformative power of God's presence in our lives during this holy season.

May this collection inspire you to see with new eyes—eyes that reflect both the glory of creation and the deeper truths of faith, inviting us all into a season of seeing, reflecting, and growing in the light of Christ.

**David Clanton** | [www.davidclanton.com](http://www.davidclanton.com)



## EASTER FLOWERS



place orders by Wednesday, April 15



## 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 13th. Thank you!



## 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](mailto:sarah@sistergrovefarm.com) or 903-312-0717. *Scholarships are available for those in need - contact the church office if you'd like more information.*

ROYAL  
kids

# TRUE NORTH

Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

VBS &  
MUSIC/ARTS  
CAMP  
2025

AGE 3  
THROUGH  
COMPLETED  
GRADE 5

**JUNE 23-27**

9AM-12PM VBS

1PM-4PM MUSIC/ARTS CAMP

\$40 FOR VBS / \$70 FOR BOTH



Scholarships Available  
contact [bjohnson@royallane.org](mailto:bjohnson@royallane.org)

*\*Reservations are filling up fast, so be sure you reserve your spot soon!*

# WORSHIP *NOTES*



## Cover Art

Zacchaeus by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Inspired by Luke 19:1-10

Digital Painting

I had a lot of fun discovering new layers to this familiar story. I learned that Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore fig tree, which was a food source for poor people because the fruit was bitter and generally undesirable. I had always imagined a fruitless tree, but the presence of fruit opened up interesting avenues to explore. The root word for sycamore tree is σῦκον, meaning “fig,” and as I did a study of other key words in the text, I noticed this same root word in συκοφαντεω, or “defrauded,” which was used to describe what Zacchaeus did to his community. It was curious to me that the root word for “defrauded” was “fig,” so I dug deeper to find that the Greek word was from the phrase “fig-informer” or a person who would notify authorities if one was exporting figs from Greece without paying a tax. It seemed that these “fig-informers” would use the threat of exposure to extort money from fig farmers. This is where the word “sycophant” comes from, which evolved to more generally describe a “malignant accuser from love of gain,” which perfectly describes Zacchaeus.

Jesus calls Zacchaeus out of his identity as “sycophant” into his new identity as “repentant host” who invites Jesus into his home and redistributes his ill-gotten wealth. Zacchaeus’s clothing holds a repeated pattern of four figs and halves of coins, referencing the fruits of his transformation. The area where Zacchaeus sat in the tree is fruitless and dying. His actions were destructive and oppressive to his own community. The crowd is correct in grumbling about him; their anger is righteous, but Jesus offers mercy. In this visual metaphor, Jesus removes him from the tree so it has a chance to heal and nourish the whole community. Jesus’ clothing is patterned with suns, representing righteousness, and water, representing mercy, because it is through his merciful actions that righteousness for the community is achieved.

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

## Liturgy Notes

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

## Hymn Notes

### **Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758 (1 Sam 7:12)

Music: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

### **Righteous Mercy**

Words: Anna Strickland, 2023

Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaugh Williams, 1906

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

### **Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love**

Words: Russell A. Kane and Allan Robert Petker

Based on "Pavane" by Gabriel Faure

Arranged by Allan Robert Petker

© Copyright 1986 by Gentry Publications

### **Let Us Break Bread Together**

Words: African-American spiritual

Music: African-American spiritual; arr. Carlton Young, 1964, alt.

Arr. © 1965 Abingdon Press (Admin. by The Copyright Company)

### **Sanctus**

Music: Mark Snow, Used by permission.

### **Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow**

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674, alt.

Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

## SOCIAL JUSTICE *ACTION*



The Texas legislature is in session now!

Micah 6:8 "What does God require of you but to do Justice, love Kindness, walk Humbly with your God." Open this QR code to learn who represents you in the Texas legislature.

Contact your representative/senator to make your voice be heard.



# HOW TO *CONNECT*

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

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*REQUEST  
PRAYER*



## Deacons on Call

Jack Mullinax & Margaret Darden

# *GIVING* AT ROYAL LANE

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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](http://royallane.org/give).

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*ONLINE  
GIVING*



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## 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



**ROYAL LANE**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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