

# ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

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*Diverse People United in Christ*



*The Worship of God*  
*First Sunday after Epiphany*  
*Baptism of the Lord*

January 10, 2021

11:00 A.M.

Chiming of the Hour

Centering Words & Candle Lighting

Harry Wooten

Fear not

Go down  
into the plans of God.  
Go down  
deep as you may.  
Fear not  
for your fragility  
under that weight  
of water.  
Fear not  
for life or limb  
sharks attack savagely.  
Fear not the power  
of treacherous currents under the sea.  
Simply do not be afraid.  
Let go. You will be led  
like a child whose mother  
holds him to her bosom  
and against all enemies is his shelter.

—Helder Camara, *The Desert is Fertile*  
Copyright 1974, Orbis Books  
Trans. Dinah Livingstone

Voluntary

David Weigle

Overture from *Unto Us A Child Is Born*—J. S. Bach

Call to Worship

Harry Wooten

Jesus, you are the one  
who rises from the water and the tomb  
to offer new life to all.

**We offer our life  
as a sign of our worship.**

Jesus, you are the one  
who agrees to be baptized  
to be at one with us.

**We offer our baptism  
as a sign of being with you.**

Jesus, you are the one  
for whom the heavens open  
to allow the Spirit to descend.

**We offer our ready heart  
as a sign of our open life.**

Jesus, you are the one  
who is the Son so well loved  
that God's delight is in you.

**We offer you our delight and joy  
as a sign of our everlasting love.**

—Jean McCallum, in  
*Read Mark and Pray: Prayer Handbook 1992*,  
ed. Graham Cook

Invocation

Harry Wooten

Word of God, speak for your servants are listening.

**Spirit of creation and renewal, hover over our gathering this day, as you hovered over creation on that first day. Enter into our hearts and our lives, as you did at the day of our baptism. Descend on us like a dove as you did on Jesus' day of baptism, that we may hear again your words of love and adoption. Speak from the heavens into our minds, that we may perceive your words of guidance and wisdom. Amen.**

Hymn [ see insert ]

Worshippers

*Down Galilee's Slow Roadways* — LANCASHIRE

Time for Young Disciples

Laura Keller

Prayers of the People

Karen Miller

When our ears are ringing with self-doubt and cynicism, strengthen us with words of faith and love. When our minds are muddled with confusion and fear, enlighten us with the radiance of your wisdom. When our lives are riddled with sin and pain, heal us with your mercy.

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

Let us pray:

**Speak to our spirits from the truth of your being, the reality of your love, and the promise of your forgiveness, that we may hear your voice clearly and follow where you call us to go. Amen.**

Response [ see insert ]

Worshippers

*Crashing Waters at Creation* — STUTTGART  
(stanzas 3 & 4)

Scripture Lesson

Terry Berrier

Mark 1:4-11 [ see insert ]

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

Anthem

Pre Recorded

*Shall We Gather at the River* — arranged by Earlene Rentz

Sermon

Michael Gregg

**“ The Fear of Drowning ”**

Offertory

David Weigle

*Diptych based on* ORIENTIS PARTIBUS — Robert Hebble

## Renewal of Baptism Vows

Michael Gregg & Worshipers

Our God created new life forms and brought them up from the waters of chaos, embraced them, and called them good. Jesus baptized in the river by John the Baptist became living water for us and embraces all of us. Jesus embraces those who are poor, oppressed, marginalized and all others who come seeking. We follow Jesus with our baptism, marking a starting place for new life and new ways of being. We join Jesus in love and service. Let us prepare our hearts and minds to see, feel, and hear again the vows of Baptism.

## Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Do you renew and affirm the promises made at your Baptism?

**We do.**

Do you recognize the call of God to be God's people always?

**We do.**

Do you embrace the way of Jesus in faith and ministry?

**We do.**

Do you accept the nurture of the Holy Spirit who renews your spirit each day?

**We do.**

Do you accept and embrace others who seek a liberating faith in God?

**We do.**

In renewing your baptismal vows, remember your Baptism as a mark of acceptance and welcome into the care of Christ's church where you may begin again your Christian faith and life.

