



ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

JUNE 22, 2025

WELCOME

TO ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH



Whether you're a longtime member or a first-time guest, we're so glad you're here!

This summer, we're journeying through a worship series called Faces of Our Faith. Each week, we'll tell the story of a biblical figure - some well-known, others less familiar - whose life has shaped the story of God's people. These are the saints, seekers, strugglers, and everyday folks through whom God

has moved, reminding us that God works through all kinds of people in all kinds of ways.

You'll also notice that we're worshiping in a new space. While our sanctuary undergoes renovations, we'll be gathering here in Vickrey Hall. This may not be the setting we're used to, but we hope this space still feels sacred - a place of welcome, connection, and community.

It's a good reminder that God's presence is not tied to a particular building. Sacred space isn't just about architecture, it's about hearts turned toward God and one another. So as we prepare for worship, may we turn our hearts toward the one who made us and toward the people around us.

We're grateful you're here.

In Christ,

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

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

JUNE 22, 2025

THE *WORSHIP OF GOD*

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



To help maintain the spirit of worship, please silence all electronic devices.

 = *please rise in body or in spirit*

Gathering Music

Jeanie Chuang

Christian, We Have Met to Worship

arr. by Mark Hayes

(Please consider the opening sentences during gathering music.)

Today we remember a story that rarely gets the spotlight. A story of two women, two midwives, whose quiet courage and holy defiance changed the course of history.

Today we remember Shiphrah and Puah, who stood at the threshold of birth and death, and chose life. Who defied a king to obey a deeper call. Who said “no” to empire and “yes” to God, even when no one was watching, even when the cost was great.

Their resistance was not loud, but it was faithful. Not violent, but powerful. Not famous, but foundational. So this morning we gather to worship the God who honors the brave, who blesses the bold, who calls us, even now, to say no to injustice and yes to life.

Call to Worship & Invocation

Rev. Harry Wooten & Congregation

Ageless God, we seek the wisdom of Shiphrah and Puah,
midwives who defied Pharaoh's orders and instead protected life.

Like the Hebrew women living under empire,
teach us how to create systems of mutual aid, community care, and resistance.

Help us center the vulnerable, so that all may experience abundant life, resisting the pain of empire.

We know, O God, that white supremacy, xenophobia, and homophobia must be defeated, no matter who holds dominion.

Give us strength to resist whenever a child of God is dehumanized.

God who is greater than all kings, may we remember the wisdom of our ancestors — their songs, prayers, and guidance.

Along with the midwives, we hold on to the witness of Miriam,
who in fleeing Egypt had the forethought to grab her tambourine,
knowing that one day joy would be necessary.

Let us pray:

God of liberation, we know that one day the captives shall be free.

We know that one day your peace shall have the final word.

Until that day, may we hold each other tightly,

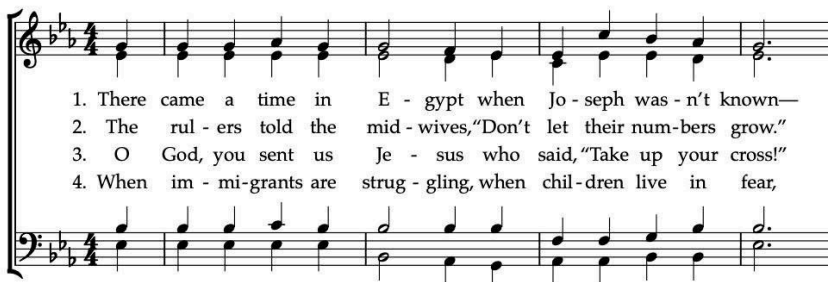
work for your beloved community to reign supreme,

and live together in pursuit of peace for all of God's children.

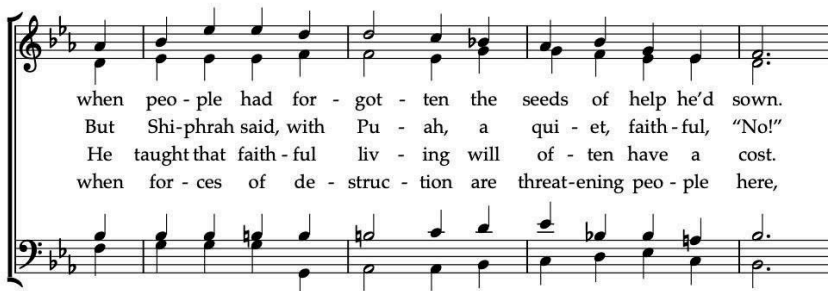
Amen.

