



# 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,

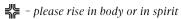
Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD



#### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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



## **Gathering Music**

Jeanie Chuang

## I Sing the Mighty Power of God arr. by Maureen Howell

(Please consider the opening sentences during gathering music.)

Come and hear the story of five women - Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirza - the daughters of Zelophehad, who stood when they were expected to stay seated, who spoke when they were expected to stay silent, who questioned when they were told the law was settled, who demanded justice and received it.

They did not whisper. They did not wait for permission. They stood before Moses, before the assembly, before God, and the law was changed.

In their boldness, something new was born. Through their voices, the Word was heard afresh. And from the hardened ground of tradition, new life began to sprout.

So come. Come with your questions. Come with your courage. Come with your longing for a more just world.

## Call to Worship & Invocation

Come, let us gather, remembering the stories of faith that have shaped our journey, just like the daughters of Zelophehad who drew near to God in the wilderness, seeking their inheritance in the land God had promised.

With faith, we trust in God's promises, even when the path ahead seems unclear, just as these sisters believed in God's faithfulness despite their circumstances.

The daughters of Zelophehad were not afraid to challenge the status quo, seeking justice and speaking up for what was right, even when it seemed unlikely they would be heard.

With courage, let us be inspired by their example to advocate for ourselves and others, standing up for justice and fairness in the world.

God, with wisdom and justice, heard their plea and affirmed their request, ensuring that their father's name and inheritance would not be lost, and establishing a new law for all generations.

#### Let us pray:

O God, we recognize that you are a God of justice, who hears the cries of Your people, and is actively involved in working out what is right and fair for all. Therefore, let us worship the God who values courage, affirms justice, and calls us to be agents of love and change in the world. Amen.

# Come, Sing of New Creation



### **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 scanning the QR code.



## **Scripture Lesson**

Numbers 27:1-11

9am - Greta L. & Congregation 11am - Madeline C. & Congregation

Then the daughters of Zelophehad came forward. Zelophehad was son of Hepher son of Gilead son of Machir son of Manasseh son of Joseph, a member of the Manassite clans. The names of his daughters were: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. They stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders, and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and they said, "Our father died in the wilderness; he was not among the company of those who gathered themselves together against the Lord in the company of Korah, but died for his own sin; and he had no sons. Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us a possession among our father's brothers."

Moses brought their case before the Lord. And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "The daughters of Zelophehad are right in what they are saying; you shall indeed let them possess an inheritance among their father's brothers and pass the inheritance of their father on to them. You shall also say to the Israelites: If a man dies, and has no son, then you shall pass his inheritance on to his daughter. If he has no daughter, then you shall give his inheritance to his brothers. If he has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to his father's brothers. And if his father has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to the nearest kinsman of his clan, and he shall possess it. It shall be for the Israelites a statute and ordinance, as the Lord commanded Moses."

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!** 

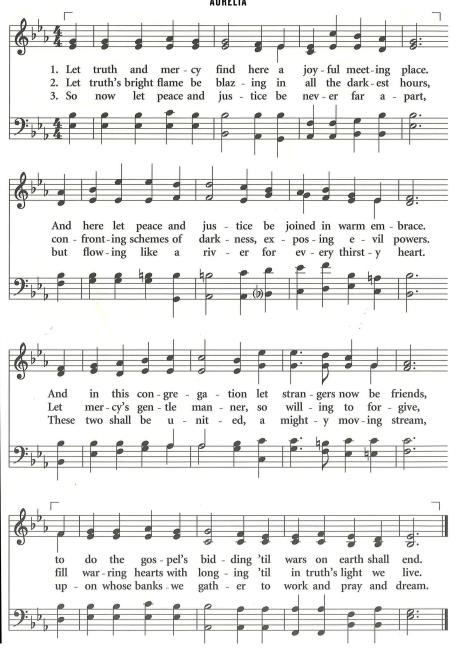
## **Time for Young Disciples**

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.

