



ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

OCTOBER 26, 2025

WELCOME HOME

TO ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH



Welcome home! Whether you've been part of this church family for years or you're joining us for the very first time, what a joy it is to gather in this newly renewed sanctuary. Today is more than a celebration of fresh paint, new floors, refurbished pews, and an extended chancel. It is a celebration of the deep renewal God has been working within us as a congregation.

Over these past seasons, our church has grown - not just in size, but in spirit in generosity, in ministry and in love. This sanctuary stands as an outward expression of that inward renewal. It's a tangible sign of God's faithfulness and your faith-filled partnership.

As we worship together in this renewed space, may we give thanks for all that God has made possible. May these walls once again echo with our prayers, our songs, our laughter, and our hope. And may each of us leave here renewed in heart, ready to carry the light of Christ into the world.

Thank you for being here on this special day of celebration. Welcome home.

With gratitude and joy,



Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

OCTOBER 26, 2025

THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



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

Opening Sentences

Haley Simental

Beloved of God, welcome home.

We gather this day within a sanctuary made new - walls restored,
light rekindled, and beauty renewed.

Yet as we rejoice in the work of human hands,
may we remember that the truest renewal is the work of God within us.

For it is not by pride or accomplishment that we are made whole,
but by humility and mercy.

As Jesus taught, it is not the one who exalts themselves
who goes home justified,
but the one who stands in honesty before the Lord and prays,
“God, be merciful to me, a sinner.”

As the prelude invites us into stillness,
may we open our hearts in gratitude and awe,
that God, who restores sanctuaries of stone,
would also restore the sanctuary of the soul.

Voluntary

Jeanie Chuang & Classic Brass

God of Grace & God of Glory

Arr. Jonathan Crutchfield

Call to Worship & Invocation

Rev. Harry Wooten & Congregation

O God, it is right for us to praise you:
you are the one who answers our prayers.

You care for the land and water it:
you make it rich and fertile.

You fill the running streams with water:
you irrigate the land.

You soften the ground with showers:
you make the young crops grow.

You crown the year with your goodness:
you give us a plentiful harvest.

The pastures are filled with flocks:
the hillsides are clothed with joy.

The fields are covered with grain:
they shout for joy and sing.

—from Psalm 65

Let us pray:

Brad Eason

Merciful God,

We come into Your presence today not on the basis of our own merits or good deeds, but in recognition of our profound need for You.

Like the tax collector who stood at a distance, unable even to raise his eyes to heaven, we confess that we are sinners in need of Your saving grace. We pray that You strip away any self-righteousness and pride that may have built walls between us and You, or between us and others.

Help us to walk humbly with You, to judge ourselves by Your holy standard, and to extend compassion and love to everyone, just as You do.

May our lives reflect Your grace and mercy.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, our only hope and redeemer.

Amen.

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

(stanzas one, two, & four)

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

Julia Jacobs

Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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.

O God Beyond All Praising

THAXTED

Arr. David Schwoebel

Commissioned to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Rev. Harry Wooten

O, the depth of the riches of the wisdom of God!
O, the depth of the riches of the knowledge of God!
How unsearchable God's judgements, and untraceable God's ways.
O, the depths of the wisdom and knowledge of God.

Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Who has been God's counselor?
Who has ever given to God that God should repay them?
For from Him and through Him, and for Him are all things.
To God be the glory, to God be the glory,
to God be the glory forever, Amen.

(sing on direction, see text below or Hymn #366 in Celebrating Grace)

**O God beyond all praising, we worship You today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift You send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end;
we lift our hearts before You and wait upon Your Word,
we honor and adore You, our great and mighty Lord.**

**Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know Your favor may serve You as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless You still:
to marvel at Your beauty and glory in Your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.**

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers & Congregation

Almighty God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
we give you humble and hearty thanks for your guidance and provision in the renovation
of this, your house. We are grateful for the vision, the generosity, and the labor of many
hands that have brought this project to completion.

We now, with deep gratitude, rededicate this space to your glory and the work of your
kin-dom.

We dedicate this house to the glory of God.

Within these walls, may your holy Word be proclaimed in truth and purity.
May strangers be welcomed, the lost be found, and crushed souls be consoled.
Within these walls, may we experience your healing power and peace.

We dedicate this house to the glory of God.

Grant, O Lord, that as we assemble here to worship, the Holy Spirit may always abide
here as a welcome guest, filling this place with your presence and glory.
Bless all who gather here for fellowship, for study, and for quiet meditation. May their
hearts be turned toward you, so that they may grow in faith and be equipped to love and
serve our neighbors in the world.

Accept our gratitude, we pray, and empower us, your people,
to be living stones in your spiritual house.

**Now, O God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, bless this place and bless us
anew for your service; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Amen.**

Hymn of 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.**

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Moment of Contemplation

✠ Offertory Prayer

Elwanda Edwards

Humble and merciful God, you do not require perfection,
only an open and contrite heart.

We present our offerings today, not as a sign of our own righteousness or worth,
but as a humble response to your boundless grace and mercy.

