

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



SEÑOR, ¿CUANDO TE VIMOS
HAMBRIENTO Y TE
ALIMENTAMOS, SEDIENTE Y TE
DAMOS DE BEBER.

The Worship of God

Reign of Christ Sunday

November 22, 2020

11:00 A.M.

Chiming of the Hour

Centering Words & Candle Lighting

Michael Gregg

Today's scriptures remind us that caring selflessly is the work of Christ, and also the work to which we are called. To be those who claim the name "Christian" is to follow Christ and become servants to all in need. To see and respond to those needs are the marks of a follower of Christ. To care for others, we must open our eyes and see the needs that surround us each and every day. When we care for the poor, clothe the naked, and visit the sick and imprisoned, we are caring for Christ. When we love our neighbor, we are really loving God.

Voluntary

Jonathan Gregoire & David Weigle

Come, Ye Thankful People Come — arranged by Joel Raney

Call to Worship

Harry Wooten

Make a joyful noise, a noise of love and care!

Praise God with generosity and compassion!

Sing to the Lord with acts of kindness!

Give God glory with missions of mercy!

Make a joyful noise, a noise of love and care!

Praise God with justice and righteousness!

Come, rejoice in Christ Jesus, who welcomes us all.

Come, share in his grace,

that we all might become sheep—

who feed one another,

who show compassion and love,

who offer comfort and mercy,

who give as we have received.

Come, rejoice in Christ Jesus, who welcomes us all!

Invocation

Harry Wooten

O God of the crucified Christ,
Hope of the despised and rejected,
Open our hearts to your grace.
Open our lives to all people.
Open our eyes to see you in the stranger.
Open our ears to hear your voice in the cry of the poor.
Open our hands to serve you among the humble.
Open our arms to embrace you in our enemy.
Open our hearts to receive your grace. **Amen.**

—Steve Garnaas-Holmes, 2011

Hymn [see insert]

Worshippers

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above — MIT FREUDEN ZART
(stanzas one and five)

Time for Young Disciples

Laura Keller

Prayers of the People

Alan Greider

We know we cannot feed all who hunger. —
**but help us, God, to offer some of what we have
to those so much in need.**

We know we cannot offer a drink to all who thirst —
**but help us, Holy Shepherd,
to be grateful for the waters all around us.**

We know we cannot befriend every stranger,
**but show us what it means
to be a people of true hospitality and grace.**

We know we cannot cure all illness or remove all pain,
**but help us to share words and expressions
that can be felt as balms of your compassion.**

We know, Gracious Savior, that we cannot visit all who are imprisoned,
**but help us to recognize and dismantle
the prisons of our social and cultural orders —
to unlock the chains of racism, sexism, homophobia,
economic injustice, and nationalistic pride
that bind and disempower so many in our world.**

(continued)

And we know, Creating Wonder,
that the crises of changing climates cannot be addressed in entirety,
**but help us to live more gently
and carefully on this beautiful planet.**

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

Let us pray:

And when we forget the eternal nature of our forgiving grace, send us messages of encouragement to remind us again that we are your children, beloved and blessed. And help us to do the same for others, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Response [see insert]

Worshippers

Has Jesus Stood in Front of Me — DETROIT

Scripture Lesson

3rd through 5th Grade Sunday School

A Choral Reading of Matthew 25:31-46 [see insert]

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

Response to the Word

Christin Lavery

Compassionate God, help us show compassion to everyone we meet. Help us see your face: in every hungry child, in every tired woman, in every disappointed man. Help us hear your cry: in every person who mourns, every person who is lonely, every person who is in agony. Help us feel your presence, that we might have courage and confidence to act with compassion and love everywhere we go, and with everyone we meet. Amen.