# Let Truth and Mercy Find Here AURELIA



## **Offertory Prayer**

9am - Tommy Lamberth & Congregation 11am - Sheryl Gambill & Congregation

Hear now this prayer.

Gracious God, as we offer these gifts,

we acknowledge the doubts that sometimes cloud our faith.

We are grateful for the blessings you have given us,

and we seek your guidance as we discern how to use them.

Grant us the courage to act on our beliefs,

and the wisdom to navigate the questions that arise along the way.

May our offering be a testament to our trust in your provision and a reflection of our desire to follow your will.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**Offertory** *Jeanie Chuang* 

What a Friend We Have in Jesus arr. by Martha Mier

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



## **Prayers of the People**

O God, have mercy on us; we are yearning to hear from You. Our souls need healing. Our souls yearn for a revival to mend our broken hearts. Lift up our bowed-down heads and draw us closer to you.

You are a Mighty God and you have promised to meet us at our point of need.

We are trailblazers who build our foundations on solid ground. We prepare for the storms and listen to hear from you.

In our quietness you hear our cry and make provisions that we cannot see. Thank you, O God, for your blessings.

Pour into us your word so we may continue to be trailblazers all our days. God, you are our dwelling place and we seek after you when we enter the sanctuary.

Thank you, God, for your great creation and your instructions that guide us daily, helping us to be wise and not foolish ones who tear down our homes and our lives.

We praise you, O God, for your mighty acts as you lead us to that sacred place to bask in your spirit and worship you.

God, you have been our dwelling place and a very present help in times of need. Dear God, help the foolish become wise through the power of your Holy Spirit.

God, help the foolish who chose to tear down rather than build. They have been hurt by past pains, low self-esteem, and bad decisions. Let us be beacons of light for them so they might see the way.

God, restore unto us the joy of our salvation. Give us the power to throw off foolish endeavors and engage in wise undertakings.

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

We now share silence together.

Let us pray:

All praises to God for the wise women we consider today. May these trailblazers help us make choices that please you. Amen.

Solo

# **Amazing Grace**

Cynthia Scott, soloist Lloyd Scott, pianist

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

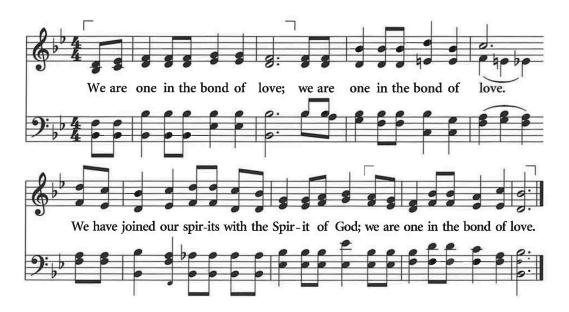
"They Stood"

## **Moment of Contemplation**

## **# Hymn of Response**

Congregation

# The Bond of Love



## **♯ Benediction**

**Closing Music** 

Jeanie Chuang

Just a Closer Walk with Thee arr. by Melody Bober



# ROYAL LANE HAPPENINGS



## **Bible Study**

Wednesday, July 2, 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?



## **Sunset Vespers**

Sunday, July 13, 8:00pm, Sister Grove Farm Come visit Sister Grove Farm for an evening of meaningful liturgy surrounded by nature and friends.



## **Family Night**

Wednesday, July 9, 5:30pm, T.P. Hill Join us at White Rock Lake for dinner and fun - bring the whole family to this summer gathering!



## Service Event

Friday, July 25, 11:30am, Feed My Starving Children

Help pack nutritious meals for hungry children around the world. There are important tasks for sit-down volunteers, as well as children age 5 and older, who can participate if accompanied by an adult.

