

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

10:55 A.M.

*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

In our scripture reading this morning, the Apostle Paul expresses concern about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as a license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. We all have a responsibility to each other that our behavior does not cause another to sin.

Voluntary

David Weigle

Jubilate — Roy Douglas

✠ Call to Worship & Invocation

Congregation

Come! Let us give thanks to God with whole hearts.

For thankfulness is the beginning of wisdom.

Glory be to the One whose wonders are to be remembered.

For remembering is the beginning of wisdom.

Our God is gracious and full of compassion.

For compassion is the beginning of wisdom.

God feeds the righteous with truth.

For truthfulness is the beginning of wisdom.

Come! Let us give thanks to God.

—*Psalm 111*

Let us pray:

O God, we give you thanks this morning for all those who have faithfully passed on your teachings across the years. Because we have learned from them, we know that to truly love our neighbors we have a responsibility to live our lives so that we put no obstacles in the way of showing forth your love to all. May this time of worship renew our determination to hear a faithful witness to that love made known to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

God Made from One Blood — ST. DENIO

Words of Welcome

Rev. Harry Wooten

Christ be with you ... and also with you!

Please record your attendance in the blue booklet at the end of the pew and pass it to others.

You may also register online at royallane.org/register or with the QR code.



Scripture Lesson

Elwanda Edwards

1 Corinthians 8:1-13 [Pew Bible page 931 of the New Testament]

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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

Beth Johnson

*Children 3-year through 5th grade are invited to Godly Play.
You may collect your children following the service in the Christian Education Building.*

✠Hymn [see insert]

Congregation

Help Us Accept Each Other — NYLAND

Call to Confession

Charlotte Sewell & Congregation

The One who pardons, heals, and strengthens all who repent calls us to name our failings and our hopes. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

Gracious God, we have tried to show others how much knowledge we have about you and your will for all humankind, and it has made us feel superior to others. We know better, for we have learned that we are called to show others how much you love them by the way we love them too. Be merciful to us, we pray, and by your Spirit may we truly show forth your love by loving our neighbors as you would have us do. Amen.

We now share silence together.

Promise of Forgiveness

God holds true to God's promises and sends redemption to God's people. Let us rejoice in the God who remembers and redeems.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn 264

Congregation

Where Charity and Love Prevail — RESIGNATION

Prayers of the People

Darlene Carpenter & Congregation

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer.

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

Let us pray:

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Anthem

Choir

Be Thou My Vision — Kinley Lange
Patricio Gutierrez, cello

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.
Nought be all else to me save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Riches I need not nor vain empty praise.
Thou mine inheritance now and always.
Thou and thou only first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word.
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord
Heart of my own heart whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Sermon

Rev. Melissa Walker Luckett

“ When Our Behavior Matters ”

✠Hymn 694

Congregation

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive — MORNING SONG

Offertory Prayer

Phil Keith

By giving away some of the wealth we cherish so much, we keep ourselves focused on who you are, gracious God, and on what you expect of us. As the body of Christ, we seek to be a healing force in our world. May the offerings we present be used in ways that encourage healthful behaviors among us in the church, within our community, and as far as our influence can reach. Receive us and our gifts, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Offertory

Patricio Gutierrez, cello, & David Weigle

Song of the Birds — Pablo Casals

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

Donate online at royallane.org/give/



✠Benediction

Rev. Melissa Walker-Luckett

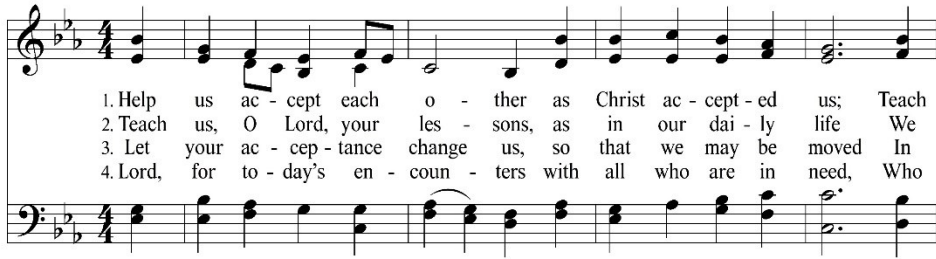
Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

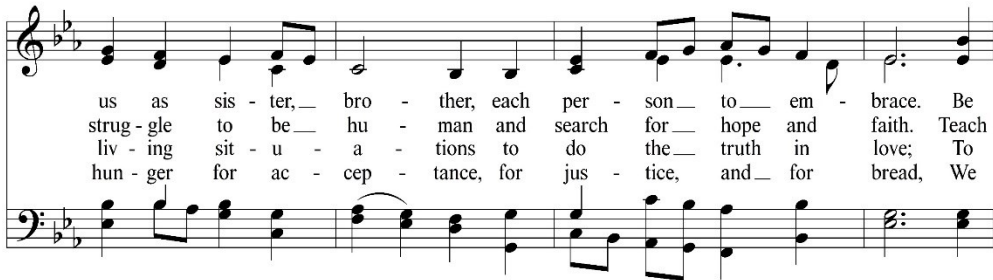
Postlude — Arnold Cooke

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Help Us Accept Each Other



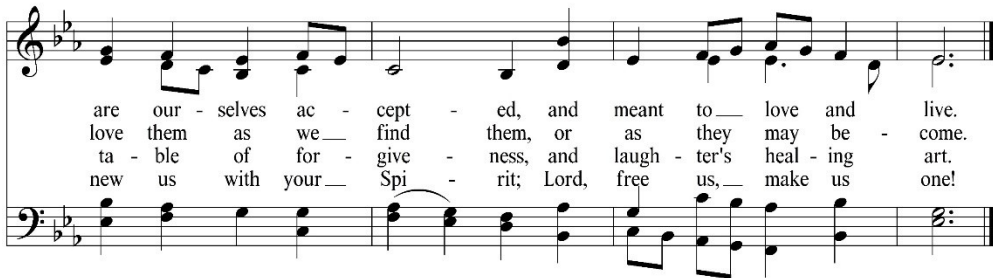
1. Help us ac - cept each o - ther as Christ ac - cept - ed us; Teach
 2. Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life We
 3. Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved In
 4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need, Who



us as sis - ter, bro - ther, each per - son to em - brace. Be
 strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith. Teach
 liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love; To
 hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice, and for bread, We



pre - sent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve We
 us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some, To
 prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart The
 need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on; Re -



are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
 love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
 ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 new us with your Spi - rit; Lord, free us, make us one!

Cover Art

Awake My Soul by Mike Moyers

“An abstract depicting the light of The Word shattering the darkness.”

From Art in the Christian Tradition

A Project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

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Guest Preacher

Rev. Melissa Walker-Luckett



Rev. Melissa Walker-Luckett has been a member of Royal Lane since 1986. Royal Lane ordained her to the gospel ministry in 1989. She is a Certified Educator with the ACPE, The Standard for Spiritual Care and Education, and served on the ACPE Board of Directors from 2012 to 2022, as Chair 2021-2022. She completed her ACPE certification while a Chaplain at Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation where she served the patients, families, and staff during her twelve years with Baylor Health Care System (now Baylor Scott & White Health). Melissa holds a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth and a BA in Religion from Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. The Alliance of Baptists endorsed her as a Chaplain in 2001. (Her prior endorsement had been with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.)

Melissa trained as a Chaplain immediately after seminary at Arkansas Children's Hospital, then at Children's Medical Center Dallas, Methodist Medical Center Dallas, and worked as a chaplain for VITAS hospice for five years. She managed the Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program at VA North Texas Health Care System in south Dallas prior to becoming Manager of CPE Programs at Children's Health, Children's Medical Center Dallas.

Melissa retired from employment to volunteer leadership with ACPE and is the incoming treasurer for the Journal of Pastor Care Publications. (JPCP)

In addition to being an avid reader, Melissa enjoys travel with her husband, Jamie Luckett, and being with her children and five grandchildren, her pets and vegetable gardening in the Spring and Summer, and western and swing dancing.

In 2015, Melissa completed The Writer's Path at SMU. She looks forward to more dedicated time to writing in coming years.

Hymn Notes

God Made from One Blood

Music: Thomas H. Troeger, Copyright © 1991, Oxford University Press

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Help Us Accept Each Other

Text: Fred Kaan, Copyright © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

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Where Charity and Love Prevail

Text: Omer Westendorf, Harm: Shelby Trapp, Copyright © 2010, Celebrating Grace, Inc.

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Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, Copyright © 1969, 1983, Oxford University Press

Harmonization: Donald Murphy, Copyright 2010, Celebrating Grace, Inc.

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Study for Wednesday Evening

Sermon Encounter with Jonathan Greer

in conversation with Pastor Victoria

Scriptures for Next Sunday

Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39

For the Children!