## Unison Prayer

Let us pray:

**O God, we rejoice in your grace, given and received. We thank you that you claim us, that you wash us, strengthen us, and guide us, that you empower us to live a life worthy of your calling. In the way of Jesus, make us as water in a dry and thirsty world. Establish us to be places of refreshment. Root us and nurture us in love, that with all your people we may rightly and justly serve you. Fill us with your fullness that our lives may overflow in service and love. Amen.**

Closing Hymn [ see insert ]

Worshipers

*When Jesus Came to Jordan* — COMPLAINER  
(stanza 1)

Blessing

Michael Gregg

Thank you, God, for blessing us  
with memories of Jesus' baptism and ours.  
Thank you for removing our reluctance, doubt, and fears,  
for replacing them with courage and commission.  
We go forth with your calling, direction, and blessing.  
Amen.

**Amen.**

Postlude

David Weigle

*Wondrous Love - 5 Variations* — Daniel Pinkham

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Cover Art — *Baptism of the Lord* by John Stuart, used by permission  
[www.stushieart.com](http://www.stushieart.com)

### Hymn Notes

#### Down Galilee's Slow Roadways

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#### Crashing Waters at Creation

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#### When Jesus Came to Jordan

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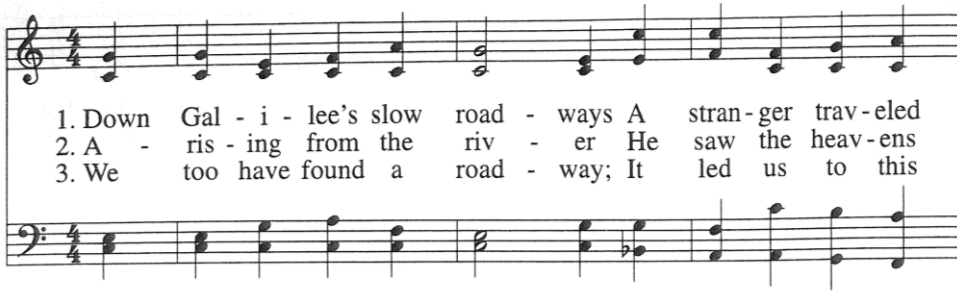
## Pastor's Book Group Resumes Tuesday, January 12

Our next book is "Call It Grace: Finding Meaning in a Fractured World" by Serene Jones. Contact Pastor Mike if you would like to become a part of this group.

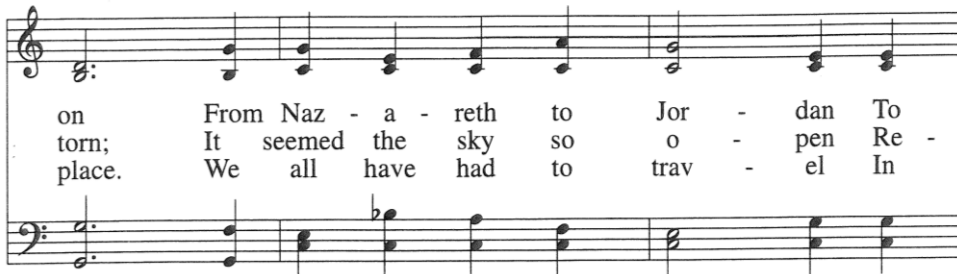
## Quarterly Church Conference – Wednesday, January 20

The proposed budget for 2021 will be presented for approval at the Quarterly Church Conference, January 20. Please contact Janet Schultz at [jschultz@royallane.org](mailto:jschultz@royallane.org) or 214-361-2609, ext. 11 if you would like to receive a mailed copy of the proposed budget. Due to limited staff hours in the office, we must receive this request on or before January 14.

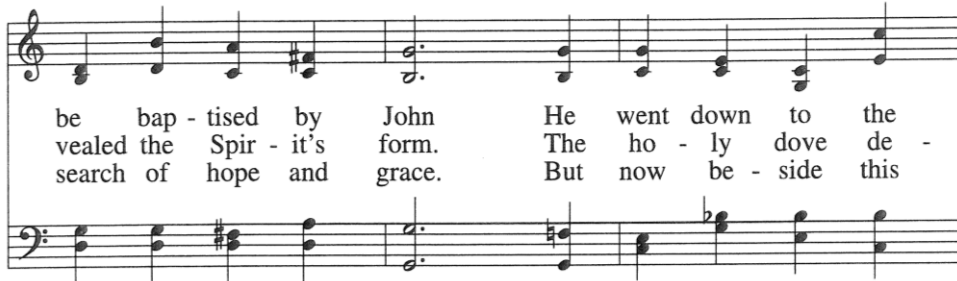
# Down Galilee's Slow Roadways



1. Down Gal - i - lee's slow road - ways A stran - ger trav - eled  
2. A - ris - ing from the riv - er He saw the heav - ens  
3. We too have found a road - way; It led us to this



on From Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan To  
torn; It seemed the sky so o - pen Re -  
place. We all have had to trav - el In



be bap - tised by John He went down to the  
vealed the Spir - it's form. The ho - ly dove de -  
search of hope and grace. But now be - side this



wa - ters Like sol - dier, scribe and slave, But  
scend - ed A - mid a glo - rious voice: "You  
wa - ter A - gain a voice is heard. "You

there with - in the riv - er The sign was birth and grave.  
 are my own be - lov - ed—My child, my heart, my choice."  
 are my own, my cho - sen, Be - lov - ed of your Lord."

**Martha Stearns Marshall Day of Preaching**  
**February 7, 2021 – Joslyn Henderson**  
 M.Div/M.M. Candidate  
 Baylor University

Born to Pastor Marty Henderson and First Lady Joyce James-Henderson, Joslyn Henderson has been using her talents to bless God’s people from the time she was first able to walk and talk. Growing up as a pastor’s kid (or “PK”), Joslyn had no problem getting up to sing in front of church audiences wherever and whenever her father preached. Despite Joslyn’s plans to become a doctor, after hearing her sing in the 12th grade, her English teacher enthusiastically encouraged her to study music.



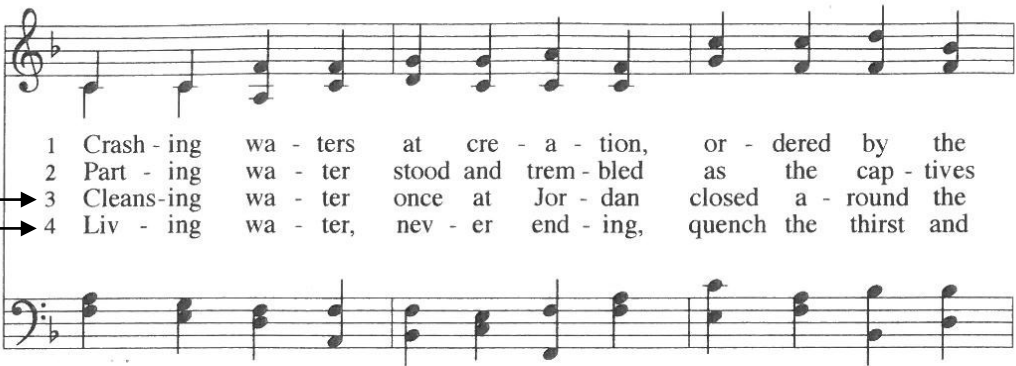
Following her teacher’s advice, Joslyn went on to Spelman College that fall to study music. Though she learned the complexities of classical vocalism through her studies and leadership in the Spelman College Glee Club, she never strayed from her gospel roots.

After graduating college, Joslyn completed a term of community service with AmeriCorps. Having learned the importance of giving back to others, she has since taken a full leap into gospel music. She has been studying, writing, and professing her love for music on any stage that will have her.

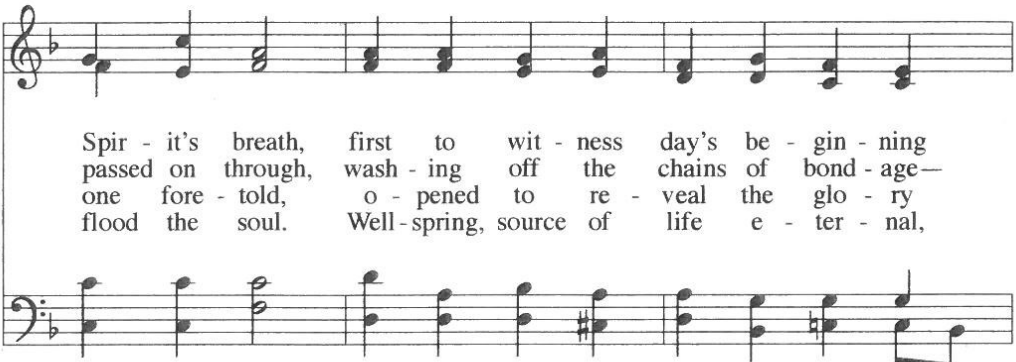
Joslyn Henderson is currently studying at Baylor University, pursuing graduate degrees in Church Music and Theology. She has served as the Ministry Associate for Worship & Chapel at Baylor, as well as served in many Waco churches as a staff member. In addition, Joslyn is also a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.



