



ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

WELCOME

TO ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH



Thank you for choosing to worship with us this morning. We are so glad you're here! Royal Lane Baptist Church is a diverse community of faith united in the spirit of Jesus Christ. Since 1952, our church has sought to be a beacon of light in the city of Dallas and beyond.

Rather than escaping the world, we gather at Royal Lane with the hopes of transforming the world. We believe the heart of the gospel is to share, in word and deed, the life-giving, liberating, and loving word of God. Therefore, we commit ourselves to a proclamation of the Christian faith that is responsible, socially concerned, and relevant to our needs as a caring and inclusive fellowship.

The Church is an imperfect institution, and Royal Lane is no exception. We do not presume to be a perfect place, but we do commit ourselves to the practice of faith and grace. If you're joining us this morning, our hope is that you'll sense God's love in our fellowship and that you'll come to know more deeply your own belovedness as a child of God. No matter who you are, you are welcome here. There are no prerequisites to your worthiness. We are all God's children, and it's a gift when we come together.

If you'd like to learn more about our church or how to become a member, please see the "New Here" card in the pew back in front of you. Thank you for being here!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Victoria Robb Powers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Victoria" being the most prominent part.

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

THE **WORSHIP OF GOD**

A SUNDAY OF THANKS & GIVING



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

On this Sunday of *Thanks and Giving*, we gather to remember the steadfast goodness of our God and to offer our gratitude for the blessings we have received.

Today we hear the story of Mary, who anoints Jesus with a gift of great price, a fragrant offering of love and devotion. Her act invites us into a posture of thanksgiving and generosity, that we, too, might offer our gifts to God with open hands and full hearts.

As we enter this sacred hour, may the Spirit awaken in us gratitude for the year behind us and hope for the ministry before us.
Let us ready our hearts for worship

-Read by Rev. Rick Carpenter

Voluntary

Nun Danket alle Gott
Karg-Elert

Jeanie Chuang

Call to Worship

Rev. Dan Thompson & Congregation

From New Testament times, people have become disciples by confessing that Christ is Lord. In obedience to Jesus' command and in likeness to his example, they have been baptized.

Today we joyously witness the baptism of Polly and Calvin,

Through baptism we are brought into union with Christ,
with each other, and with the church of every time and place.

We are buried with Christ that we may be raised to walk in newness of life.

God graces us with the gift of the Holy Spirit to forgive our sins,
to cleanse us from all wrongs, to clothe us with God's own righteousness,
and to strengthen us all our days.

**We gain a new identity as children of God, and receive a new life purpose
in Christ-like ministry to others.**

Let us each remember and rejoice in our own baptism as disciples of Christ,
and Christ's church.

The Ordinance of Christian Baptism

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

*Polly Sue Lamberth
Calvin Douglas Thomas*

Baptismal Prayer

Rev. Dan Thompson

Let us pray:

**Merciful God, you call us by name, and promise to each of us your constant love.
Watch over your servants, Polly and Calvin. Deepen their understanding of the
gospel, strengthen their commitment to continue following the way of Christ,
and keep them in the faith and communion of your church. Increase their
compassion for others, send them into the world in witness of your love,
and bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET



All: 1. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and
Choir: 2. Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be
All: 3. All praise and thanks to God The Fa-ther now be



voic-es, Who won-drous things has done, In
near us, With ev-er joy-ful hearts And
giv-en, The Son, and Him who reigns With



whom his world re-joic-es; Who, from our moth-er's
bless-ed peace to cheer us, And keep us in his
them in high-est heav-en, The one e-ter-nal



arms, Has blest us on our way With count-less gifts of
grace, And guide us when per-plexed, And free us from all
God, Whom earth and heav'n a-dore; For thus it was, is



love, And still is ours to-day.
ills In this world and the next.
now, And shall be ev-er-more. A-men.

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dan Thompson

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

Adam Visconti

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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.

Hymn

Congregation

When Mary Poured a Rich Perfume

KINGSFOLD



1. When Mar - y poured a rich per-fume on Je - sus' wea - ry feet,
 2. The Lord re - plied, "Leave her a - lone! She bought it for this day.
 3. O, Christ, what can your peo-ple bring to show you thanks and love?

her car-ing filled that hum-ble room; the fra-grance there was sweet.
 This car-ing love that she has shown is faith-ful to God's way.
 You need no fra-grant of-fer-ing; for now you reign a - bove.

But full of an-ger, Ju - das said, "We could have used this more!
 The poor will al-ways be with you, but you will not have me."
 Since there will nev - er cease to be the poor through-out the land,

Why was her gift not sold in - stead and giv - en to the poor?"
 He blessed her and he thanked her, too, for giv - ing lav - ish - ly.
 may we, your church, serve faith - ful - ly by offer-ing them our hand.