Anthem

Ensemble

I Believe — Mark A. Miller

Terry Berrier, Rick Crutcher, Alan Greider, Brittany Jones, Rita Nsumbu, Steven Rhodes,
Dan Thompson, Daryl Willey, Garey Wisdom, Donna Wood-Martin, Harry Wooten

Sermon

Paula Dempsey

“XOXOXO”

Offertory

David Weigle

Now Thank We All Our God — J. S. Bach, arr. Virgil Fox
(from Cantata No. 79)

Communion

Worshippers

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

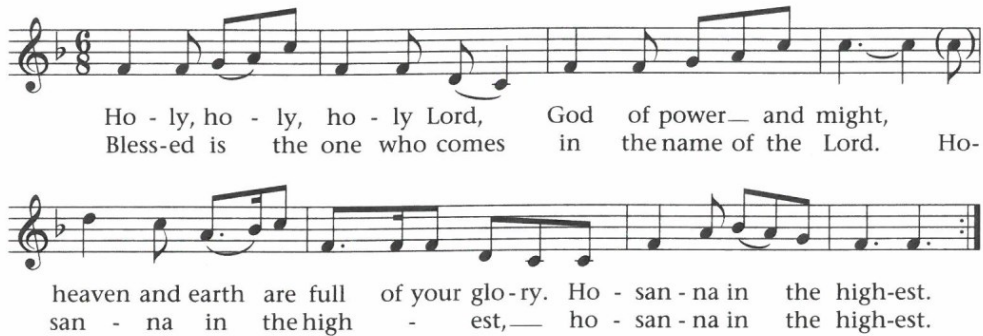
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God: you are a shepherd of your people—feeding them, protecting them from danger, binding up their wounds, searching for the lost and bringing them safely home. Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power— and might,
Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-


heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.
san - na in the high - est,— ho - san - na in the high-est.

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior: Jesus is coming in glory to judge the world. Those who have cared for the needs of the least will be welcomed into his promised kingdom.

The living bread come down from heaven. Amen.

The cup of the new covenant, forgiving many. Amen.

Remembering with goodness and grace, we offer ourselves to you with gratitude as we share this joyful feast. Great is the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

(continued)

Communion Prayer

As you have been fed at this table, go to feed the hungry.

As you have been set free, go to set free the imprisoned.

As you have been received, give.

As you have heard, proclaim.

And the blessing that you have received from

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer be always with you. Amen.

—*Kate McIlhagga, 1996, Wild Goose Publications*

Closing Hymn [see insert]

Worshippers

Now Thank We All Our God — NUN DANKET
(stanza one)

Benediction

Paula Dempsey & Worshipers

In the way that I walk

In the way that I talk

In the way that I think

And in the way that I pray

In everything I do

I want to honor you

by the way I live each day.

Amen.

Postlude

David Weigle

Now Thank We All Our God — Karg-Elert

§ § § § § § §

Cover Art — *Lázaro's Cross* by Lázaro Ceballos
Lázaro Ceballos, painter and ceramicist.
Member of the AACA (Arts/Crafts Guild of Cuba).
Used by permission

In addition to being a painter and ceramicist, Lázaro is a musician (guitarist), composer, and singer. He feels his strongest calling, though, as a prison chaplain. He works on the Chaplaincy Training Team with Paco Rodés, focusing on liturgy and spirituality. He is a mystic at heart, a lifelong student of the classics of contemplative Christianity as well as eastern traditions such as Zen Buddhism.

Hymn Notes
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
Public Domain

Has Jesus Stood in Front of Me
Text: Adam M. L. Tice, Copyright © 2018, GIA Publications Inc.
All rights reserved, Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-722998

Now Thank We All Our God
Public Domain

Rev. Paula Dempsey, Guest Preacher

Paula Clayton Dempsey serves as director of partnership relations for the Alliance of Baptists. To that position she brought more than 25 years of ministry experience as a pastor, campus minister, hospice chaplain, and director of Advent Spirituality Center. Paula lives with her family in Western North Carolina and travels from there to be with Alliance of Baptist congregations and ministry partners around the world.



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

jg@jonathangregoire.com | www.jonathangregoire.com

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

Staff Love Gift

During this Giving time of year let us not forget those who give so much to us all year. Our church staff willingly and lovingly provides many services for us throughout the year. As in the past, if you would like to express your personal appreciation, please mail your check to the Church Office or make your donation online by December 6. Be sure your contribution is clearly marked "Staff Love Gift" or select the fund "Staff Love Gift" from the Giving option on the Royal Lane website.