There Came a Time in Egypt

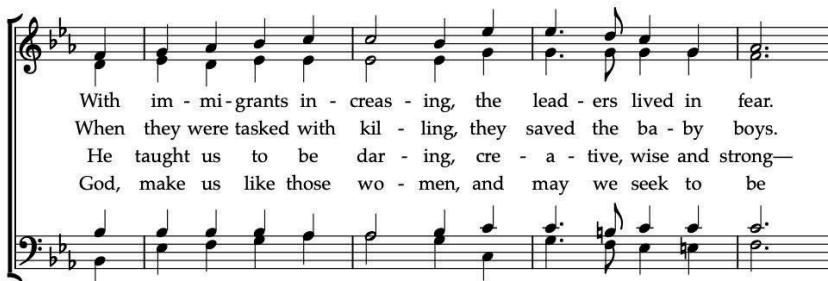
AURELIA



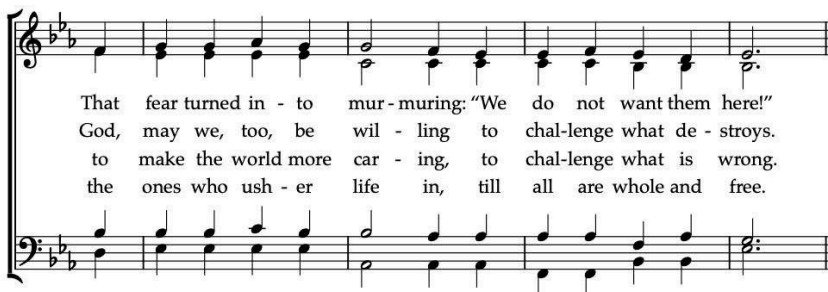
1. There came a time in E - gypt when Jo - seph was - n't known—
 2. The rul - ers told the mid - wives, "Don't let their num - bers grow."
 3. O God, you sent us Je - sus who said, "Take up your cross!"
 4. When im - mi - grants are strug - gling, when chil - dren live in fear,



when peo - ple had for - got - ten the seeds of help he'd sown.
 But Shi-phrah said, with Pu - ah, a qui - et, faith - ful, "No!"
 He taught that faith - ful liv - ing will of - ten have a cost.
 when for - ces of de - struc - tion are threat - ening peo - ple here,



With im - mi - grants in - creas - ing, the lead - ers lived in fear.
 When they were tasked with kil - ling, they saved the ba - by boys.
 He taught us to be dar - ing, cre - a - tive, wise and strong—
 God, make us like those wo - men, and may we seek to be



That fear turned in - to mur - muring: "We do not want them here!"
 God, may we, too, be wil - ling to chal - lenge what de - stroys.
 to make the world more car - ing, to chal - lenge what is wrong.
 the ones who ush - er life in, till all are whole and free.

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 scanning the QR code.



Scripture Lesson

Exodus 1:8-22

9am - Kenna Curry & Congregation

11am - Mara Bim & Congregation

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

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

During the 11am service, 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

Congregation

There Is A Line of Women

LLANGLOFFAN



1. There is a line of wo - men ex - tend - ing back to Eve
2. There is a line of wo - men who took on pow'r - ful men
3. So sing a song of Shi - phrah with Pu - ah close at hand,



whose role in shap - ing his - t'ry God on - ly could con - ceive.
de - fy - ing laws and scru - ples to let life live a - gain.
en - gaged to kill male chil - dren, they foiled the king's com - mand.



And though, through end - less a - ges, their wit - ness was re - pressed,
And though, de - spite their tri - umph, their sto - ries stayed un - told
And sing of all the wo - men who strive to do their best



God val - ued and en - cour - aged them through whom the world was blessed.
God kept their num - ber grow - ing, cre - a - tive, strong and bold.
as peo - ple called to serve God in ev' - ry time and place.

Invitation to Generosity

We are invited to give with generosity,
to minister in caring ways,
to lead with diligence,
to teach with enthusiasm.
We cannot be all things to all people.
But we can tithe the many gifts God pours out on us
and do our best to live up to God's trust in us.

*9am - Paulette Harrison & Congregation
11am - Nate Green & Congregation*

Offertory Prayer

Hear now this prayer.