Teach us that true generosity begins not in proving our worth,
but in trusting in the salvation you freely offer to all.

May these gifts, and our lives,
reflect our deep gratitude for your love and patience.

Use what we give today to further your dreams for this world,
bringing mercy, justice, and joy to others,
and helping us to walk humbly in your ways.

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ,
our only hope and the source of all our blessings.
Amen.

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



Offertory

Choir

Dear to Thy Church

David Matthews & Jonathan Crutchfield

Rev. Dr. C. David Matthews, pastor 2008 -2015

Commissioned in celebration of the 60th anniversary of Royal Lane

Dear to thy church, O God, thou Art.
Dearer than beauty of glass and stone.
Dearer than wisdom in scriptures sown,
dearer than anthems, organs, choirs,
voices of children borne to the spires.
Dear to thy church thou art.

Dear to thy church, O God, thou art.
Dearer than tables of wine and bread.
Crosses and candles hallow our dead,
dearer than moments of joy and peace.
Days when our gladness and bounty increase.
Dear to thy church thou art.

Dear to thy church thou art,
Dearer than majesties shaped by thy hands.
Myst'ries and beauties of thy hidden plans,
dearer than hopes for strong fam'lies and wealth,
dreams of good fortune and years of good health,
dearer than these thou art.

Dear to thy church, O God, thou art.
Once made a people in this hallowed place.
Restore to our mem'ries each blessed face,
For all that has been and all that will be,
we lift thankful souls with praise unto thee.
Dear to thy church thou art.

Dear to thy church, O God, thou art.
Maker, Sustainer, Redeemer, Friend,
of whose fair kingdom there is no end.
Give us bold hearts to follow the One
who died as he lived, our Brother, thy Son.
Dear to thy church thou art.

Ordination of Deacons

Presentation of Ordinands

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

*Brad Eason
Elwanda Edwards*

*Julia Jacobs
Haley Simental*

Statement of Purpose

Kelley Keith
Deacon Chair

Do you reaffirm your faith that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; do you seek the peace, unity, and purity of the church; and do you, in accepting the office of deacon in this congregation, promise faithfully to perform all the duties pertaining to your calling?

Ordinands: We do, God being our helper.

Do you, the members of Royal Lane Baptist Church, receive these persons as deacons within the shared ministry of Christ's mission, and do you covenant to encourage and support them in the fulfillment of their responsibilities?

All: We do, God being our helper.

Induction & Words of Affirmation

Adam Visconti & Congregation
Deacon Vice Chair

I now ask the congregation to join in a covenant of affirmation saying:

Reaffirming our faith that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, we gladly receive these as servant leaders in our life together. We covenant to support them with our prayers, encouragement, and respect. We celebrate with thanksgiving the shared responsibilities for Christ's ministry, which is ours as the church. Praise be to God.

Prayer of Blessing & Declaration

Jeff Hill & Congregation
Deacon Secretary

Let us pray:

Gracious God, look with favor upon these, who have been called and have committed themselves to serve and lead in Christ's name. Pour out your Spirit upon them and upon this congregation. Grant these new deacons courage, patience, wisdom, and vision; and strengthen us all in our witness to the world, and of service to others; in the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

In the name of Jesus Christ, head of the church, and in accordance with the actions of this congregation, I declare that you are now members of the diaconate of this church.

Thanks be to God!

Benediction

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Closing Music

Jeanie Chuang & Classic Brass

Flourishes
Arr. by Carlyle Sharpe



All Saints

All Saints Sunday is November 2nd

Please submit names of family members & loved ones whom you have lost in the past year to be listed in the Order of Worship.

Send all names to ccraggett@royallane.org



ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



Panel Discussion

Sunday, October 26, 5:00pm, Sanctuary

Join us for an insightful panel discussion exploring the challenges facing our immigrant neighbors. The conversation will be led by Mara Bim, who will guide a thoughtful dialogue on how we can respond with compassion, understanding, and action.



Young Adults

Every Monday, 7:30pm, Youth Cottage

Looking for connection and community? Join other young adults every Monday at 7:30 PM in the Youth Cottage for great conversation, laughter, and encouragement. Come as you are, and don't forget to bring a friend!



Weekly Prayer Vigil

Every Monday, 8:00am, Dallas Ice Office

The prayer vigil outside the Dallas ICE office is ongoing. Join our Justice and Advocacy Fellow, Mara Bim on Monday mornings from 8:00 - 9:00 am. Contact Mara at mbim@royallane.org for more info.



Art Reception: Following Ken Medema Concert

Saturday, November 8 - Box Gallery

We invite you to a special art exhibit featuring works from the home of the late Steve and Martha Box, cherished longtime members of RLBC. Approximately half the pieces are original paintings by Martha Box herself! Refreshments will be served.

See Coming Events on our website for more information.

ROYALLANE.ORG

WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



Sunday, October 26

5:00 pm: Crossing the Line Panel Discussion — Sanctuary

Monday, October 27

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

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

Wednesday, October 29

12:00 pm Vickrey Hall Early Voting (No Lunch + Learn) — Be sure to vote!

