



ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

AUGUST 17, 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 worshipping 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

AUGUST 17, 2025

THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

TENTH 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

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Arranged by Joel Rainey

(Please consider the opening sentences during gathering music.)

Come, still your heart before God.
Picture the riverbank at Philippi -
the quiet flow of water,
the sound of voices in prayer,
the moment a heart opens to the Word.

Lydia listened.
She welcomed the good news.
She offered her home, her table, her care.

As we prepare to worship,
may our hearts be open to God's voice,
our hands ready to serve,
and our lives a place of welcome for Christ and one another.

Call to Worship & Invocation

Dan Thompson & Congregation

The beginning of wisdom is to give reverence to God.

God grant us wisdom to worship and live with reverence.

The wise delight to meditate on God's will and way.

**They are like a tree, planted by streams of water, that yields fruit
in season; its leaf does not wither.**

**We come to worship God with reverence, hoping to send down the roots
of righteousness.**

Let us pray.

Gracious God,

You bless your church throughout all the ages

with leaders like Paul and Lydia

to share in the spreading of the gospel.

Give to your church this day a profound sense of the mission

to which you now call us

for the life and health of the world.

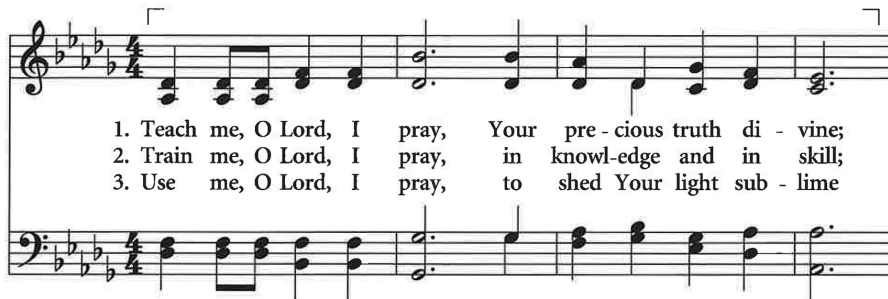
Lord, send out your Spirit

and renew the face of the earth.

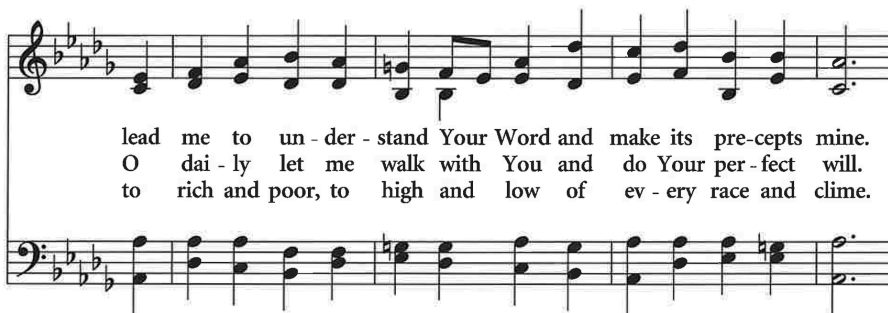
Amen.

Teach Me, O Lord, I Pray

DIADEMATA



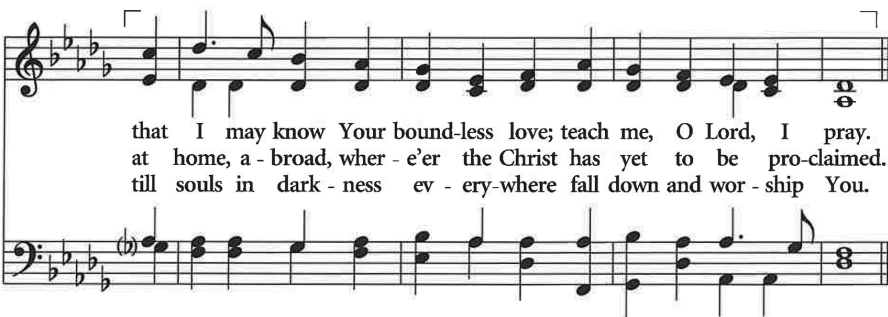
1. Teach me, O Lord, I pray, Your pre-cious truth di-vine;
 2. Train me, O Lord, I pray, in knowl-edge and in skill;
 3. Use me, O Lord, I pray, to shed Your light sub-lime



lead me to un-der-stand Your Word and make its pre-cepts mine.
 O dai-ly let me walk with You and do Your per-fect will.
 to rich and poor, to high and low of ev-ery race and clime.



Im-part Your wis-dom, Lord, shed light up-on my way,
 O train my heart and mind to serve You un-a-shamed,
 O may Your flam-ing zeal burn con-stant-ly and true,



that I may know Your bound-less love; teach me, O Lord, I pray.
 at home, a-broad, wher-e'er the Christ has yet to be pro-claimed.
 till souls in dark-ness ev-ery-where fall down and wor-ship You.

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

Acts 16:11-15, 40

9am - Adam Visconti & Congregation

11am - Margaret Darden & Congregation

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

After leaving the prison they went to Lydia's home; and when they had seen and encouraged the brothers and sisters there, they departed.

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.

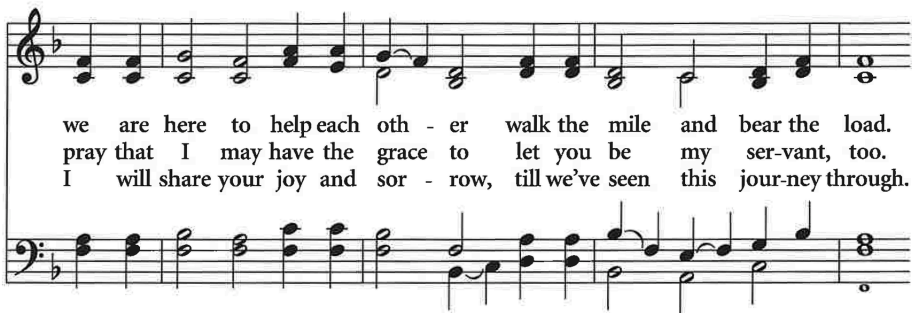
You may collect your children following the service in the Christian Education Building.

We Are Travelers on a Journey

BEACH SPRING



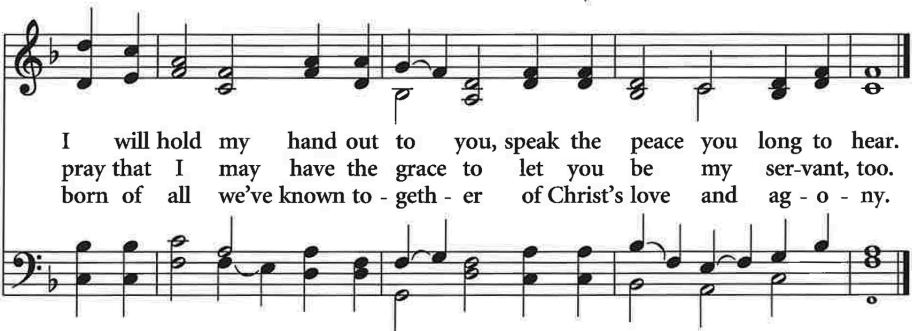
1. We are trav-ers on a jour - ney, fel - low pil - grims on the road;
 2. Sis-ter, let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you;
 3. I will weep when you are weep - ing, when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;



we are here to help each oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
 pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser-vant, too.
 I will share your joy and sor - row, till we've seen this jour-ney through.



I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;
 Broth-er, let me be your ser-vant, let me be as Christ to you;
 When we sing to God in heav-en, we shall find such har - mo - ny,



I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser-vant, too.
 born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

Offertory Prayer

*9am - Maryanne Pfeffer & Congregation
11am - Linda Cross & Congregation*

Hear now this prayer.

Gracious God, we thank you for the story of Lydia,
whose heart you opened in response to your message.

We are grateful for her example of faith and generous hospitality.

As we bring our offerings today, we pray that you soften our hearts.

May we be changed by your message and encouraged to give generously of our
resources, whatever they may be.

May we work for your vision and not our own.

We pray that our church follow Lydia's example, being a place of courageous hospitality,
welcoming all people regardless of their background or circumstances.

We ask that you multiply our offerings and use them to make a difference in our
community and beyond. In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Offertory

Jeanie Chuang

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Arranged by Frederick C. Maker

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



Pastoral Prayer

Mara Bim

Special Music

Jordan Stubblefield - viola

Jeanie Chuang - piano

I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

Arranged by Gary Lanier

I will sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me.
How He left His home in glory
For the cross of Calvary.
I was lost, but Jesus found me,
Found the sheep that went astray,
Threw His loving arms around me,
Drew me back into His way.

I was bruised, but Jesus healed me;
Faint was I from many a fall;
Sight was gone, and fears possessed me,
But He freed me from them all.
Days of darkness still come o'er me,
Sorrow's paths I often tread,
But the Savior still is with me;
By His hand I'm safely led.

He will keep me till the river
Rolls its waters at my feet;
Then He'll bear me safely over,
Where the loved ones I shall meet.
Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
Sing it with the saints in glory,
Gathered by the crystal sea.

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

“Lydia of Acts”

Moment of Contemplation

 Hymn of Response

Congregation

We Are Travelers on a Journey
(stanza 1)

**We are travelers on a journey,
fellow pilgrims on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

 Benediction

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Closing Music

Jeanie Chuang

Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus
Arranged by Heather Sorenson



ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



Prayer Vigil at ICE

Monday, August 18, 8:00am, Dallas ICE Office

Join our Justice & Advocacy Fellow, Mara Bim for the weekly prayer vigil occurring outside the Dallas ICE office (8101 N Stemmons Fwy). Come to pray for all those involved in and harmed by the current immigration crisis.



YA Mondays

Monday, August 18, 7:30pm, Harris Youth Cottage

Young adults in their 20s & 30s meet weekly on Monday evenings. Contact Maddie Wiltse (mwiltse@smu.edu) or Gloria Chang (gychang@gmail.com) to sign up for the communication list!



Service Event

Saturday, September 6, 12:00pm, Shelton School & Evaluation Center

We've added an additional date to the Feed My Starving Children efforts—this event is located at 17301 Preston Road. Follow the QR code above to sign up!



Church Conference

Sunday, September 7, 12:15pm, Vickrey Hall

After the worship service, stick around for our Church Conference in Vickrey Hall. Lunch will be offered and childcare will be provided.

See Coming Events on our website for more information.

ROYALLANE.ORG

WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



Monday, August 18

8:00 am: Weekly Prayer Vigil — Outside Dallas ICE Office (8101 N Stemmons Fwy)

7:30 pm: Young Adult Mondays — Harris Youth Cottage

Wednesday, August 20

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

Saturday, August 23

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

Sunday, August 24

9:00 am: Morning Worship — Vickrey Hall

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

9:45 am: New Pre-K Sunday School Class — Childcare Room

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



RENOVATION UPDATE



We're excited to share several meaningful updates as our Sanctuary Renovation continues! Construction is well underway on a new ADA-compliant ramp and sidewalk approach to the front of the sanctuary. This important addition will greatly enhance accessibility for individuals with mobility challenges and improve access and flow for all who use the front parking lot. Once complete, the area will be beautifully landscaped, and new signage is on the horizon as well.



Meanwhile, renovation work has also begun in our church library! The space is getting a fresh coat of paint, a new insulated ceiling, updated lighting, and comfortable new furniture. We're also adding a new "Welcome Center" in the office hallway to help improve traffic flow and make it easier for guests to navigate our campus.



And in especially exciting news, we've received a generous gift that allows us to complete construction on our sanctuary balcony and open it for congregant seating—adding valuable flexibility and capacity to our worship space. Our fully recovered pews have arrived and are being installed this week! With all these enhancements in progress, our timeline has been extended slightly, and we now plan to return to the sanctuary on Sunday, September 7. Thank you for your continued support and patience—we can't wait to welcome you back to a renewed, more accessible, and even more beautiful sanctuary!



GUNS 2 GARDENS DALLAS COUNTY



Sunday, September 7, 2025

2pm – 5pm

**The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration
14115 Hillcrest Avenue, Dallas 75254**

On Sunday, September 7th, Royal Lane is one of several congregations hosting a Guns to Gardens event. In partnership with RAWTools and Presbyterian Faith Fellowship, this safe surrender event will be hosted at Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration from 2-5 pm. These unwanted guns will be dismantled by trained volunteers and the leftover parts will be forged into garden tools. As an incentive to gun owners, the collective will offer gift cards in varying amounts. ***To make a financial contribution towards this endeavor, please scan the QR code above.***

Interested in helping? We need community members who will volunteer four to six hours. Volunteers should arrive on-site at noon for training. **Please register** to volunteer so we know all jobs will be covered and that volunteers can be trained.

Tasks required include:

Greeters (3) - welcome gun donor and ask them to stay in car throughout donation process; do not block driveways, assign to a Shepherd

Shepherds (12) - walk with gun owner through the donation and dismantling process, collect some anonymous survey information (TBD)

Gift Cards (5) - retrieve gift cards from our funding team, bring them out to the donors as a thank you gift

Hospitality (4) - help provide and serve water and refreshments to our volunteers throughout the event

Chop saw operator (3) - receive training in chop saw and angle grinder operation for the safe dismantling of firearms

Volunteers asked to arrive by 12:30pm.

To REGISTER as a volunteer, please send an email to:

dallascountyguns2gardens@gmail.com

WORSHIP *NOTES*



Cover Art

Lydia of Acts, by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, acrylic on wood panel, inspired by Acts 16:11-15, 40
© A Sanctified Art | sanctifiedart.org

As the reach of the apostles expands, Paul, Silas, Timothy, and their companions make their way through Asia Minor to Europe, stopping briefly in Philippi, part of modern-day Greece. Since there may not have been an established synagogue in Philippi, on the Sabbath they find a prayer-house on the river, a space filled not with men and high priests, but women. They join them and as Paul speaks, one woman in particular—Lydia of Thyatira, a Gentile devoted to Jewish worship, a dealer of purple cloth—listens intently, her heart expanding with every word.

Despite her outsider status (Thyatira was part of Asia Minor) and how women are typically portrayed in scripture, Lydia is a woman of power, influence, and dignity. Purple dye was a luxury item for the elite, so we are to assume that Lydia is an established businesswoman. She is also, surprisingly, the leader of her household. After being stirred by Paul's message, she and "her household" are baptized. No patriarch is named—no man gets credit or gives permission. Lydia's first act as a new disciple is hospitality. She welcomes the apostles into her home (without the permission of a patriarch). Later, after Paul and Silas are released from prison, her large home becomes the meeting place for the apostles and the growing Christian community in Philippi.

As the only Philippian convert named in Acts, Lydia was quite possibly the leader and patron of the Philippian church. She used her wealth to establish the community, she risked her reputation as a businesswoman to house foreigners released from prison, she sanctified her conversion with acts of radical hospitality. In this image, I wanted her eyes to be the focal point. I hope they draw you in, radiating her warmth.

—Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Hymn Notes

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Arranged by Joel Rainey
2003 Hope Publishing Company

Teach Me, O Lord, I Pray

Words: G. Kearnie Keegan, 1959
Music: George J. Elvey, 1868
Words © 1959, Ren. 1987 Broadman Press (Admin.
by LifeWay Worship)

We Are Travelers on a Journey

Words: Richard Gillard, 1974
Music: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. Benjamin Briggs, 2009
Words © 1977 Scripture In Song/Maranatha!
Music/ASCAP (All rights administered by Music Services).
Harm. © 2010 Celebrating Grace, Inc.

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Arranged by Frederick C. Maker
2004 Lorenz Publishing Company

Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Arranged by Heather Sorenson
2010 Hal Leonard Corporation

OneLicense: Annual License
w/Reprint/Podcast/Streaming, A-722998

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

Adam Visconti & Margaret Darden

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
Mel Beller, 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