

# ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

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*Diverse People United in Christ*



# *The Worship of God*

## *Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

October 20, 2019

10:55 A.M.

*Worship begins with the Chiming of the Hour and the Voluntary.*

*Please use this as a time of quiet reflection and prayer.*

*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

Sarah Fuller Phillips

*This week's scriptures remind us of the power of God's teaching and the endurance to persist. The story of a persistent woman helps us to see the divisions in our world between justice and injustice, the ways of God and the ways of the world, and the power of God to overcome. We are reminded that justice is eternal and that God empowers us to speak the words of God's heart: words of compassion, words of faithfulness, and words of persistence.*

*How do we find ourselves faithful to justice when our society makes it easier to serve ourselves? If we persist in this broken world by speaking out against injustice, surely it is God's mercy that strengthens us to do so.*

Voluntary

David Weigle

*Be Thou My Vision* — arranged by Zsolt Gárdonyi

✠Call to Worship

Alan Greider & Congregation

No matter how far from God we seem to be,  
we do not lose heart:

**For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.**

No matter how many obstacles we face in life,  
we do not lose heart:

**For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.**

No matter how hard it is to continually pray and work for justice,  
we do not lose heart:

**For the days are surely coming, says the Lord,  
when I will forgive and restore my people;  
when I will equip them for every good work;  
and when I will grant justice,  
for I hear their cries day and night.**

†Invocation

Congregation

Let us pray:

**Righteous God, you plead the cause of the poor and unprotected. Fill us with holy rage when justice is delayed, and give us the persistence to require those rights that are denied; for your name's sake. Amen.**

—Janet Morley, *All Desires Known* (London, 1992)

†Hymn 689

Congregation

*Let Justice Flow Like Streams* — ST. THOMAS

Welcome to Worshipers

Amanda Gregg

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.]*

Scripture Lesson

Cathy Walling

Luke 18:1-8 (Pew Bible page 853 of the New Testament)

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word ... **Thanks be to God!**

Time for Young Disciples

Blake Miller

*Children through kindergarten are invited to Godly Play,  
1st through 4th grade to Young Theologians.*

*You may collect your children in the Children's Building following the service.*

Call to Confession

Amy Ward-Meier & Congregation

We confess our sins to God, trusting that God will forgive us and remember our sins no more.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

**Forgive us, we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than yours. Forgive us for growing weary in following you; for failing to pray and work tirelessly for justice; for losing hope in your power to transform the powers of this world. Tune our ears to the sound of your justice. Turn our hearts to your commandments and word of grace. Do not remember our sin, but remember your mercy forever. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

*Silence Is Kept*

## Promise of Forgiveness

The scriptures are given to correct our ways, to train us in righteousness, and to equip us for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is the only judge of the living and the dead, we give thanks for the gift of forgiveness.

**By the grace of Christ, we will be persistent in the life of faith to which we are called.**

†Hymn 391

Congregation

*Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire* — CAMPMEETING

Offertory Prayer

Terry Berrier

Offertory

Choir

*Lead Me Lord* — arranged by Will Todd  
Suré Eloff, soprano

Sermon

Michael Gregg

**“ A Persistent and Relentless Faith ”**

†Hymn of Commitment 71

Congregation

*Be Thou My Vision* — SLANE

*Please come forward during the singing of this hymn if you wish to confess or reaffirm your faith or identify with this fellowship. A minister will greet and receive you.*

## *Deacon Ordination*

Alan Greider, Blake Miller, Sarah Phillips,  
Cathy Walling, Amy Ward-Meier

Statement of Purpose and Presentation of Ordinands

Mike Gregg

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.*

*(continued)*

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 and Words of Affirmation

Karen Simmons & Congregation

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.**

Laying on of Hands

Congregation

From the earliest times the church has acknowledged and confirmed God's call to ministry through the symbolic act of the laying on of hands and prayer.

*All are invited to come forward and gather around the ordinands.*

Prayer of Blessing & Declaration

Paulette Harrison

Gracious God, we thank you for these your servants who have been called and ordained as deacons. As we set them apart for this ministry we ask that you fill them with all the graces needed to fulfill their responsibilities. Grant them the spirit of compassion for human needs, and devotion to the well-being of your church, that together we may grow ever more fully into the likeness of Christ. Amen.