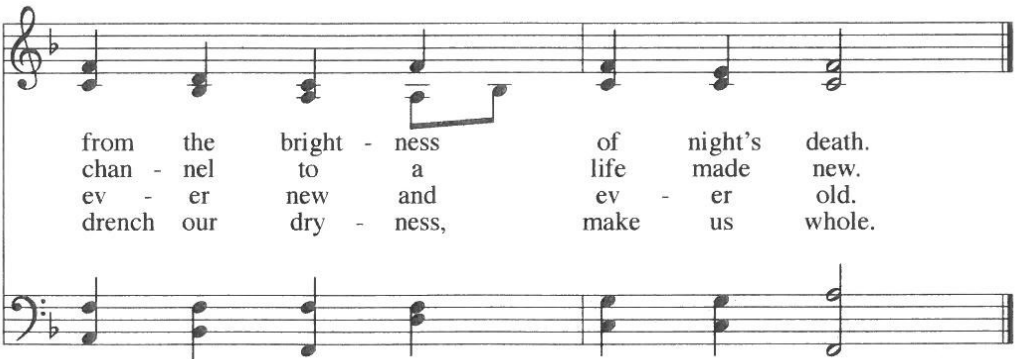
# Crashing Waters at Creation



1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the  
2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives  
3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the  
4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and

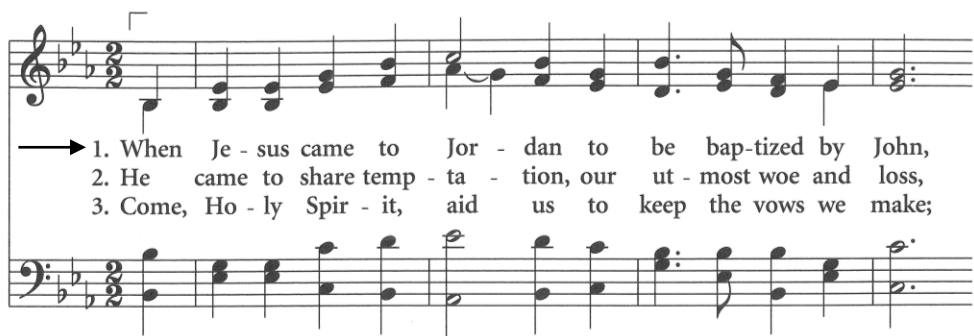


Spir - it's breath, first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning  
passed on through, wash - ing off the chains of bond - age—  
one fore - told, o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry  
flood the soul. Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal,

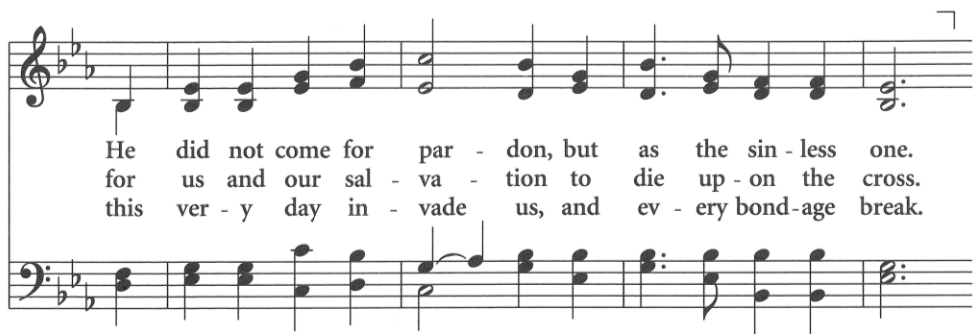


from the bright - ness of night's death.  
chan - nel to a life made new.  
ev - er new and ev - er old.  
drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

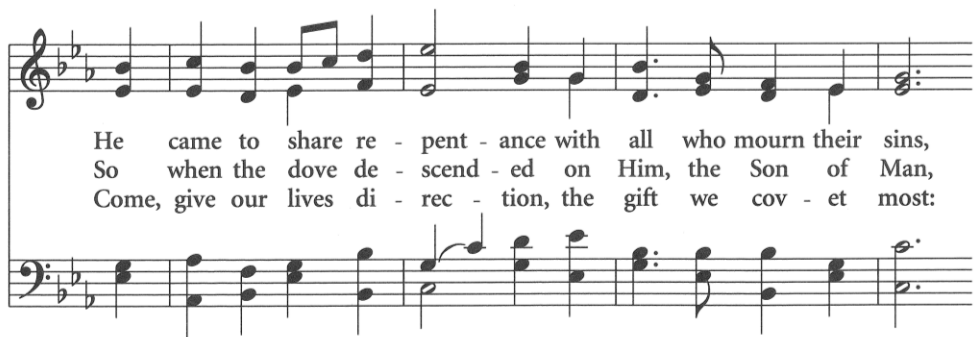
# When Jesus Came to Jordan



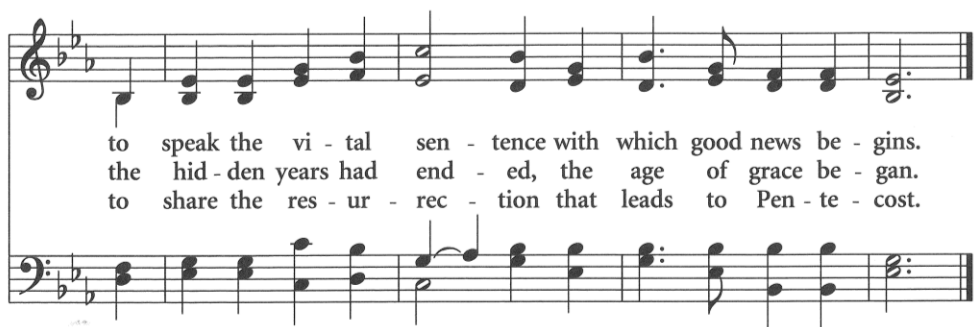
1. When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,  
2. He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
3. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



He did not come for par - don, but as the sin - less one.  
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - ery bond-age break.



He came to share re - pent - ance with all who mourn their sins,  
So when the dove de - scend - ed on Him, the Son of Man,  
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

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The Scripture this morning is Mark 1:4-11

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<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*(NRSV)*

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

## *Schedule for the Week*

- Sunday**      **January 10 – First Sunday after Epiphany / Baptism of the Lord**  
Following Worship – Chat with the Pastor — Zoom
- 12:00 pm    Youth Sunday School Class — Zoom
- 3:00 pm      1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
- 4:00 pm      Formations Class — Zoom
- 6:30 pm      Middle School Sunday School — Zoom
- 7:30 pm      Deacons Meeting — Zoom
- Tuesday**    **January 12**  
12:00 pm    Pastor's Book Group — Zoom
- Wednesday** **January 13**  
6:30 pm      Midweek Bible Study with Mike Gregg — Zoom  
                  Outline and Introduction to the Acts of the Apostles
- 7:30 pm      Sanctuary Choir — Zoom
- Friday**        **January 15**  
12:00 pm    Midday Meditative Prayer — Zoom
- Saturday**    **January 16**  
2:00 pm      Questers Class — Zoom
- 3:00 pm      3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — Zoom
- 8:00 pm      Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
- Sunday**        **January 17 – Second Sunday after Epiphany**  
9:45 am      Foundation Stones Class — Zoom
- 10:00 am     4-6-Year-Old Sunday School — Zoom
- 10:00 am     Women's Share & Prayer — Zoom
- 11:00 am     Morning Worship — Livestream  
                  Royal Lane Baptist YouTube Channel
- 12:00 pm     Youth Sunday School Class — Zoom
- 12:15 pm     Program Council – Calendaring for 2021 — Zoom
- 3:00 pm      1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom
- 4:00 pm      Formations Class — Zoom
- 6:30 pm      Middle School Sunday School — Zoom

## **How to Connect**

See the Weekly Mosaic, Weekend Update or Web Calendar for Links and details for Zoom, Livestream and Virtual events — [royallane.org/resources/events](http://royallane.org/resources/events)  
Group hosts and leaders will provide links for events with no published link.

## *Schedule*

All In-Person activities have been suspended until further notice.  
See the website for information and resources.  
[royallane.org](http://royallane.org)

## **Prayer Requests**

We invite you to use the Prayer Request Form,  
available on the website at [royallane.org/prayer](http://royallane.org/prayer)

## **Deacons on Call**

Terry Berrier & Karen Miller

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When WE Give: inspired worship feeds our spirits!

### **November 2020 Financials**

	YTD Actual
Revenues	\$ 678,239
Expenses	\$ 680,897
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$ 2,658)

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/](http://royallane.org/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  
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