1:00 pm: Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building, Room 205 (1:00 - 2:45 pm)

6:15 pm: Youth Gathering — Youth Cottage

7:15 pm: Choir — Sanctuary

Saturday, November 1

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

3:00pm: Ordination Service for Mara Bim – Sanctuary (reception to follow in Vickrey Hall)

Sunday, November 2

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 — Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel

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

Children 3-years through Third Grade

12:00 pm: Prayer Service with Don Shannon, Piper — Columbarium

12:15 pm: Quarterly Church Conference and Community Lunch — Vickrey Hall

Ordination Ceremony
for
MARA BIM



SATURDAY

NOVEMBER

1

2025

AT 3:00PM

AT ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH
Reception to follow in Vickrey Hall



THE IRVING CHORALE

&



ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH
Sanctuary Choir

presents

MUSIC *in my* MOUTH

A Ken Medema Choral Festival
featuring Ken Medema & Friends

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8
4PM

Royal Lane Baptist Church
6707 Royal Lane
Dallas, TX 75230

Reception following in Vickrey Hall: Box Gallery

Free admission (*donations graciously accepted*)

Harry Wooten, Artistic Director



www.irvingchorale.org



Funded in part by the
City of Irving
through the
Irving Arts Board



www.royallane.org

NEW *DEACONS*

Brad Eason

Brad, his wife Kirsten, and their two dogs moved to Dallas from Colorado just over a year ago, though he considers himself a Dallas native, having grown up in Allen. Brad works for a video healthcare marketing company and a nonprofit that supports Afghans in hiding. Before that, he served in student ministry for roughly 15 years. Brad has loved getting to support all the amazing things happening at RLBC: teaching a class on spiritual practices, serving on a panel for the Prophetic Leadership Program, playing guitar for the Walk Through Holy Week event, and helping with the Children & Youth Ministries (which may have included a couple of games of Dungeons & Dragons). He is excited to serve as a deacon to continue encouraging spiritual growth, supporting the church's vision, and connecting within the church community.



Elwanda Edwards

Elwanda Edwards has been a dedicated member of our community for over five years. She began volunteering at the Pumpkin Patch and later served three years as Finance Director. Currently, she chairs both the Stewardship and Publicity Committees, leading efforts on our new branding and upcoming website launch.

Raised in the Southern Baptist tradition, Elwanda was deeply influenced by her family's commitment to service and justice. After moving to Dallas, she built a successful advertising career with agencies such as The Richards Group and Tracy Locke, where she served as partner and General Manager. As a deacon, Elwanda hopes to help our church grow as a beacon of hope and service in the community.



NEW *DEACONS*

Julia Jacobs

Julia Jacobs joined Royal Lane Baptist Church in 2024 after first attending in January. Her love of music quickly found a home in the church choir, and she also helped lead music for Vacation Bible School this summer. As a lifelong educator, Julia has taught language arts for more than 30 years to students in Kaufman, Texas. She is an avid reader, and expects to finish about 130 books this year. Julia and her husband, Michael, have been married for 31 years and have two children, Austin (28) and Madison (25). She looks forward to serving and growing in faith, fellowship, and service with her church family.



Hailey Simental

Hailey is a former athlete who strives for excellence in all she does, through her work in sports, at the Lone Star Justice Alliance, and in her faith. After moving to Dallas to support her partner, she found in Royal Lane a welcoming Christian community where she could be her authentic self. Though she never expected to be called into church leadership, Hailey is humbled to serve as a deacon. She is inspired by Royal Lane's vision of inclusion, worship, and love, and seeks to follow Jesus' example by loving deeply, seeking justice, and living with wholehearted faith. Guided by the Holy Spirit, she finds strength in her favorite scripture, Romans 8:38–39, which reminds her that God's love sustains her courage and calling.



WORSHIP *NOTES*



Instrumentalists

Tyler Moore - Trumpet
Glen Hummel - Trumpet
Gerry Wood - Horn
James McNair - Trombone
Dave Kirk - Tuba
Daniel Cline - Percussion

Hymn Notes

God of Grace & God of Glory

Arranged by Jonathan Crutchfield

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1907
Music: Ludwig Van Beethoven, 1824
Harmony: Edward Hodges, 1864

O God Beyond All Praising

Words: Michael Perry, 1982
Music: Gustav Holst, *The Planets*, 1918
Arranged by David Schwoebel
Jubilate Hymns, 1982

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Words: Thomas Ken, 1974 Alt.
Music: Louis Borgeuis, 1551

Dear to Thy Church

Text: David Mathews
Music: Jonathan Crutchfield
Copyright 2012

Flourishes

Arranged by Carlyle Sharpe

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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

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.

*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, Organist
Mike Hurder, Maintenance Director
Taide Guerra, Housekeeping
Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician
Brandon Green, Audio Technician
Brian Stinecipher, Audio Technician
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician



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