# SPECIAL MUSIC



For three decades, the vocal artistry of the multi-talented Arkansas-born vocalist Cynthia Scott has encompassed the swing of jazz, the soul of blues, R&B, and the sacred stirrings of gospel music. She is loved by audiences from New York to Africa, Europe and Asia; by musicians from Wynton Marsalis to Ray Charles – who discovered her – and by jazz critics like the Chicago Tribune's Howard Reich, who called her "a mesmerizing vocalist." Visit her site at www.cynthiascott.com for more information about Cynthia and her work as a singer, songwriter, recording artist, educator, and activist.

"Most people sense that all is not well in the world we live in. And I've put these concerns to music... My goal at this time is to try to lift the world with music and art." – Cynthia Scott

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

## Wednesday, July 2

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

## Saturday, July 5

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

## Sunday, July 6

9:00 am: Morning Worship (Holy Communion offered) — 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 (Holy Communion offered) — Vickrey Hall & Royal Lane

YouTube Channel

Godly Play (following Time for Young Disciples) — Godly Play Room Children 3-years through Third Grade

# WORSHIP NOTES

#### **Cover Art**

They Stood, by Lauren Wright Pittman, graphic image, inspired by Numbers 27:1-11 © A Sanctified Art | sanctifiedart.org

I imagine the daughters had to fill the entire tent in order to be heard. I imagine Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah took the shape of the tent of meeting, a place where they were met by powerful men, a place of sacrifice and worship—not a place where a woman's voice was often heard. The text says the women came forward; they stood, they spoke, they questioned, and they even demanded. Any one of those actions alone is difficult for the unseen and unheard. All they wanted was to receive the inheritance of their father and to keep his name from fading. I'm sure the pain of their father's death was potent, but they needed to be recognized, valued, and seen as human beings in order to survive.

The catalyst for this moment isn't only the women's strength; it also took a man in power to listen, to open his heart, to wrestle, and to offer his grasp over this patriarchal law to God. When Moses offered up his control and dared to consider a new way, God heard the voices of these women. "They are right," God said. The old law was no longer suitable, so God made way for change. Though the laws were probably carved into stone, God shows us in this text that the law is living, breathing, adaptable, and changing. This text invites us to come forward, to stand, to speak, to question, and to demand change when we experience injustice. When the powers in place don't budge, that is not the end of the story. When you personally aren't experiencing injustice, that does not mean you should bask in your comfort. For those whose voices are less valued, for those who go unseen, for those who have fought a long and continuing fight, we must breathe life into those old, tired, worn-out laws. In this image, the winds of change, the breath of God, surrounds the tent of meeting and the voice of God descends on these women, hearing their cry. New life sprouts from the ground as the law is heard afresh. —Lauren Wright Pittman

## **Liturgy Notes**

Prayers of the People adapted from *The African American Lectionary*, a collaborative project of the African American Pulpit and American Baptist College of Nashville. Words by Daryl Walker, Lectionary Team Liturgist

## **Hymn Notes**

#### I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Arranged by Maureen Howell. 2023, Birnamwood Publications.

#### Come, Sing of New Creation

Words: Jann Aldredge-Clanton Music: Wittenberg Gesangbuch, 1784 Words © 2014 Jann Aldredge-Clanton

#### Let Truth and Mercy Find Here

Words: Ken Medema, 2003 Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

Words © 2003 Ken Medema Music/Brier Patch

Music

#### What a Friend We Have in Jesus

arranged by Martha Mier. Alfred music.

#### The Bond Of Love

Words: Otis Skillings, 1971 Music: Otis Skillings, 1971

Words and Music © 1971 Lillenas Publishing Co.

(Admin. by The Copyright Company)

#### Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Arranged by Melody Bober. Alfred Music.

# 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. <u>royallane.org/resources/event</u>

## **Prayer Requests**

We invite you to submit prayer requests by filling out the prayer request form on the website at <u>royallane.org/prayer</u> or by scanning the QR code.

## **Deacons on Call**

Tommy Lamberth & Sheryl Gambill



# 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.





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STAFF

ROYAL 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