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

Recognition of Outgoing Deacon Chair, Rebecca Rempert

Paulette Harrison

Presentation of Decisions

Michael Gregg

Affirmation: **Thanks be to God!**

†Sending Forth

Michael Gregg

The Unjust Judge is alive and well in the world that we will face.

**We go into the world with the persistence of the widow.**

Go, encouraged by the promise that God has no respect of person.

**It is no secret what God can do when we are faithful in prayer.**

God the Answer, Jesus the Great Questioner, and the Holy Spirit keep us strong 'til we meet again.

Hallelujah.

**Amen.**

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

*Thy Strong Word Did Cleave the Darkness* — arranged by Paul Manz

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*We invite you to greet the newly elected & ordained deacons at the chancel immediately following worship.*

#### **Newly Elected Deacons**

Terry Berrier

Alan Greider

Blake Miller

Sarah Fuller Phillips

Cathy Walling

Amy Ward-Meier

#### **Deacon Officers**

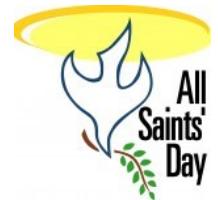
Paulette Harrison, Deacon Chair

Charlotte Sewell, Deacon Vice-Chair

Karen Simmons, Deacon Secretary

## **November 3, All Saints' Sunday**

On Sunday, November 3, 2019, we will honor the saints of Royal Lane Baptist Church who have passed away since November 1 of 2018. If you have a family member you would like to honor in this service, please notify the church office, 214-361-2809, by Tuesday, October 29 for listing in the Order of Worship. Include name, date of death, and your relationship to this person. We have gathered many names for this list. Please check with the church office to make sure we have included your family member.



## Worship Leaders

### Terry Berrier

Terry retired in the spring of 2018 after teaching public school choir for 35 years, most recently as the Choir Director at Wylie East High School. Terry spent fourteen years as the Associate Choir Director at Lake Highlands HS, where she also taught AP Music Theory. She is professionally associated with ACDA, TCDA, and TMEA, and has served TMEA and TCDA both at the Region and State levels. In 2007, she was a recipient of the UIL Sponsor Excellence Award, and was named a top ten RISD STAR teacher for 2010. She and her husband, JJ, live in Richardson. They have three grown children, seven grandsons, one granddaughter, and two spoiled dogs. Terry is a newly elected Deacon.

### Newly Ordained Deacons & Deacon Officers

Cover Art — *Justice as Protector* by Stefan Hirsch, 1899-1964  
Art in the Christian Tradition, Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN  
Used by permission

## Wednesday Evening Quarterly Church Conference

Business meeting & vote on:  
Bylaws revisions approved by the Deacon Board  
2019-2020 Leadership Roster

Join us at 5:30 for a Fellowship Meal

## For the Children!

Children's bulletins are available for ages 3-6 and 7-12.  
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](http://games.childrensbulletins.com/games/playcode.aspx)



**Pumpkin Patch Hours**  
**Saturday: 8:00 am – 7:00 pm**  
**Sunday: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm**  
**Monday – Friday: 12:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

## My Faith Journey . . .

### **Alan Greider**

Alan grew up as a Southern Baptist, attending churches with his family in Arkansas, Texas, and New Mexico. He moved to Plano with his family when he was a senior in high school in 1975. His family was always present for church on Wednesday nights, Sunday mornings, and Sunday nights for Training Union and children/youth choir, and he continued that tradition with his own family. Alan has spent 40 years as a high school math teacher, first at Plano Senior High School and now at Plano West Senior High School, and this is his final year to teach! He has been a member of RLBC since spring of 2014, and is a dedicated and happy member of the choir. Alan is honored and humbled to be considered as a deacon at RLBC, and will do his best to be worthy of the title and the responsibility of being part of the leadership of the church.

### **Blake Miller**

It's funny how influential Royal Lane has been on my life. Ironically enough I was born and raised here in the Dallas area, but I wasn't introduced to Royal Lane until I went over to North Carolina to attend Wake Forest University Divinity School. Not only was Royal Lane my first ministerial job after Divinity School, Royal Lane also became the place of my ordination into the gospel ministry. It was always special how quickly and intentionally Royal Lane folded me into the family. If that wasn't enough influence on my life already, it just so happened to be the place where I met my now wife, Shannon Simmons Miller. Of course our wedding took place here at Royal Lane just this past summer, and we loved getting to celebrate it with so many of our Royal Lane family. After a stint working at River Oaks Baptist Church down in Houston, or as Harry called it "being a missionary to the poor souls that call Houston home;" I made my return to Dallas. I currently serve as the Corporate Chaplain at First Rate Inc., (yep you read that correct, corporations have chaplains too) and am loving being able to work in my ministerial calling while still being able to attend Royal Lane on Sundays.

### **Sarah Phillips**

My path to Royal Lane was through my older sister, Becky Fuller. Her engagement and dedication to the church was inspiring and I would often visit with her while passing through DFW on my way from or back to Hardin Simmons where I earned my bachelor's degree. Becky and I were raised by church musicians and Royal Lane's worship has always been a big part of what drew me here. I never thought I would find a church where I could completely be myself and serve God and I'm thankful I've found this here at Royal Lane. I am honored to have the opportunity to grow and serve this amazing progressive congregation.

When I'm not at Royal Lane, I am a full-time single mom to my vibrant five-year-old, Rhona, I run a bakery from my home, I serve on the PTA board for my daughter's school, and I'm about to begin co-leading her Girl Scout troop. I love Frasier, Forrest Gump, my friends/family, and hip-hop music. I look forward to serving God by serving you.

### **Cathy Walling**

Cathy has been a member of Royal Lane for almost 4 years. She graduated from Baylor in 1978 and spent the next 41 years working in the telecommunication industry. She recently "retired" from Verizon and has been enjoying her time off. She is a member of the RLBC choir and also assists in leading the Racial Justice group under the Social Justice team. She loves music, animals, traveling and spending time with friends and her RLBC family. She looked many years for a church that is diverse, inclusive, caring and welcoming and finally found Royal Lane Baptist Church. It has been a true blessing. She is excited and honored to begin her service as a deacon at RLBC.

### **Amy Ward-Meier**

Amy Ward-Meier discovered Royal Lane through her husband Ed Meier and his family. As newlyweds Amy and Ed attended a joint mission of Royal Lane in Uptown called CityChurch, which later moved to Oak Cliff and was renamed Church in the Cliff. After returning home from their first move to Washington, D.C. they searched for a progressive church with a vibrant children's department for their two young children, Penelope and Nolan. Penelope's only request was that their new church serve cookies, like Calvary Baptist where they attended in DC. In 2013, Amy, Ed, and the kids joined Royal Lane. Although they moved states a couple of times since then, they enjoyed returning home to Royal Lane in 2017. Amy believes that Royal Lane is a community that is genuinely interested in knowing, loving, and supporting each and every one of us, not just one day of the week, but every day of the week. Amy still remembers the incredible outpouring of love shown to their family when Nolan broke his femur bone back in 2014. She also appreciates that Royal Lane is truly a place where all are welcome and all are celebrated, and where all feel called to share their gifts because this community recognizes that we all have gifts to share. Royal Lane demonstrates why the greatest of these is love, and Amy looks forward to discovering how she too can show radical love through her service as a new deacon.

# In the Box Gallery

## Artist Receptions:

Friday, October 25, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Sunday, November 3, 12:15 to 1:15 pm

Randy Box is the current artist exhibiting in the Box Gallery. Randy is one of our own Royal Lane Baptist Church family members! Not only is he the son of Martha and Steve Box, he is an “alumnus” of Cookie Stokes’ Sunday School class! Randy began expressing his artistic talents in 2012 and still studies at the Bonny Leibowitz’s Studio in Richardson, Texas.



Randy is committed to using his exhibit at the Box Gallery to extend the ministry of the Oasis Center in Dallas, Texas. Oasis Center provides services for first time youth offenders.

He has listed minimum contributions for the pieces for sale in the Gallery. Please, consider going above the minimum amounts to support this important ministry. All proceeds from sales will be donated to Oasis Center (80%) and RLBC Faith & Arts (20%).



Join us for the evening reception in the Box Gallery on Friday, October 25, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and the afternoon reception on Sunday, November 3, 2019 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Help fill those trunks with treats! It’s time to bring individually wrapped candy or individual non-candy treats (crackers, cookies, fruit snacks, small prizes, etc.). Collection baskets are located in the Education hallway (under the billboard) and in the Narthex.

October 27, 4:00 -6:30 pm,  
RLBC Courtyard Parking Lot & Vickrey Hall



Volunteer today to help with Set-up, Treats, Games, Clean-up,  
Decorate a Trunk or MORE!

<https://bit.ly/2mDXtkm>



## *Schedule for the Week*

**Sunday**      **October 20 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Bread for the World Sunday**

**Wednesday** **October 23**

3:30 pm Holy Rollers Mission Project — Room 202

5:30 pm Midweek Family Dinner — Vickrey Hall  
Lasagna, Salad, Texas Toast, Dessert (tbd)

6:00 pm Quarterly Church Conference — Vickrey Hall

6:00 pm Youth Activities/Study Hall — Youth Basement

6:15 pm Children's Activities — Children's Building

7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary

**Friday**      **October 25**

6:00 pm Artist Reception — Box Gallery (6:00 – 8:00 pm)

**Sunday**      **October 27**

9:30 am Donuts, Coffee/Juice — Box Gallery

9:45 am Royal Welcome Class — Library

9:45 am Christian Education — Christian Education Classrooms & Portable 1

10:55 am Morning Worship — Sanctuary

4:00 pm Fall Festival — Courtyard Parking Lot & Vickrey Hall (4:00 – 6:30 pm)

*The deadline for the order of service, the Midweek bulletin, and weekly Mosaic is Monday, 5:00 p.m. prior to publication.*

## **Pastor's Book Group**

**Tuesdays at Noon, Beginning November 5, 2019**

**What is the PBG?** The Pastor's Book Group is an informal time to discuss important books about faith and culture.

**Which authors will we read?** Brené Brown, Father Gregory Boyle, Rachel Held Evans, Anne Lamott, Diana Butler Bass, and Atul Gawande. The PBG will begin on November 5 *Tattoos on the Heart* by Father Gregory Boyle.

**How much reading is required?** The amount of reading will not be strenuous as the discussion will focus on 2-3 chapters a week. The group will utilize questions and prompts to facilitate discussion.

**What about lunch?** Whether coming from work or from home, please bring a lunch to eat during the meeting.

**Why should I attend?** This is a great opportunity to read many New York Times Best Sellers while conversing with friends. Join us for laughter, learning, and lively conversation all during your lunch break. For information, contact Mike Gregg, [mgregg@royallane.org](mailto:mgregg@royallane.org).

# Prayer Cards

We invite you to use the Prayer Cards, available in the “pockets” on the back of each pew, to submit prayer requests. These may be placed in the offering plate or handed to a minister or deacon of the week.

## Deacons on Call

Scott Bryant & Margaret Darden

**Safety Shepherd** – Kirsten Fleenor

## Godly Play

Bryan Chastain & Kathy Hatcher

**Young Theologians** – Laura Keller & Cookie Stokes

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When WE Give: we can expand our outreach to the community through missions.

### August 2019 Financials

	YTD Actual	YTD Adjusted*
Revenues	\$ 543,373	\$ 480,938
Expenses	\$ 493,319	\$ 493,319
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 50,054	(\$ 12,361)

\*One-Time Pledges Amortized Monthly

Text **Royallane** to **73256** to give to the General Fund.

*Standard text message rates apply.*

Donate online to General Fund  
at [onrealm.org/RoyalLane/Give](http://onrealm.org/RoyalLane/Give)



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## *Royal Lane Baptist Church*

6707 Royal Lane • Dallas, Texas 75230

[214] 361-2809 • <http://www.royallane.org>

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Rosa Barrientos, Housekeeping  
Michael Gregg, Pastor  
Jonah Hammett, Video Technician  
Laura Keller, Minister to Children  
Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant  
Samuel Quesada, Video Technician

Tim Schaefer, Minister to Youth  
Janet Schultz, Administrative Assistant  
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician  
Ray Vickrey, Pastor Emeritus  
David Weigle, Organist  
Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship

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The Scripture this morning is Luke 18:1-8, which may be found on page 853 of the New Testament of the pew Bible.

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**18** Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (NRSV)

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Holy Wisdom, Holy Word... **Thanks be to God.**