Prayer of Generosity

Mel Beller & Congregation

Gracious God, we pray for the Church throughout the world. May we, like Martha, serve others with dedication and grace, and may we, like Mary, offer our worship without counting the cost.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are poor, marginalized, or neglected. Open our eyes and our hearts to their needs, and stir in us a generous spirit, that we may not use their suffering as an excuse but as a call to action.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who feel their worship is insignificant, whose offerings feel small and unworthy. Remind them that in your eyes, no act of sincere faith is too small, and that you delight in the genuine affection of your people.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who criticize the genuine acts of others, whose cynicism and judgment poison the atmosphere. Help us to replace our criticism with compassion and our stinginess with grace.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are facing moments of great sacrifice or are preparing for difficult trials. Give them strength and courage, and fill their lives with the peace that comes from knowing You.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

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

We now share silence together.

Let us pray:

God of lavish love, we thank you for the example of Mary, who poured out her devotion on Jesus. Fill our lives with the fragrance of Christ so that it may permeate our homes, our communities, and our world, until all are filled with your abundant love. We pray this in the name of your Son, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

Offertory

Paul J. Williams

Thankful

David Foster, Carole Bayer Sager, & Richard Page

Some days, we forget to look around us.
Some days, we can't see the joy that surrounds us.
So caught up inside ourselves,
We take when we should give.

*So for tonight we pray for what we know can be.
And on this day we hope for what we still can't see.*

*It's up to us to be the change.
And even though we all can still do more,
there's so much to be thankful for.*

Look beyond ourselves, there's so much sorrow.
It's way too late to say, I'll cry tomorrow.
Each of us must find our truth.
We're so long overdue.

Even with our differences,
there is a place we're all connected.
Each of us can find each other's love

Sermon

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Moment of Contemplation

Charge to Stewardship

Rev. Dan Thompson

Litany of Thanks & Giving

Congregation

Creator of all, the earth is yours,
the world and all who live in it.

**You have entrusted us with gifts: time, talent, energy, resources,
and asked us to use them to build your blessed community.
With thanks and praise we respond to your call.**

We bring these tithes and offerings
out of a spirit of generosity and gratitude.

**We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears,
our resources and our hours.
We commit ourselves to work for your world,
to love and serve wherever you call.**

We ask your blessing on this, your church,
as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

**Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future,
that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love.
Amen.**

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



*Following the choir, please move by way of the center aisle to the communion table to present your
commitment cards and expressions of gratitude, then return by way of the outer aisle.*

Bringing in the Sheaves

arr. George A. Minor

Jeanie Chuang

 Song of Thanksgiving 379

Congregation

Let All Things Now Living
ASHGROVE

 Benediction

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

Organ Dismissal

Jeanie Chuang

Now, Thank We All Our God
Virgil Fox

Called Church Conference immediately following worship.



Poinsettia Orders

Dedicate a poinsettia for Hanging of the Green on December 7, now through December 2, using the QR code or in the church office.



ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



Stocking Stuffers

Collecting items through December 7

Join us in making Christmas stockings for children served by Hope Supply Co.! Take a mitten ornament from the Narthex tree, purchase the items through our Amazon Wish List, or your favorite store, and place your items in the red wagon. We'll assemble the stockings together after worship on December 14.



Holiday Grief Support Group

Sunday, November 30, 6:00pm, Library

If you're carrying grief this Advent, you are not alone. Join Chaplain Kirsten Eason for a gentle space to share, reflect, and find comfort with others who understand. Each week offers supportive conversation, prayer, and hope.



Lunch and Learn, Belmark Trio

Wednesday, December 3, 12:00pm, Vickrey Hall

Join us for Lunch and Learn, and enjoy a delightful session featuring The Belmark Trio. This program, "Sounds of the Season: Holiday Jazz," brings a festive twist to the trio's signature warm and expressive style.



Advent Bible Study

Wednesday, December 3, 6:00pm, Library

Join us weekly for our Advent Bible Study, led by Mel Beller. It will be a warm and meaningful time of reflection as we enter the Advent season together, exploring Scripture, sharing insights, and preparing our hearts with hope and anticipation. We'd love to have you with us!

See Coming Events on our website for more information.

ROYALLANE.ORG

WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



Sunday, November 23

Immediately Following Worship – Called Church Conference – Sanctuary

Monday, November 24

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

Wednesday, November 26

No Wednesday Activities

Thursday, November 27

Royal Lane Office Closed

Friday, November 28

Royal Lane Office Closed

Sunday, November 30

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, First Sunday of Advent —

Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel

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

Children 3-years through Third Grade

WORSHIP *NOTES*



Cover Art

Signorelli, Luca, 1441?-1523. Anointing the Feet of Jesus in the House of Simon, the Pharisee, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Hymn Notes

Now Thank We All Our God

Words: Martin Rinkart, 1636
Music: Johann Cruget, 1647

Thankful

Words and Music: David Foster, Carole Bayer Sager, and Richard Page
C2007 Fozbeats Music

When Mary Poured a Rich Perfume

Text: Carolyne Winfrey Gillette, 2001
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Bringing in the Sheaves

Arranged by George A. Minor
2004 Lorenz publishing company

Now, Thank We All Our God

Arranged by Virgil Fox

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 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

Adam Visconti and Jeanie Chuang

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
Cara Craggett, Communications & Ministry Coordinator
Mel Beller, Pastoral Intern
Rev. 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



ROYAL LANE
BAPTIST CHURCH

ROYALLANE.ORG