

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 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,

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

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

Melissa Walker-Luckett

Today marks the beginning of Advent—the time of waiting for the salvation of our God. Isaiah and the psalmist proclaim the day when all people will come to Jerusalem and worship the Lord. This will be a time of peace—a time when nations will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks (Isaiah 2:4). The scripture readings speak of our need to be vigilant as we wait for the Lord's return. Salvation is nearer to us than when we first began to believe, so be vigilant. The Lord will come as a thief in the night and catch many unaware. In this time of joyful preparation, let us prepare our hearts anew to receive the author of our salvation.

Voluntary

David Weigle

Sleeper's Awake — J. S. Bach

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

✝ Call to Worship

Congregation

I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

that we may learn God's ways and walk in God's paths.

Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem,

Come let us walk in the light of the Lord!

—Psalm 122, 1-2, Isaiah 2: 3, 5

†Invocation

Congregation

Let us pray:

Unknowable God, you come to make yourself known to us in loving relationship. You come with a message of hope and comfort for those who are hurting and those who are tired. As you did centuries ago, be with us again today as we seek to learn from you and from one another. In the name of your Child, Jesus Christ who walked among us. Amen.

†Hymn 83

Congregation

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus — HYFRYDOL

Welcome to Worshipers

Michael 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.]*

Psalms 122

Amy Ward-Meier

Response



Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!

R

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

**Our feet were standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

Jerusalem is built as a city and is bound firmly together,
to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel.

**Thrones for judgment were set there,
the thrones of the house of David**

R

(continued)

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

“May they prosper who love you!

Peace be within your walls,

and security within your towers!”

For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say

“Peace be within you!”

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,

I will seek your Good

R

Reading

Nate Green

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

—Howard Thurman, 1899-1981

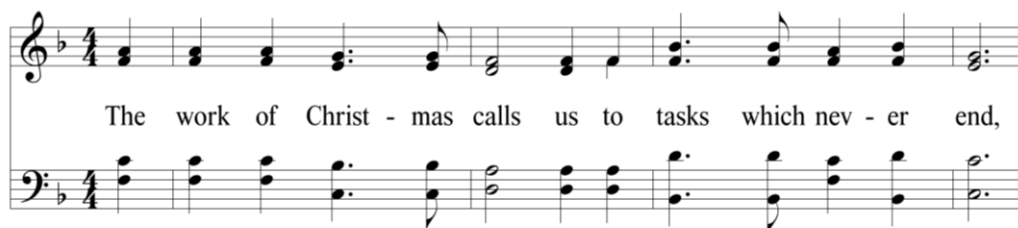
The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Jim & Mike Rainbolt-Bailey

Advent Hymn

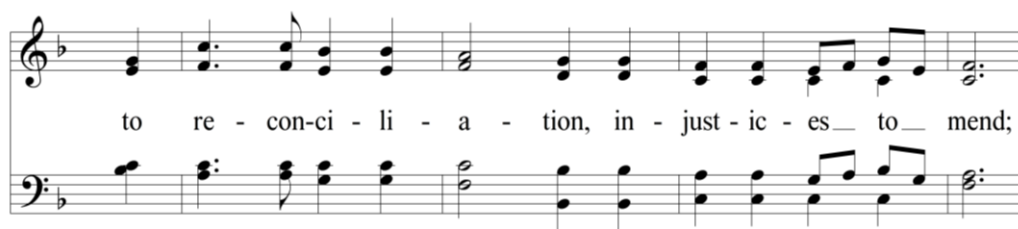
Congregation

The Work of Christmas Calls Us – RUTHERFORD



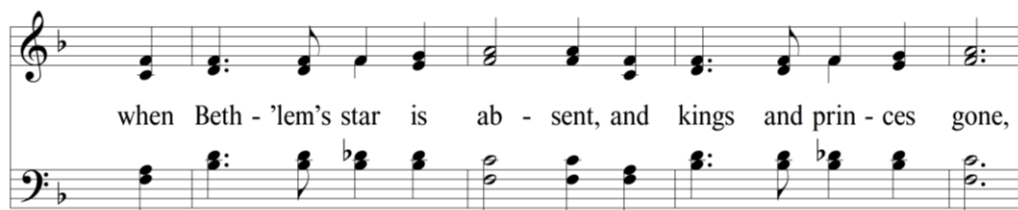
The work of Christ - mas calls us to tasks which nev - er end,

This block contains the first line of the hymn. It features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.



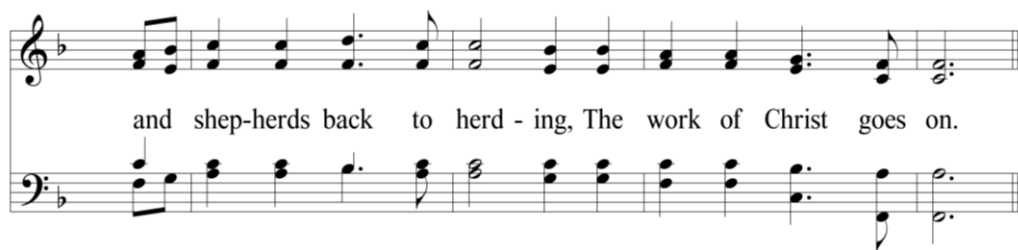
to re - con-ci - li - a - tion, in - just - ic - es to mend;

This block contains the second line of the hymn. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.



when Beth - 'lem's star is ab - sent, and kings and prin - ces gone,

This block contains the third line of the hymn. It continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.



and shep-herds back to herd - ing, The work of Christ goes on.

This block contains the fourth line of the hymn, which concludes the phrase. It features a final cadence in the melody. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Unison Prayer

Let us pray:

**Holy One, you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near.
Keep us faithful in hope and watchful in prayer, so that we may stand
with confidence and joy at the coming of Christ, our redeemer and Lord.
Amen.**

Time for Young Disciples

Laura Keller

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.

✠Hymn 88

Congregation

Blest Be the God of Israel — MERLE'S TUNE

Prayers of the People

Tim Schaefer & Congregation

Children of God in Christ, for the sake of the world that God so loves, let us pray.

We pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

**We pray for peace in every nation—that people will turn their swords
into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks and study war no
more.**

Pray for the peace of the church.

**We pray for peace in Christ's body—put an end to fear and complaining,
and help us to proclaim in word and action the good news of salvation to
all.**

Pray for the peace of the community.

**We pray for peace in this place—for safety in our homes and streets, for
the prosperity of our neighbors, and for the health of family and friends.**

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

(You may speak aloud the first name of those for whom you wish to pray.)

Silence Is Kept

Let us pray:

**God of the future, make us ready for the coming of your reign, when you
will bring everlasting peace and renew the face of the earth; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Anthem

Choir

Non Nobis Domine — Rosephanye Powell

Non Nobis, Domine, non nobis,

Not to us, O Lord, not to us

Sed nomini tuo da gloriam

but to your name be the glory

Sermon

Michael Gregg

“ The Work of Christmas Begins ”

†Hymn of Commitment 96

Congregation

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light — HOUSTON

*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.*

Offertory Prayer

Alan Greider

Precious Lord, amid the twinkling lights, the bustling shoppers, and the traffic jams,
we see you. We see you in the smile of a child who is sitting on Santa's lap and in the
face of a homeless man who is standing on a street corner. We see you and are amazed
by your abiding presence. You are always with us! We offer you these gifts in
gratitude for your presence. O come, O come, Emmanuel. Amen.

Offertory

David Weigle

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel — arranged by Joseph Martin

Presentation of Decisions

Michael Gregg

Affirmation: **Thanks be to God!**

†Sending Forth

Michael Gregg & Congregation

Go forth in faith during this season of Advent
and put on the armor of Christ's light.

**As the days grow short and the sun's light wanes,
we will shine for all the world to see.**

Go forth in love during this time of waiting
and embrace the peace that passes all understanding.

**As disciples of the Prince of Peace,
we will beat our swords into ploughshares
and our spears into pruning hooks.**

Go with God.

Amen.

Amen.

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

People Look East — French Carol

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Worship Leaders

Nate Green

Nate and his family began attending Royal Lane Baptist Church in 2004 and became members in 2005. He and his wife Deanna have one child, Brandon. Nate grew up in Abilene, Texas and graduated from Texas Tech University in 1987. He has worked as a commercial fire alarm salesman/project manager with DSS Fire since 1993.

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. 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 and was ordained as a deacon in October.

Amy Ward-Meier

Amy Ward-Meier works as a senior policy analyst for the US. Government Accountability Office (GAO), an independent, nonpartisan agency that works for Congress. She serves as a member on the Advocate Council for the Aberg Center for Literacy in Dallas and is heavily involved in all things Dallas ISD. Amy is married to Ed Meier and they have two children—Penelope and Nolan—who love everything that Royal Lane has to offer! The Meier family joined Royal Lane in 2013 and Amy is a newly ordained deacon as of 2019.

Mike & Jim Rainbolt-Bailey

Mike and Jim are relatively new members of the Royal Lane family having placed their membership at our church in early 2019. Mike, an alumni of University of Texas (B.A. - 1995) grew up in Beaumont, Texas. Mike is employed by Accenture as a Software Developer and grew up in the Methodist church. Jim, an ordained Southern Baptist minister, is an alumni of Hardin-Simmons University (B.A. - 1989) and Texas Tech University (MBA /JD - 1992) and grew up in Post, Texas. Jim is employed by Global Furniture Group managing sales territories in Texas and Oklahoma. In 2008 Mike and Jim met while at a Christmas party in Austin, Texas. In 2014 they were married in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Mike and Jim are the (sometimes!) proud parents of Barry (10-year-old Shar Pei), Cabo (3-year-old Chihuahua) and Angus and Abby (10-year-old Westie siblings). Mike recently joined the RLBC Technology Committee. Jim is a member of the Stewardship Committee.

Cover Art

The Work of Christmas, David Vander Molen
for Royal Lane Baptist Church, Advent 2019

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Hymn Notes

The Work of Christmas Calls Us

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Study for Wednesday Evening
Advent Study with Mike Gregg
and
Noah's Pudding with Dialogue Institute Dallas

Join us at 5:30 for a Fellowship Meal

Scriptures for Next Sunday
Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12

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



Please recycle your order of worship in a marked bin.



**Stocking Stuffers
for Healing Hands Ministries**

Please bring small toys and candy to fill stockings for the children and teenagers who visit the clinic at Healing Hands Ministries. Bring items through the second week in December, then come join us Saturday December 14, when we will fill the stockings at the Women of the Church meeting from 10:00-12:30.

Suggestions: small plush animals, fuzzy socks, small Christmas toys, card games, bubbles, ear buds (for teens), small holiday coloring books, Christmas candy, etc.

Bring Finger Foods – brunch or dessert – to snack on as we stuff stockings at the December 14 meeting.

The Work of Christmas

Advent & Christmas – 2019

December

December 1 – Advent I

10:55 am — Sanctuary

December 4 – Advent Study & Noah's Pudding

5:30 pm — Vickrey Hall

December 7 – La Fiesta de la Posada & Parents Night Out (childcare provided)

5:00 pm — Children's Building & Vickrey Hall (5:00 – 8:00 pm)

December 8 – Advent II – Hanging of the Green

10:55 am — Sanctuary

December 13 – Youth Christmas Party

6:00 pm — Youth Basement (6:00 – 9:00 pm)

December 13 – Parents of Children & Youth

6:00 pm — Vickrey Hall (6:00 – 9:00 pm) (childcare provided)

December 14 – Women of the Church

10:00 am — Vickrey Hall (10:00 am – 12:30 pm)

December 15 – Advent III – Choral Music Sunday

10:55 am — “The Work of Christmas” presented by the Sanctuary Choir — Sanctuary

December 18 – Mourning Light & Food Offering (benefiting North Dallas Shared Ministries)

6:15 pm — Vickrey Hall, Holy Communion offered

December 21 – Men of the Church Breakfast

9:00 am — First Watch, Preston Forest

December 22 – Advent IV – Worship

10:55 am — Sanctuary, Festival Carol Sing featuring Glen Hummel's Classic Brass Quintet

December 24 – Christmas Eve

6:00 pm — Sanctuary

Carols, Candlelight & Communion (childcare provided)

December 25 – Christmas Day

Church Office Closed, No Wednesday Activities (Activities resume January 8)

December 29 – First Sunday after Christmas – Worship

10:55 am — Sanctuary



Advent Devotions

A Special Edition of The Mosaic with Advent Devotions is available in the narthex. Copies have been mailed to those that regularly receive a mailed copy of The Mosaic.

Schedule for the Week

- Sunday** **December 1 – First Sunday of Advent**
12:15 pm Education Committee — Room 206
- Tuesday** **December 3**
1:00 pm Missions Committee — Library
- Wednesday** **December 4 – Mosaic**
3:30 pm Holy Rollers Mission Project — Room 202
5:30 pm Midweek Family Dinner — Vickrey Hall
 Vegetable & Rice Soup, Salad, Bread, Blackberry Crisp, Noah's Pudding
6:00 pm Youth Activities/Study Hall — Youth Basement
6:15 pm Children's Activities — Children's Building
6:15 pm Midweek Service — Vickrey Hall
 Advent Study with Mike Gregg &
 Noah's Pudding with Dialogue Institute Dallas
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
- Friday** **December 6**
7:00 pm Verdigris Concert – 'Twas The Night Before Christmas — Sanctuary
- Saturday** **December 7**
5:00 pm La Fiesta de la Posada — Vickrey Hall (5:00 – 8:00 pm)
- Sunday** **December 8 – Second Sunday of Advent / Hanging of the Green**
8:30 am Deacons Meeting — Portable 1 (childcare by reservation)
9:30 am Donuts, Coffee/Juice — Box Gallery
9:45 am Hanging of the Green Rehearsal — Sanctuary
 Children's and Adult Choirs
9:45 am Christian Education — Christian Education Classrooms & Portable 1
10:55 am Morning Worship — Sanctuary
12:15 pm Second Sunday Youth Lunch (meet in the Library following worship)
7:00 pm Verdigris Concert – 'Twas The Night Before Christmas — Sanctuary

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

Staff Love Gift

During this Giving time of year let's not forget those who give so much to us all year. Our church staff willingly and lovingly provide many services for us throughout the year. As in the past, if you'd like to express your personal appreciation, please mail your check to the Church Office or place it in the offering plate by Sunday, December 8. Be sure your contribution is clearly marked "Staff Love Gift." You may also go online and donate under "Staff Love Offering" at onrealm.org/RoyalLane/Give — *Paulette Harrison, Deacon Chair*



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

Charlotte Sewell & Amy Ward-Meier

Godly Play

Kirsten Fleenor & Cheryl Robinson

Safety Shepherd – Jeff & Jennifer Hammett

Young Theologians – Laura Keller & Cookie Stokes

When WE Give: we can enjoy fellowship with our friends from Dialogue Institute Dallas.

October 2019 Financials

	YTD Actual	YTD Adjusted*
Revenues	\$ 705,031	\$ 673,836
Expenses	\$ 614,063	\$ 614,063
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 90,068	\$ 59,773

*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



Royal Lane Baptist Church

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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