Charlotte Sewell, Deacon Chair

November Missions Project

A festive poster for a 'Stocking Stuffers' drive. The title 'Stocking Stuffers' is written in a large, green, cursive font. Below it, in smaller red capital letters, is 'SPONSORED BY THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE AND WOMEN OF THE CHURCH'. The main text, in green, says 'Donations of small toys and candy are needed to fill 15 inch stockings for the children and teenagers who visit the medical clinic at Healing Hands Ministries.' There are two red-bordered boxes. The left one is titled 'SUGGESTED ITEMS' and lists various toys and candies. The right one is titled 'DROP OFF DAYS AND TIMES' and lists specific dates and times for donations, along with the location 'RLBC parking lot in front of the church office'. The background is decorated with Christmas gifts, pine branches, and red ornaments.

Stocking Stuffers

SPONSORED BY THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE AND WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Donations of small toys and candy are needed to fill 15 inch stockings for the children and teenagers who visit the medical clinic at Healing Hands Ministries.

SUGGESTED ITEMS	
Small plush animals	Fuzzy socks
Small Christmas toys	Flavored lip gloss
Card games	Hand sanitizer
Small holiday puzzles	Hand lotion
Coloring books	Ear buds (for teens)
Play-Doh	Christmas candy
Hot Wheels	Hot chocolate
Stretchy gloves and hat	

DROP OFF DAYS AND TIMES	
RLBC parking lot in front of the church office	
Wednesday 11/11	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Saturday 11/14	10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Wednesday 11/18	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Saturday 11/21	10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Saturday 11/28	10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join us for our third annual collaboration between the Missions Committee and Women of the Church to bring Christmas cheer to our youngest neighbors in need.

Please bring small toys and candy that will fit and fill 15 -inch stockings for the children and teenagers who visit the medical clinic at Healing Hands Ministries. Donations will be accepted through the month of November. Our goal is to fill 100 stockings!

Poinsettia Dedications

It is time to request poinsettias that will be placed in the Sanctuary of Royal Lane Baptist Church during the Advent/Christmas season in honor or memory of a loved one.

Make your requests by Friday, November 27 so that your dedication can be included in the order of worship for the *Hanging of the Green* on December 6.

Request may be made:

- Online at royallane.org
- Email to info@royallane.org
- Mailed request to the church

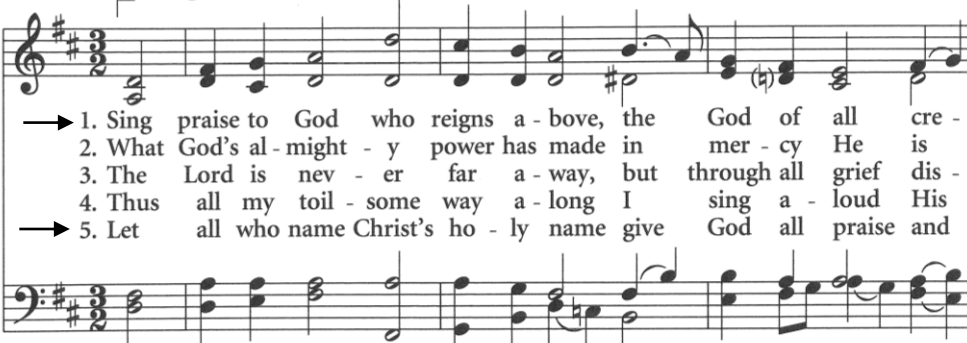
Payment may be made by:

- Online – Select “Poinsettias Order” fund from giving menu at Royallane.org
- Check – enter “Poinsettia” in memo line
- Credit Card (contact Janet Schultz in the church office on a Thursday in November)
- Request payment from your banking account – “Poinsettia” in memo line

