

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2020

10:55 A.M.

Words of Welcome

Laura Mayo & Harry Wooten

Centering Words & Candle Lighting

Laura Keller

This week's readings remind us that the indwelling love of God and the Spirit's enduring presence is with us; no matter what, we are never alone and never abandoned. What is it that we worship, and what is it that keeps us from the love that Jesus preached? As much as our faith may lead us to feel abandoned when our insistence on love and justice puts us at odds with the world—even with those closest to us—we have the assurance that we will be accompanied, that we will be able to see Jesus and be part of him and of God, even now in this life.

Voluntary

David Weigle

Talk About a Child Who Do Love Jesus — arranged by Joe Utterback

Call to Worship

Harry Wooten

Come, let us gather in praise of the one who shows us the way:

The way of Christ is love.

Let us gather in thanksgiving for the one who teaches the truth:

The way of Christ is love.

Let us worship the one who gives us life:

The way of Christ is love.

Invocation

Harry Wooten

Come Holy Spirit, our helper and advocate. Open our hearts and minds this day, entice us with your presence. Spark us with a word of life—a message that we may share with others as we seek to live Christ's love in the world. All this we ask in the name of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us. Amen.

Hymn [see insert]

Worshippers

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling — HYFRYDOL
(stanzas one and three)

Testimony of Joy

Bettie Meachum, MK & Mac C.

Hymn [see insert]

Worshippers

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go — ST. MARGARET
(stanza one only)

Scripture Lesson

Karen Miller & Lauren Miller

“Friends” – based on John 14:15-21 [see insert]

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

Time for Young Disciples

Laura Keller

Prayers of the People

Tim Schaefer

Love that will not let us go,

we rest our weary souls in thee.

This week some of us have traced rainbows through the rain and finally looked up to see the colors shining after the storm. Others are still longing for signs of hope to be made real to them.

Loving God,

we rest our weary souls in thee.

Hear our prayers for those who need the sound of your love spoken clearly into their winter-weary souls. Too many days our attention has settled on ourselves instead of focusing on your invitations to love others. May our response to your love be love.

Loving God,

we rest our weary souls in thee.

Today we pray especially for those we name now silently or aloud or post in the comments section.

With our whole heart, let us spend our love with abandon and risk our love with no thought for our own gain so that our neighbors will know your healing love, the hurting will know your healing love, and those whom we say we love will know that indeed we do. Amen.

Anthem

Combined Choruses from
University Park UMC, Mark Pope, director
Royal Lane BC, Harry Wooten, director

Grace — Mark Hayes

Sermon

Laura Mayo

“ We Are Commanded to Love and We Are Not Alone ”

John 14:15-21

Offertory

Steven Rhodes

Jesus Loves Me (based on Claire de lune) — arranged by Fred Bock

Communion

Worshippers

God of love, you are present in all things. Be present to a hurting world in these elements of communion. Help us use them to create a community of love and a place of belonging for all people. Help us reach those who seek, and those who doubt. May the bread and the cup help people know the blessings of being your beloved children.

Receive this bread as the token that Jesus loved you and died for you.

Take this wine and let Christ cleanse you and fill you with his love.

Communion Prayer

Lord God, we have received your word and have tasted your truth: Jesus Christ, the Son of your love. We pray that he may guide us and that we may live with each other in his wisdom and love and so grow in the faith that the future is his, today, every day, forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn [see insert]

Worshippers

Jesus Loves Me — CHINA
(stanzas one and four)

Blessing

Laura Keller, Tim Schaefer & Harry Wooten

Go in the name of God,
the one who created all the nations of the earth.
Go in the name of Christ,
the one who abides in love and abides in you.
Go in the name of the Spirit of truth,
the one who advocates for you and guides you.
Amen.

Amen.

Postlude

David Weigle

Laudation — Gilbert M. Martin

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Cover Art — *Remain in My Love* Stained Glass, 1931
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Hymn Notes

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Text: Charles Wesley, Music: Rowland H. Prichard, Public Domain

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Text: George Matheson, Music: Albert L. Pearce, Public Domain

Jesus Loves Me

Text: Anna B. Warner, Music: William B. Bradbury, Public Domain

Schedule for the Week

Sunday June 28 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

3:00 pm 1st-2nd Grade Sunday School – Zoom

4:00 pm Formations Class — Zoom

Wednesday July 1

6:30 pm Reopening Task Force Q&A — Livestream
with Terry Berrier, Cathy Webb, & Harry Hunter

Friday July 3

12:00 pm Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom

Saturday July 4

10:00 am Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom

2:00 pm 4-6-Year-Old Saturday School – Zoom

2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom

8:00 pm Non-Traditional Class — Zoom

Sunday July 5 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am Foundation Stones Class — Zoom

10:55 am Morning Worship — Livestream

3:00 pm 1st-2nd Grade Sunday School – Zoom

4:00 pm Formations Class — Zoom

Today's Guest Preacher

Laura Mayo

Reverend Laura Mayo is the Senior Minister of Covenant Church, Houston, Texas. She is a graduate of Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee and Wake Forest University Divinity School in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She completed a year-long CPE chaplaincy program at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. Laura also studied at Regent's Park College of Oxford University.



Laura is active in Houston interfaith work including membership in American's United for the Separation of Church and State clergy advisory group, The Coalition for Mutual Respect (of the Anti-Defamation League), The Faith Leaders Coalition, and Interfaith Ministries' Multi-Faith Council. She is a clergy surrogate for Memorial Hermann Hospital.

Laura has been part of many panel discussions including a panel hosted by The University of Houston Law School about what the Bible says about LGBTQ+ relationships, a panel hosted by Project Lifeline concerning the treatment of people at our borders, and panels hosted by The Alley Theatre, The Foundation for Contemporary Theology, Lifeline Chaplaincy, and PFLAG.

Laura is regularly published in the Belief section of the Houston Chronicle, and has been interviewed several times on Houston Public Media's "Houston Matters" radio show.

Laura and her partner, Nicholas Stepp, have two sons, Owen & Grayson, who bring them such joy. Laura, Nick, Owen, and Grayson enjoy sailing, camping, projects, and cooking together.

Guest Preacher, July 5

Garrett Vickrey



Garrett Vickrey became the fourth Senior Pastor at Woodland Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, in June 2012. He is a graduate of Baylor University and the Wake Forest University School of Divinity. He has served on the staff of Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas and Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. Garrett was born and raised in Dallas, Texas where his father was the pastor of Royal Lane Baptist Church. Garrett and his wife, Cameron, have three daughters, Finley, Zetta, and Sloane.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Charles Wesley, 1747

HYFRYDOL, 8.7.8.7 D

R. H. Prichard, 1831

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heav'n to earth come down;
2. Come al - mighty to de - liv - er; let us all thy life re - ceive;
3. Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;

1. fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
2. sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
3. let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee,

1. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion; pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
2. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
3. changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heav'n we take our place,

1. vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
2. pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
3. till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

1 O Love that will not let me go,
 2 O Light that fol - lowest all my way,
 3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain,
 4 O Cross that lift - est up my head,

I rest my wea - ry soul in thee;
 I yield my flick - ering torch to thee;
 I can - not close my heart to thee;
 I dare not ask to fly from thee;

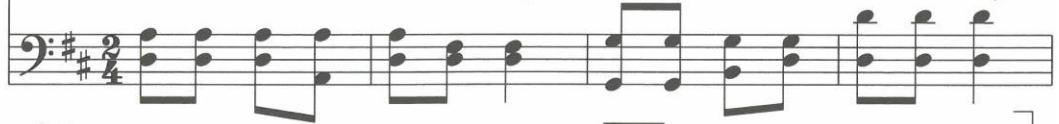
I give thee back the life I owe, that
 my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that
 I trace the rain - bow through the rain, and
 I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and

in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
 in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
 feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
 from the ground there blos - soms red life that shall end - less be.

Jesus Loves Me



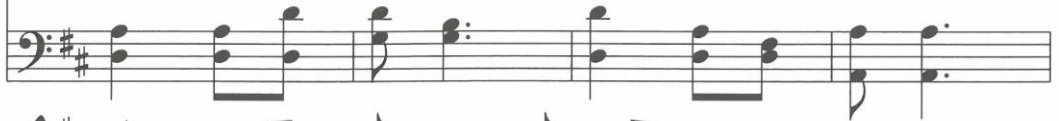
- 1. Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2. Je - sus loves me! this I know, as He loved so long a - go,
3. Je - sus loves me still to - day, walk - ing with me on my way,
→ 4. Je - sus loves me! He will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to Him be - long; they are weak, but He is strong.
tak - ing chil - dren on His knee, say - ing, "Let them come to Me."
want - ing as a friend to give light and love to all who live.
if I love Him, when I die He will take me home on high.



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.



“Friends” – based on John 14:15-21

“Friends,” Jesus said, “I will not always be with you.”

“We know,” the disciples grumbled. They never liked to think about the fact that Jesus was not always going to be with them. They loved being with him: his stories told them so much about God; the ways he touched other peoples lives and made them well was so comforting, and the things Jesus taught made so much sense. How on earth would they get by without him?

“I will not always be with you,” Jesus said again, “and yet, I will.”

That confused them even more! Whatever did Jesus mean, “I won’t be with you—but I will.” But then they noticed Jesus had a twinkle in his eye. Whenever they saw that, they knew he was going to teach them something new.

“I will be gone soon,” Jesus said, “But I will always be with you. Because God’s Spirit is always with you. God’s Spirit has been here right from the very beginning. Remember, in the creation story, how God’s Spirit hovered over the waters? God is never, ever far away—God is right here.

"So when I am gone and you're not sure about things, stop for a moment. Pause in the midst of whatever you are doing, and think about me. Think about God. Talk to one another. Remember what I have taught you, and sure enough, you will realize that God is with you, and God will help you find answers to your questions."

The disciples relaxed a little, but Jesus could tell they were still a little uncertain.

"You won't see me," Jesus said. "But when you look inside your heart, you'll see I've never left."

Sometimes, even though we couldn't quite put it into words, they understood what Jesus meant.

(Re-telling of John 14:15-21 from Seasons of the Spirit)

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

Schedule

All In-Person activities have been suspended until further notice.
See the website for information and resources.
royallane.org

Prayer Requests

We invite you to use the Prayer Request Form,
available on the website at royallane.org.

Deacons on Call

Sarah Fuller Phillips & Karen Simmons

When WE Give: we spread the love of Christ.
May 2020 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues*	\$ 389,514
Expenses	\$ 321,631
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 67,883

*Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.

Text “GIVE” to 214-609-1200.

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Royal Lane Baptist Church

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