Receive our offering, gracious God, as an expression of our thankfulness. In your church, we are privileged to cultivate the dimensions of our lives that give meaning and purpose to all we do. Here we become aware that the greatest gifts we receive are not material, and we learn how best to use the particular gifts you give us. At the same time, you show us how our material advantages can help others. May many be blessed through our sharing of these offerings and our sharing of ourselves. Amen.

Offertory

Beautiful Island of Somewhere
J.S. Fearis

Jeanie Chuang

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



Prayers of the People

*9am - Joey Belgard & Congregation
11am - Garland Hamic & Congregation*

Holy God, Defender of the weak, Deliverer of the enslaved, you remember your people, from the youngest to the oldest. Your works declare your faithfulness to all generations, from the Hebrews enslaved in Egypt to your people gathered in this place now.

We praise you for hearing the oppressed and protecting your children, and we lament our own indifference to the vulnerable among us. Open our eyes to how we benefit from unjust labor laws here and abroad, how we fail to care for children who are at-risk, and how we run through resources with little thought for what will be left for our children and grandchildren. Teach us to advocate for better.

May we be strengthened by your Spirit and guided by your Word.

We praise you for people like Shiprah and Puah who risk their lives to do your kingdom work. We lift up today's justice fighters: be with social workers and teachers, peace officers and public defenders, victims' advocates and judges, and all health workers.

May they be strengthened by your Spirit and guided by your Word.

Give us boldness in multiplying your blessings for others. Give us attentive ears and hearts to be with the oppressed.

May we be strengthened by your Spirit and guided by your Word.

Let us pray:

Holy God, Defender, Deliverer, and our Dawn in the darkness, draw us ever closer to you that we might join in your work and praise you all of our days. In the name of the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer we pray. Amen.

Solo

Brittany Jones

God Help the Outcasts
by Alan Menken, lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

I don't know if You can hear me
or if You're even there.
I don't know if You will listen
to a humble prayer.
They tell me I am just an outcast,
I shouldn't speak to You.
Still I see Your face and wonder:
were You once an outcast, too?

God help the outcasts hungry from birth.
Show them mercy they don't find on earth.
The lost and forgotten, they look to You still.
God help the outcasts or nobody will.

I ask for nothing, I can get by.
But I know so many less lucky than I.
God help the outcasts, the poor and downtrod.
I thought we all were the children of God.

I don't know if there's a reason
why some are blessed, some not.
Why the few you seem to favor,
they fear us, flee us, try not to see us.

God help the outcasts, the tattered, the torn,
seeking an answer to why they were born.
Winds of misfortune have blown them about.
You made the outcasts; don't cast them out.

The poor and unlucky,
the weak and the odd;
I thought we all were the children of God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. George Mason

“They Said No”

Moment of Contemplation

Hymn of Response

Congregation

The Bond of Love

SKILLINGS



We are one in the bond of love; we are one in the bond of love.

We have joined our spir-its with the Spir-it of God; we are one in the bond of love.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. George Mason

Closing Music

Jeanie Chuang

How Majestic Is Your Name

by Michael W. Smith



GUEST *PREACHER*



George Mason is the Senior Pastor Emeritus at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas where he served for 33 years. He is the founder and president of Faith Commons, an interfaith nonprofit organization that amplifies diverse faith voices for the common good. He also teaches as an adjunct professor for SMU's Perkins School of Theology, where he is the lead advisor for the Baptist House of Studies. George is married to Kim, and they have three grown children and seven (soon to be eight) grandchildren.

His 2023 book, *The Word Made Fresh: Preaching God's Love for Every Body*, which contains 80 of George's sermons from his tenure at Wilshire, received the 2024 Religion Communicators Council's DeRose-Hinkhouse Memorial book of the year award.

SUMMER WORSHIP

We will continue worshipping in Vickrey Hall this summer while our Sanctuary undergoes renovations. Both the 9am & 11am services will have Time for Young Disciples, but Godly Play will take place only at the 11am service. Stay tuned for construction updates.



ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



Vacation Bible School

June 23-27, 9:00am

VBS & Music/Arts Camp begin tomorrow! If your family is signed up, we can't wait to have a great week with you.



Bible Study

Wednesday, June 25, 6:00pm, Library

Join our Pastoral Intern, Kenna Curry, for a weekly study on the Bible and LGBTQ inclusion. What does the Bible really say?