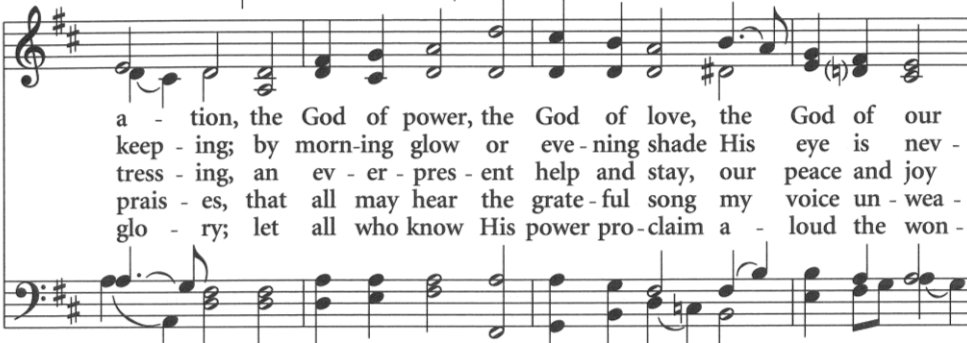
\$12.00 per dedication



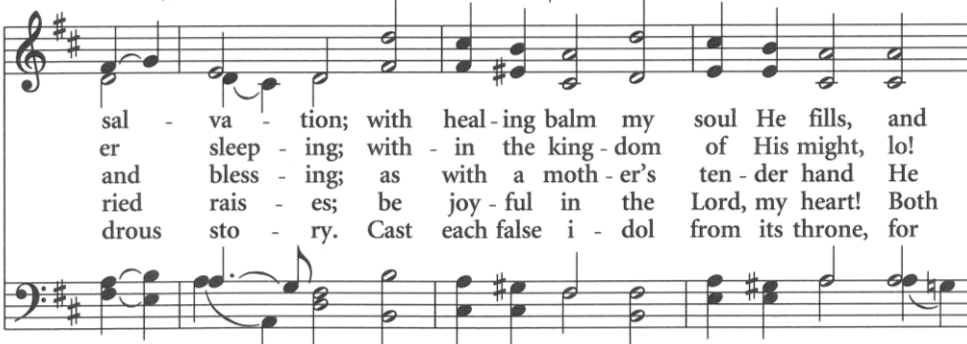
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above



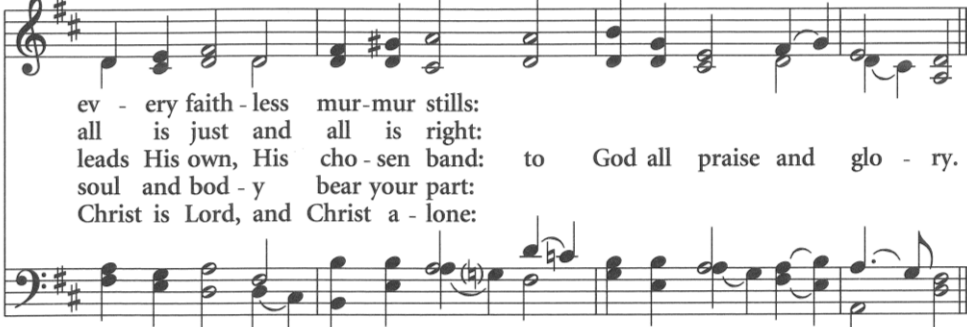
→ 1. Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2. What God's al - might - y power has made in mer - cy He is
 3. The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -
 4. Thus all my toil - some way a - long I sing a - loud His
 → 5. Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God all praise and



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our
 keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade His eye is nev -
 tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay, our peace and joy
 prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song my voice un - wea -
 glo - ry; let all who know His power pro - claim a - loud the won -

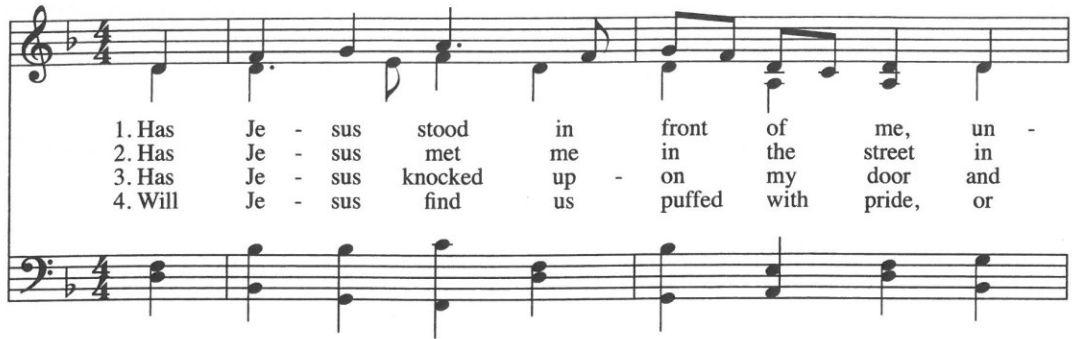


sal - va - tion; with heal - ing balm my soul He fills, and
 er sleep - ing; with - in the king - dom of His might, lo!
 and bless - ing; as with a moth - er's ten - der hand He
 ried rais - es; be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart! Both
 drous sto - ry. Cast each false i - dol from its throne, for