Children's bulletins are included in activity packets for ages 3+ and 7+. Don't miss the Secret Code to allow your child to unlock on-line games, in a safe environment, that supplement today's scripture at games.childrensbulletins.com/games/playcode.aspx



Please recycle your order of worship in a marked bin.

Love Is In the Air!

Saturday, February 10, 6:00-8:00 PM, Vickrey Hall

VALENTINE'S dinner presented by Women of the Church

Plan for an evening of music, food, fun and stories of love
from people you love.

Donna Ledgerwood & Ruth May

Christin & Richard Lavery

Jan & Tex Quesada

Emcee: Joey Belgard

Musical Entertainment: Danny Wesley Ray

RSVP to the Church for Dinner and Childcare – 214-361-2809

Suggested \$20, per adult, payable at the door. (BYOB)

Valentine's Party for the Kids in the Education Building.

SAVE THE DATE!

Women of the Church Spring Retreat

Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 8am-5pm

“Midwifing a Patriarchy-free Faith”

Speaker: Meredith Stone

Baptist Women in Ministry (BWIM)



We will spend a relaxing day at Sister Grove and discover ways to support each other in ministry and life. Cost: \$50 to Royal Lane Baptist Church (includes breakfast and lunch).

Optional extension accommodations for either Friday and/or Saturday night can be made directly and paid separately through Sister Grove Farm. This will include a viewing of the new BWIM Documentary “Midwives of a Movement.”

Registration for this retreat begins in the new year through the church office, 214-361-2809, with a deadline of April 17, 2024. Overnight requests can be made through Sarah Macias with a deadline of February 29, 2024. You can email Sarah at events@sistergrovefarm.com.

Schedule for the Week

Sunday January 28 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

- 12:00 pm Inurnment, Judy Mullinax — Columbarium
- 12:15 pm Acolyte Training — Vickrey Hall

Wednesday January 31

- 3:30 pm Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building, Room 201 (3:30 - 5:30 pm)
- 5:30 pm Midweek Dinner — Vickrey Hall
 - Menu: Chicken & Rice, Broccoli, Salad, Dessert
- 6:00 pm Midweek Gathering & Study — Vickrey Hall & Zoom
- 6:00 pm Children's Gathering — Godly Play Room
- 6:30 pm Youth Gathering — "Escape Room"
- 7:15 pm Choir — Sanctuary

Saturday February 3

- 2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom

Sunday February 4 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

- 9:45 am Adult Christian Education — Christian Education Building
- 9:45 am Children's Christian Education — Christian Education Building
- 9:45 am Youth Christian Education — Youth Portable
- 10:55 am Morning Worship – Holy Communion Offered
 - Sanctuary & Royal Lane YouTube Channel
 - Godly Play (following Time for Young Disciples) — Godly Play Room
 - Children 3-year through Third Grade
 - Young Theologians — Christian Education Building, Room 202
 - Children Fourth and Fifth Grade
- 12:15 pm Missions Division — Christian Education Building, Room 212
- 12:15 pm First Sunday Lunch for Children, Youth, & Families
- 8:00 pm Education Division — Zoom

The deadline for the Weekly Mosaic and the Mosaic is Monday, 5:00 p.m. prior to publication.

How to Connect

See the Weekly Mosaic or Web Calendar for Links and details for
In-Person, Livestream, Virtual or Zoom events — royallane.org/resources/events

Prayer Requests

We invite you to use the Prayer Cards, available in the “pockets” on the back of each pew, to submit prayer requests or the Prayer Request Form, available on the website at royallane.org/prayer
Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plate.



Deacons on Call – Rodney Macias & Charlotte Sewell
Safety Shepherd – Leslie Cechan

When WE Give:
We Can Provide Christian Education Materials for All Ages!

2023 Financials

We will post year-end 2023 financial results
after the books are closed for the year.
Thank you for your patience.

Text “GIVE” to 214-609-1200.
Follow the prompts to complete the process.
Standard text message rates may apply.

Royal Lane Baptist Church

6707 Royal Lane • Dallas, Texas 75230
[214] 361-2809 • <http://www.royallane.org>
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Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician
David Doom, Ministries Assistant
Brandon Green, Audio Technician
Beth Johnson, Minister to Children,
Youth & Families
Barbara Merry, Ministries Assistant

Ellen Miers, Housekeeping
Rev. Victoria Robb Powers, Senior Pastor
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician
David Weigle, Organist
Rev. Harry Wooten, Minister of Music & Worship