Summer Club Meetings

Thursday, June 26, 8:00pm

Women of the church will meet on Thursday for Book Club to discuss Michelle Zauner's *Crying In H Mart* and the Men's Music Club will listen to Fleetwood Mac's *Rumours*.



Community Dinner

Saturday, June 28, Community Members' Homes

There are only a few days left to sign up for this great event! Groups of 8-10 folks will be assigned to community members' homes to gather for dinner and fellowship. We hope to see you there!

See Coming Events on our website for more information.

ROYALLANE.ORG

WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*

Sunday, June 22

11:45 am: *Special Called Church Conference — Vickrey Hall & Online*

Monday, June 23

9:00 am: “True North” VBS & Music/Arts Camp (Monday-Friday)

Wednesday, June 25

4:00 pm: Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building, Room 212 (4:00 - 5:45 pm)

6:00 pm: Biblical Queer-ies Bible Study — Church Library

Thursday, June 26

8:00 pm: Pastor’s Summer Book Club — Times Ten Cellars

8:00 pm: Men’s Music & Whiskey Club — Home of Matt Powers

Saturday, June 28

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

Sunday, June 29

9:00 am: Morning Worship — Vickrey Hall

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

11:00 am: Morning Worship — Vickrey Hall & Royal Lane YouTube Channel

Godly Play (following Time for Young Disciples) — Godly Play Room

Children 3-year through Third Grade



Cecilia Gutierrez has been nominated by the Member Resource Committee to fill the vacant position on the Board of Deacons. A special called church conference will take place today following the 11am worship service. Voting will take place via paper ballot to affirm the nomination and will be available via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person.

WORSHIP *NOTES*

Cover Art

They Said No, by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, acrylic on canvas, inspired by Exodus 1:8-22
© A Sanctified Art | sanctifiedart.org

Pharaoh's plan is a clever one. In an attempt to obliterate the Hebrews, he enlists midwives to pull a quick-handed maneuver by smothering any Hebrew baby boys seconds after birth so that their mothers will believe they are stillborn. The more this happens, the more the Hebrew people will believe that their fertility—their life-force—is diminished. Progeny was everything, for the ability to procreate determined the survival, legacy, and strength of a tribe. Pharaoh doesn't just want them dead, he wants to eradicate their identity, their resilience.

But, instead, two gutsy women throw a wrench in his plans. Shiphrah and Puah are the only women in this story to be named, which we know is a rarity in scripture, so when it happens, it's as if the author is flashing blinking lights on the page that say, "Pay attention to them!" What we see is the first known instance of civil disobedience in recorded history. They say no.

These midwives, these lowest-of-the-low-status-women who likely had no husbands, who were simply glorified servants, who, themselves, may have been deemed infertile and therefore useless to a family system, risk everything to say no.

Through this simple but mighty act, they change the course of history so that, many, many years later, another baby boy born into a dark world of genocide might also survive and flourish and grow up to redeem the world.

In this painting, these hands represent the women's resistance. They are the hands that said no to a power-hungry ruler but yes to a God of justice—to a God who transforms a story of massacre into one of liberation. The impact of their actions, like the waters of the Nile, ripples out far beyond them.

—Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Liturgy Notes

Call to Worship & Invocation from *A Prayer After a Turbulent Election* by Kaeley McEvoy

Hymn Notes

There Came a Time in Egypt

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2023.

Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864.

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God Help the Outcasts

Music by Alan Menken, Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

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Disney Music Company

There Is A Line of Women

by John L. Bell © WGRG, Iona Community,

Glasgow, UK (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Beautiful Island of Somewhere

1956 Lorenz Publishing Co

How Majestic Is Your Name

1989 Meadowgreen Music

Christian, We Have Met to Worship

2006 Lorenz Corporation

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 submit prayer requests by filling out the prayer request form on the website at royallane.org/prayer or by scanning the QR code.

Deacons on Call

Joey Belgard & Garland Hamic

REQUEST

PRAYER



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
Mara Bim, Justice & Advocacy Fellow
Cathy Walling, Office Administrator & Prophetic Leadership
Program Coordinator

Jeanie Chuang, Pianist
Mike Hurder, Maintenance Director
Taide Guerra, Housekeeping
Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician
Brandon Green, Audio Technician
Brian Stinecipher, Audio Technician
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician