Royal Lane Baptist Church

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 18, 2021

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 at royallane.org/register (see QR located following postlude) To help maintain the spirit of worship, please silence all electronic devices. Masks are highly encouraged for everyone, particularly during congregational singing. Unvaccinated children should wear masks. P – Please rise in body or in spirit.

Chiming of the Hour

Today we are challenged to look at the church through a different lens, one of reconciliation and breaking down of traditions that divide and diminish other people. This week's scripture readings celebrate God's loving vision for healing, wholeness, and unity, and the compassion of God who provides a home to the homeless, healing for the sick and welcome to those considered outsiders. The readings invite us into deeper reflection on what this "all are acceptable and all are welcome" attitude means for the life of the church.

Voluntary

Prelude from "Celebrate Life" — Buryl Red

*****Call to Worship

From far and near, we gather together,

called to unity in Christ.

Built into one body,

we are the dwelling place of God.

May God guide our steps and direct our ways,

that we may reveal God's love in word and deed.

Invocation

Let us pray:

Holy Spirit, flow through our worship. Dwell in us this day and all days. Speak through our words, breathe into our thoughts, and gather us together as one community of faith. Build us together on the foundation that is ours in Christ Jesus our cornerstone. Flow through our days, that we may be reflections of your presence. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

David Weigle

Congregation

Congregation

Hymn 425 [see insert] How Firm a Foundation — FOUNDATION

Words of Welcome & Scripture Lesson Christ be with you ... and also with you!

Ephesians 2:11-22 [Pew Bible page 950 of the New Testament or see insert]

For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God within us, For the Word of God among us, Thanks be to God!

Time for Young Disciples

(Children remain in the pews with their families.)

Call to Confession

Donna Wood-Martin & Congregation Even our best intentions go awry when we are not at one with God's purpose. Our gracious God journeys with us and provides for us with unending mercy, patience, and kindness so that when we repent, we find ourselves forgiven. Let us confess our sins.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

Guiding, guardian God, we do not want to be like sheep without a shepherd, or strangers wandering alone in the world. We want to know your presence, and trust that you dwell within us. We yearn for conviction that your Spirit flows in and through us. Fill us when we are empty. Forgive us when we are wrong. Guide us when we are lost. Comfort us when we are tired. Reconcile us when we are disconnected, and guard our lives with your indwelling Spirit. In your loving name, we pray. Amen.

Silence Is Kept

Promise of Forgiveness

Christ is our peace, reconciling us with God and with one another. In our very lives, Christ dwells, full of mercy and grace to draw us to the heart of God.

Laura Keller

Joey Belgard

Congregation

Hymn [see insert]

Congregation

You Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd — PICARDY

Prayers of the People

Nate Green & Congregation

O God, the source of our common life, when we are dry and scattered, when we are divided and alone, we long for connection, we long for community.

Breath of God, breathe on us.

With those we live beside, who are often strange to us, whom we may be afraid to approach, yet who have riches of friendship to share, we long for connection, we long for community.

Breath of God, breathe on us. With those we have only heard of, who see with different eyes, whose struggles we try to imagine, whose fierce joy we wish we could grasp, we long for connection, we long for community.

Breath of God, breathe on us. With those we shall never know, but whose lives are linked with ours, whose shared ground we stand on, and whose common air we breathe, we long for connection, we long for community.

Breath of God, breathe on us.

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:

When we are dry and scattered, when we are divided and alone, when we are cut off from the source of our life, open our graves, O God, that all your people may be free to breathe, strong to move, and joyful to stand together to celebrate your name. Amen.

-Janet Morley, "Christian Aid 1990," in Bread of Tomorrow

Anthem

Sing Unto the Lord — Charles Yannerella

Sermon Marv Knox **"From Weird, Icky & Gross, to Humility, Acceptance & Grace "**

#Hymn of Commitment 273 [see insert]

In Christ There Is No East or West — MCKEE If you would like to profess your faith or identify with this fellowship, please refer to pew rack card – "How to Become a Member"

Sending Forth

From far and near, we have been brought close to one another in the heart of God. As we wander forth in the world, may we remember that God dwells in us, and that God's Spirit is as near to us as our very breath.

Amen.

Amen.

Organ Dismissal

Postlude from "Celebrate Life" — Buryl Red

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Register Your Attendance

Royallane.org/register



Congregation

Marv Knox

David Weigle

How to Give to RLBC

Ushers will be at each door to receive your offering.

or you may

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/



Cover Art

Peace, Justice, Unity mural by the Public Art Squad Commissioned by Pitt Street Parish Pilgrim House, Sydney, Australia From Art in the Christian Tradition a Project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN Used by permission

> Hymn Notes How Firm a Foundation Public Domain

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Wednesday Evening 6:00 pm – Quarterly Church Conference — Zoom

> Scriptures for Next Sunday 2 Samuel 11:1-15 Psalm 14 Ephesians 3:14-21 John 6:1-21

For the Children!

Children's bulletins are included in activity packets for ages 3+ and 7+. 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.

You are invited to Meet & Greet Steve Lucas, Interim Pastor Candidate Vickrey Hall Saturday, July 24, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Called Church Conference, Sunday, July 25, Following Worship

On Saturday July 24th, we will have a meet and greet with Dr. Lucas in Vickrey Hall from 10am-12pm, and on Sunday July 25th he will preach in view of a call. Immediately following the service, we will have a called church conference, during which we will call for a vote to accept him as our Interim Pastor. You may vote in person at the meeting, or if you are watching church through our livestream, we will keep the voting open for an hour so you will have time to come drop off your vote in person. If he receives an affirmative vote from 3/4 of the congregation voting, he will be offered the position of Interim Pastor and will begin his work in early September.

Dr. Lucas's full resume is available to all church members, just let Janet in the office know you would like to receive a copy. We want to thank our Interim Pastor Search Committee, Sarah Macias, Doug Washington, and Mike Keith for their wonderful work and dedication to this task for our church. We are grateful for your gifts and look forward to this next chapter in our church history.



Marv Knox, Today's Guest Preacher

Marv Knox, who recently retired as Coordinator for Fellowship Southwest, joined Fellowship Southwest in 2017 after a four-decade tour in Baptist Journalism, including almost 20 years as editor of the *Baptist Standard* in Texas.

Marv and Joanna live in Coppell, Texas, and they are the parents of two daughters who have two children each. They are active members of Valley Ranch Baptist Church. Marv, a longtime friend of RLBC, likes to read and enjoys running.

Steve Lucas, Guest Preacher, July 25

Dr. Stephen W. Lucas received his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Wake Forest University, his Master of Southeastern Baptist Theological Divinity from Seminary, and his Doctor of Ministry from Emory University. He has extensive experience as a Senior Minister/Pastor to eight congregations, and as Interim Pastor to two congregations. In addition to ministering, his work experience includes two terms as an adjunct professor, creating curriculum and facilitating training in conflict resolution, communication and change management, and from 1989-1992 he was the Chief of Staff for Senator Henson Barnes and the Chaplain for the North Carolina Senate.



One of his strengths is his considerable experience helping organizations who are going through a time of transition. In 2010 Dr. Lucas founded Transitions-in-Balance, through which he provided consulting, coaching, and strategic planning for corporate, academic, religious and non-profit organizations. Some of his clients include Habitat for Humanity, The City of Austin, the YMCA of Texas, the Texas Medical Association, Myers Park Baptist Church, and The Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest.

How Firm a Foundation







In Christ There Is No East or West



The Scripture this morning is Ephesians 2:11-22, which may be found on page 950 of the New Testament of the pew Bible or as an insert in your order of worship.

¹¹So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" —a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— ¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God. (NRSV)

For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God within us, For the Word of God among us, **Thanks be to God!**

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Keeping Texas Tested & Open Royal Lane Baptist Church FREE COVID-19 Testing for All

Royal Lane Baptist Church 6707 Royal Ln, Dallas, TX 75230



3730

Go Get Tested: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Next Blood Drive at RLBC Tuesday, August 17, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive Royal Lane Baptist Church

> Dining Hall 6707 Royal Ln Dallas, TX 75230

Schedule for the Week

	July 18 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
*	Program Council — Zoom
12:15 pm	Third Sunday Youth Lunch — Taco Deli, Walnut & Hwy 75
Wednesday	July 21 – Mosaic
6:00 pm	Quarterly Church Conference — Zoom
6:30 pm	Wacky Wednesdays – Craft Night on the Arcade — RLBC Arcade
6:30 pm	Youth Mission Project – Dignity Boxes for Outlast Youth — Vickrey Hall
Saturday	July 24
10:00 am	Meet & Greet — Vickrey Hall (10:00 am – 12:00 pm)
	Steve Lucas, Interim Pastor Candidate
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
Sunday	July 25 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45 am	Formations Class — Library
9:45 am	Foundation Stones Class — Room 208
10:55 am	Morning Worship, Steve Lucas, Guest Preacher — Sanctuary or Royal Lane YouTube Channel
12:00 pm	Called Church Conference
*	Call for vote to accept Steve Lucas as Interim Pastor
	The deadline for the Weekly Mosaic and the Mosaic is Monday, 5:00 p.m. prior to publication.

Church Calendar

As we return to in-person worship and regular business hours for the office staff, it is important that the church office be contacted so that we can be sure all events, in-person or zoom, be included on the calendar to avoid schedule conflicts.

Please contact the church office by phone or email. 214-361-2809, info@royallane.org.

How to Connect

See the Weekly Mosaic or Web Calendar for Links and details for Zoom, Livestream, Virtual or In-Person events — royallane.org/resources/events Group hosts and leaders will provide links for events with no published link.

Prayer Requests

We invite you to use the Prayer Cards, available in the "pockets" on the back of each pew, to submit prayer requests or the Prayer Request Form, available on the website at royallane.org/prayer Prayer cards may be left in the offering plate as you leave today's service.



Deacons on Call Nate Green & Donna Wood-Martin

When WE Give: we can support missions that heal the broken.

May 2021 Financials YTD Actual Revenues \$ 352,706 Expenses \$ 271,508 Surplus (Deficit) \$ 81,198

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

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