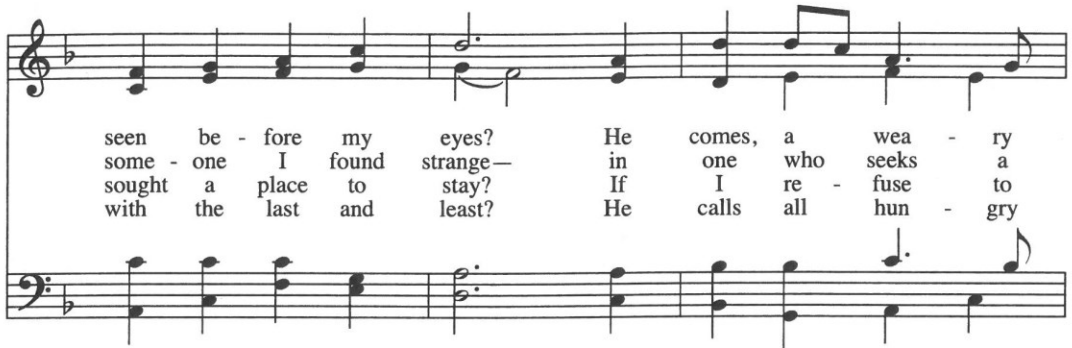


ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stills:
 all is just and all is right:
 leads His own, His cho - sen band: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 soul and bod - y bear your part:
 Christ is Lord, and Christ a - lone:

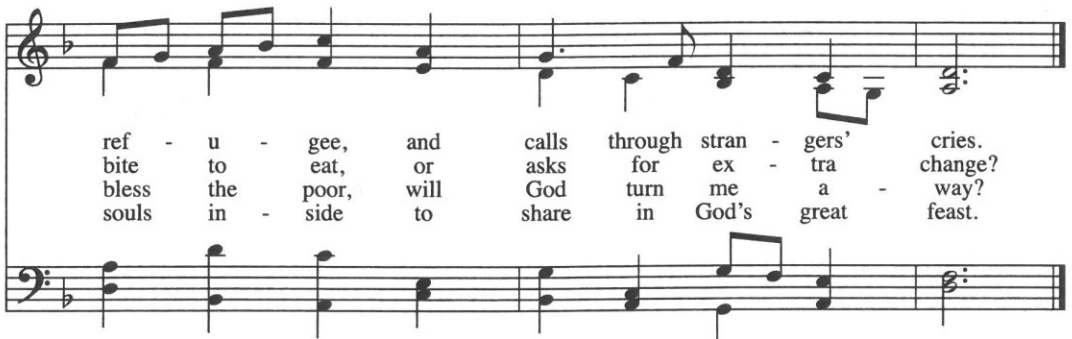
Has Jesus Stood in Front of Me



1. Has Je - sus stood in front of me, un -
2. Has Je - sus met me in the street in
3. Has Je - sus knocked up - on my door and
4. Will Je - sus find us puffed with pride, or



seen be - fore my eyes? He comes, a wea - ry
some - one I found strange - in one who seeks - a
sought a place to stay? If I re - fuse to
with the last and least? He calls all hun - gry

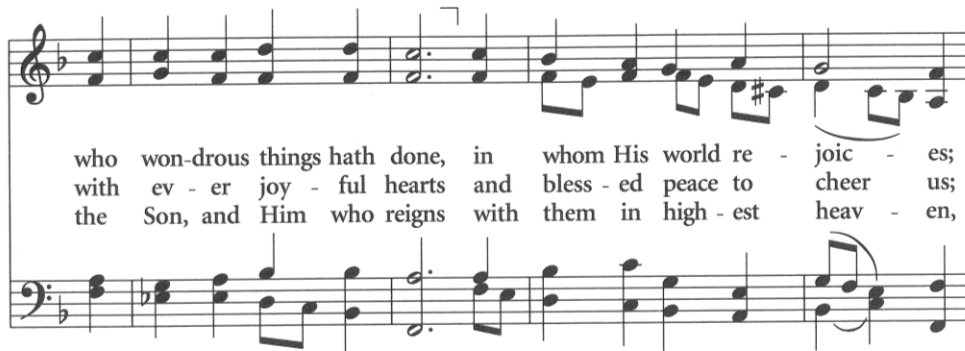


ref - u - gee, and calls through stran - gers' cries.
bite to eat, or asks for ex - tra change?
bless the poor, will God turn me a - way?
souls in - side to share in God's great feast.

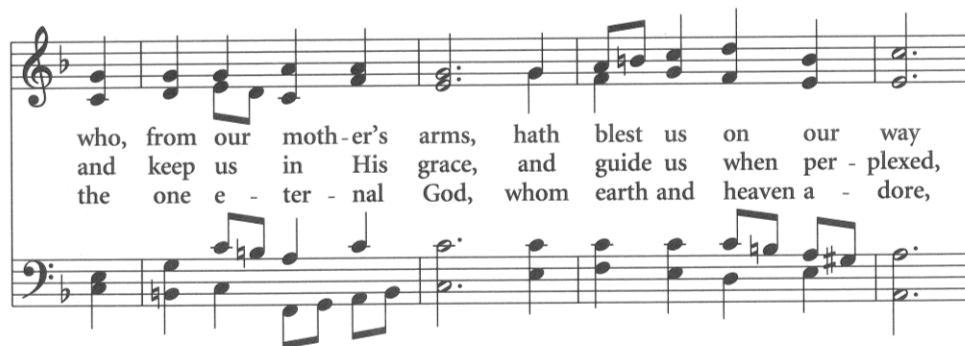
Now Thank We All Our God



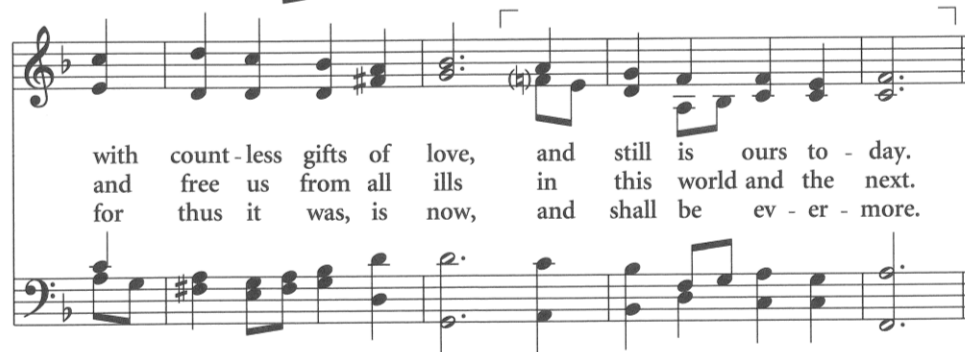
1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice - es,
2. O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
3. All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,



who won-drous things hath done, in whom His world re - joic - es;
with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
the Son, and Him who reigns with them in high - est heav - en,



who, from our moth-er's arms, hath blest us on our way
and keep us in His grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heaven a - dore,



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

The Scripture this morning is Matthew 25:31-46

³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison,

and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."
(*NRSV*)

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

Schedule for the Week

Sunday	November 22 – Reign of Christ Sunday
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom
6:30 pm	Middle School Sunday School — Zoom
Wednesday	November 25
6:30 pm	Advent Hymn Sing — Zoom
Thursday	Thanksgiving Day
Saturday	November 28
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	November 29 – First Sunday of Advent
9:45 am	Foundation Stones Class — Zoom
10:00 am	Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom
11:00 am	Morning Worship — Livestream Royal Lane YouTube Channel
2:00 pm	Youth Sunday School Class — Zoom
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom

Thanksgiving Greetings to all from the RLBC Staff



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/prayer

Deacons on Call

Alan Greider & Christin Lavery

When WE Give: we feed the hungry with our gifts to NDSM

October 2020 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues	\$ 624,102
Expenses	\$ 624,736
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$ 634)

Text “GIVE” to 214-609-1200.

Follow the prompts to complete the process.

Standard text message rates may apply.

Donate online at royallane.org/give/



Royal Lane Baptist Church

6707 Royal Lane • Dallas, Texas 75230

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

Like RLBC on Facebook or Follow RLBC on Twitter

Rosa Barrientos, Housekeeping
Michael Gregg, Pastor
Laura Keller, Minister to Children
Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant

Janet Schultz, Administrative Assistant
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician
David Weigle, Organist
Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship