# Be Not Afraid

#### Advent - 2020



It feels as if 2020 has been a year filled with fear. Yet, messengers throughout the Bible sought to comfort the people of God by telling them to not be afraid. It was a word that those looking for a Messiah and birthing Divine Love needed to hear. And we need to hear it too. The theme for this Advent Season at Royal Lane is "Be Not Afraid." Maybe God is telling us this year, as we wait with trepidation and anticipation, to offer up our fears to the divine and to hear God's comfort in the angel voices: "Do not be afraid."

#### November 25 – Advent Hymn Sing – 6:30 pm — Zoom

Join David Weigle and Harry Wooten for an Advent/Christmas and Thanksgiving hymn sing to begin preparing our hearts and spirits for Advent. We will post a link of texts for this Zoom meeting and we will all sing for the very first time our 2020 Advent Hymn, "Be Not Afraid" written for Royal Lane by composer and lyricist, Michael Glenn Dell.

November 29 – ADVENT 1 –11:00 am — Royal Lane YouTube Channel "The Hopes and Fears of All the Years"

### December 6 – Advent II – 11:00 am — Royal Lane YouTube Channel Hanging of the Green

"The Fear of Disappointment"

A virtual expression of Hanging of the Green featuring video clips of Royal Laners decorating their homes, clips from past Hanging of the Green services, and narrations presented by RLBC worship leaders.

December 13 – Advent III – Worship – 11:00 am — Royal Lane YouTube Channel "The Fear of Revision"

#### December 16 – Mourning Light – 6:30 pm — Zoom

"The Fear of Holiday Grief"

This moving and poignant service will be experienced on Zoom this year. There will be opportunities to speak the names of those whom you mourn and remember. A Candle will be lit in their memory and an ornament placed on the Chrismon Tree.

December 20 – Advent IV – Worship – 11:00 am — Royal Lane YouTube Channel "The Fear of Ruined Reputation"

This morning we are joined by the Classic Brass Quintet as we sing carols of the season.

### December 24 – Christmas Eve – 6:00 pm — Royal Lane YouTube Channel "The Fear of Change"

The service this year will feature choral music from the virtual combined choirs of Royal Lane and University Park UMC as they present the first movement of the GLORIA by Vivaldi, and lovely settings of *Away in a Manger* and *Silent Night*. Soloists and readers from RLBC will also lead us in worship. The Gregg Family with baby Ford will light our Christ Candle.

## Advent Afternoons Royal Lane YouTube Channel

Each Tuesday afternoon of Advent at 4:00 pm we will present organist Jonathan Gregoire playing a brief mini concert on our Royal Lane, Dan Garland pipe organ, Opus 50. Jonathan will feature Advent music and speak about the pieces and their connection to our Advent season.

#### JONATHAN M. GREGOIRE

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Praised for his "top-notch technique and musicianship" by the Dallas Morning News, Jonathan M. Gregoire is an imaginative keyboardist and advocate for the power music has to transform lives. Gregoire brings his passion for music, intuitive gifts for the healing powers of the arts, and warm charisma to his creative output. As a soloist, his engaging performances are praised for their "unfailing drive, energy, and expression," with equal parts style and flair. As a collaborative artist, his elegance and facility at both the piano and the organ are further augmented by his sensitivity and innate ability to support and lead from the keyboard. He supports congregational and choral singing as the organist at St. Andrew United Methodist Church in Plano, Texas. As an educator, Gregoire is driven by the belief that through education we promote understanding, and with understanding we can foster appreciation. With this belief, he founded and serves as the Executive Director of the Arts Foundation of St. Andrew, which is dedicated to "enriching spirituality through the power of the arts." Additionally, he is the faculty accompanist for the Greenhill School in Addison and Plano West Senior High School, nurturing a love for music in the lives of the students and choirs he supports. For additional information, including recordings, please visit: jonathangregoire.com