

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 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.

*For the safety and protection of our children and those with compromised immune systems,
masks are required in the building.*

† – *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Chiming of the Hour

Opening Sentences

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

Voluntary

Savior of the Nations Come — J. S. Bach

David Weigle

†Call to Worship

Give thanks to the Lord

and call upon the holy name of the most high God.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Trust and do not be afraid.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of peace.

The Lord is our strength and our salvation.

Isaiah 12:2-3

Congregation

†Invocation

Congregation

Let us pray:

God of our salvation, you bring victory to the righteous and comfort to the outcast. As we come before you this day, lighten our hearts with laughter and loose our tongues to sing your praise. For you alone are the source of our hope; you alone are the fountain of our joy. Be with us now and always. Amen.

†Hymn 89 [see insert]

Congregation

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People — GENEVAN 42

Words of Welcome

Charlotte Sewell

Christ be with you ... **and also with you!**

Scripture Lesson

Brodie K.

Luke 1:39-42 [Pew Bible page 831 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!

Advent Hymn

Worshippers

What, O What Then Shall We Do? — GUITING POWER



3. At the home of Ze - cha - ri - ah, hearts were filled with joy;



Ma - ry sang that our Mes - si - ah would dark pow'rs de - stroy;



Light, shed an - swers to our ques - tion: What, O what then shall we do?!

The Lighting of the Advent Candles

Anna Lou & Glenn Brown & Family

Unison Prayer

Let us pray:

God of rejoicing, we ground ourselves in your promise that righteousness and justice will prevail. Guide us as we begin the work by leading lives of love, peace, and integrity. Show us ways to share this good news with others. Amen.

Family Dedication

Steve Graham & Family

Hubbert Martin Nana Yaw Brown

Son of Peggy Walker & David Brown

Grandparents

Anna Lou & Glenn Brown

Family

Theo Anim, brother

Elise Brown, sister

Glenn Brown, grandfather

Anna Brown, grandmother

Amy Brown, aunt

Laura Collier, aunt

Dalton Collier, cousin

Rugger Collier, cousin

Cody Collier, cousin

Candace Collier, cousin

Minister

Peggy and David, why have you come before this congregation?

Parents

We recognize the responsibility of parenthood and our dependence upon God for strength and wisdom to faithfully discharge our duties. We come to present Hubbert before God in loving commitment.

Minister

And what is your commitment?

Parents

We covenant together with God to bring up Hubbert in the nurture and admonition of God and to assist him in growing, as Jesus did, in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind.

(continued)

Minister

Where will you find strength for this task?

Family

Realizing our need for divine assistance, we recommit ourselves to Christ and to Christ's church.

Minister

Members of Royal Lane Baptist Church, what is your responsibility and commitment?

Congregation

We will give our time, talents, and money, in order that we may help provide spiritual instruction and nurture for Hubbert. We will love him, care for him, teach him, and model Christian living for him.

Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray:

**O God of everlasting covenant, we rejoice in every gift of life.
Be present always to strengthen and guide this your child
that he may increase in wisdom and in years,
and in divine and human favor.
Bind us in covenant that we, your people,
may be faithful in keeping the vows we have made.
We look to you for strength in the knowledge
that you will fulfill by your power every good resolve
and work of faith through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

†Hymn 95 [see insert]

Congregation

View the Present Through the Promise — AR HYD Y NOS

Prayers of the People

Elwanda Edwards & Congregation

Let us offer our prayers of intercession to God, saying,
God, you are in our midst, renew us in your love.

Lord of Life, you call us to prepare the way for your reign by bearing fruit worthy of repentance. You lift up a vision before us of a world that is shared and fair, where needs are met and no one is outcast. Baptize us fresh in your Spirit as we pray,
God, you are in our midst.

renew us in your love.

(continued)

We pray for the nations of the world, both allies and enemies, for their leaders and their people. Make yourself known to us all, that all the peoples of the earth may live in justice and peace.

God, you are in our midst.

renew us in your love.

For your church here and abroad, that we hear your call for justice as good news for all people.

God, you are in our midst.

renew us in your love.

We pray for peace in our world, especially those caught in war, and for all who live in fear of violence, extortion, threats, and false accusations.

God, you are in our midst.

renew us in your love.

For the earth from which we draw our health, our strength, our inspiration, and for all the living creatures in whose community we live.

God, you are in our midst.

renew us in your love.

For the frail, the sick, and all those whose hands grow weak, lead us to help them with gentleness. For those who are disabled, oppressed, or outcast among us, change their pain into praise, and let their courage be renewed in the world.

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:

Surely, God, we can trust in you and not be afraid. Lead us in songs of praise and shouts of joy, for you are in our midst. We pray through the one who baptizes us not only with water but with the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Anthem

Choir

Snow Had Fallen; Christ Was Born – Stephen Paulus

Sermon

Steve Graham

“ We Do Joy ”

†Hymn of Commitment 95 [see insert]

Congregation

Prepare the Royal Highway — BEREDEN VÄG FOR HERRÄN

*If you would like to profess your faith or identify with this fellowship,
please refer to pew rack card – “How to Become a Member”*

Offertory Prayer

Cheryl Robinson

Generous God, the bounty of your love overflows into every aspect of our lives. May the gifts we bring before you this day be a sign of our commitment to share our love with those in need. May our offerings symbolize our trust in your power to heal the world through the works of our hands and the ministries of your church. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Offertory

Robyn Watson

I Wonder as I Wander — John Jacob Niles/arranged by Robyn Watson

We invite you to use this time to give to Royal Lane's Ministry.
See back cover for ways to give.

Sending Forth

Steve Graham

Rejoice in our God always!

Again we say: rejoice!

And the peace of God, which goes beyond all our understanding,
will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

Amen.

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates — Jerry Westenkuehler

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Register Your Attendance

Royallane.org/register



Cover Art

We Do Joy created for RLBC by John Stuart
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Hymn Notes

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People
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View the Present Through the Promise

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Prepare a Royal Highway

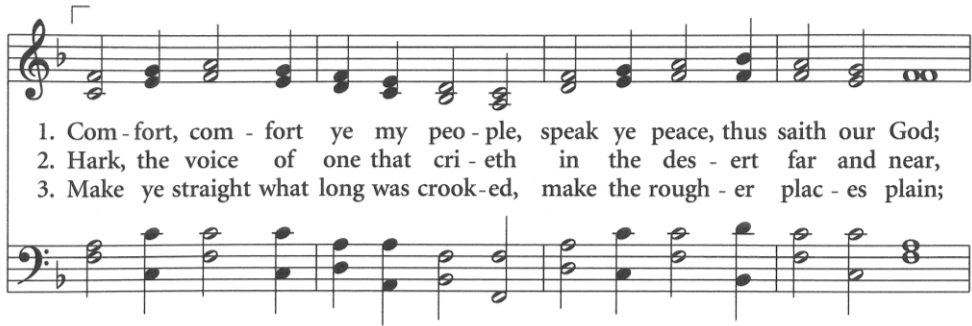
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Wednesday Evening

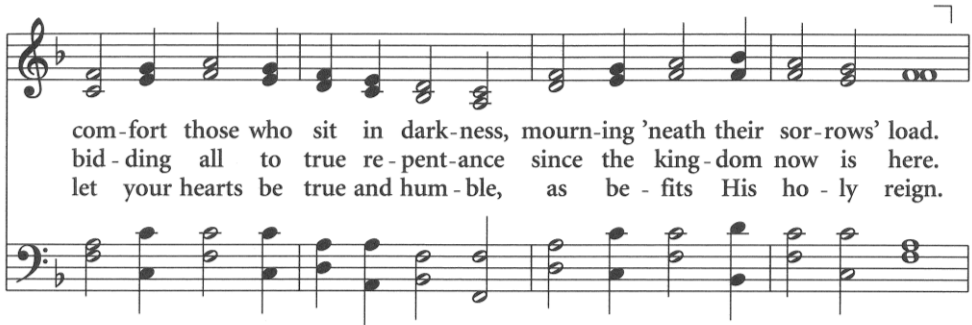
Mourning Light – 6:15 pm, Sanctuary



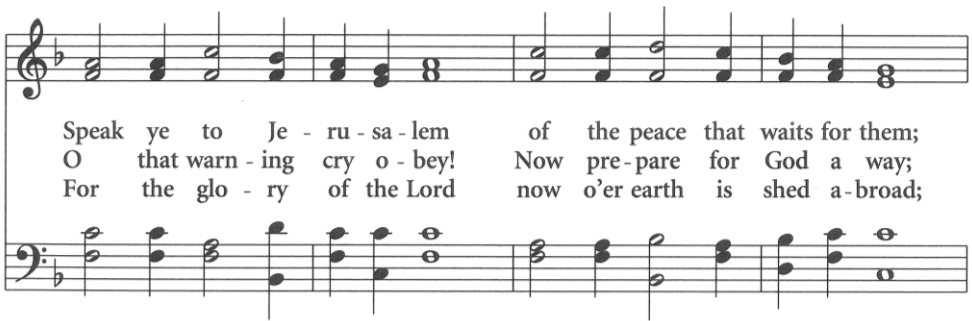
Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



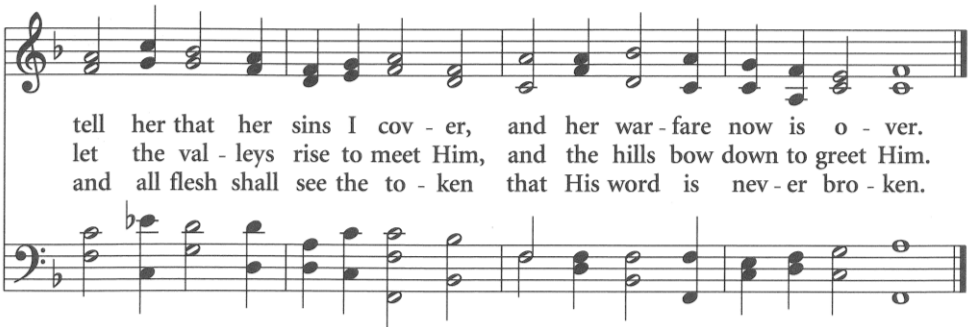
1. Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
2. Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert far and near,
3. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er plac - es plain;



com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.
bid - ding all to true re - pent - ance since the king - dom now is here.
let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits His ho - ly reign.



Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.
let the val - leys rise to meet Him, and the hills bow down to greet Him.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that His word is nev - er bro - ken.

View the Present Through the Promise

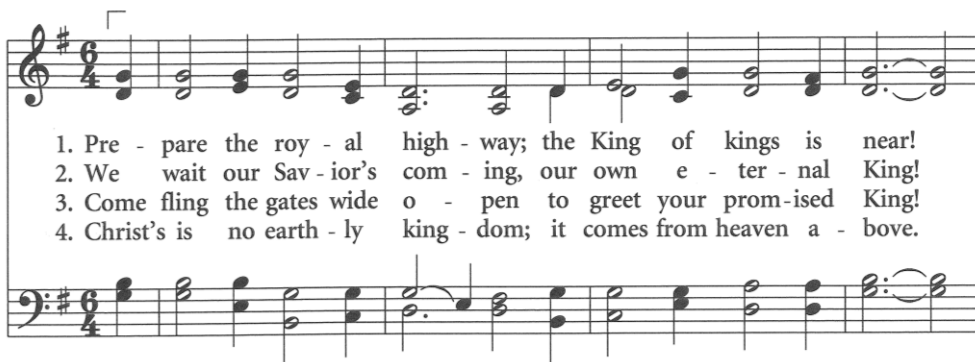
1. View the pres-ent through the prom-ise, Christ will come a - gain.
2. Probe the pres-ent with the prom-ise, Christ will come a - gain.
3. Match the pres-ent to the prom-ise, Christ will come a - gain.

Trust de-spite the deep-ening dark-ness, Christ will come a - gain.
Let your dai - ly ac - tions wit - ness, Christ will come a - gain.
Make this hope your guid - ing prem-ise, Christ will come a - gain.

Lift the world a - bove its griev-ing through your watch-ing and be-liev-ing
Let your lov-ing and your giv-ing and your jus - tice and for-giv-ing
Pat-tern all your cal - cu - lat - ing and the world you are cre - at - ing

in the hope past hope's con-ceiv - ing: Christ will come a - gain.
be a sign to all the liv - ing: Christ will come a - gain.
to the ad - vent you are wait - ing: Christ will come a - gain.

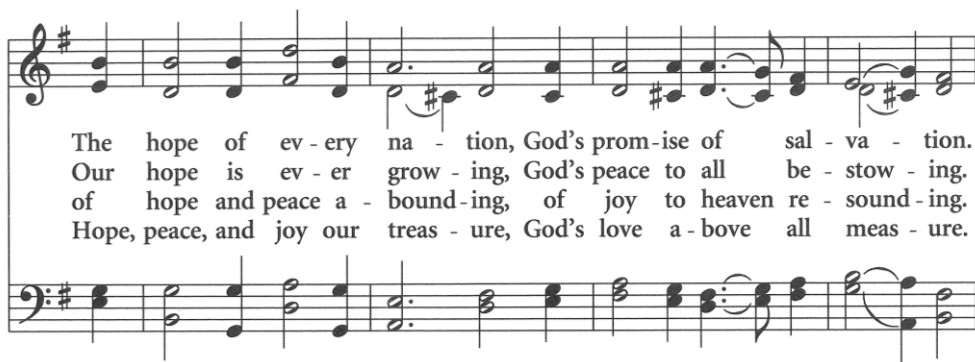
Prepare the Royal Highway



1. Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2. We wait our Sav - ior's com - ing, our own e - ter - nal King!
3. Come fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised King!
4. Christ's is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heaven a - bove.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Long prom - ised by the proph - ets, let heaven with prais - es ring.
All lands will bow be - fore Him, their voic - es join to sing
His rule se - cures our free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.



The hope of ev - ery na - tion, God's prom - ise of sal - va - tion.
Our hope is ev - er grow - ing, God's peace to all be - stow - ing.
of hope and peace a - bound - ing, of joy to heaven re - sound - ing.
Hope, peace, and joy our treas - ure, God's love a - bove all meas - ure.



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for He ful - fills God's word!

The Scripture this morning is Luke 1:39-42, which may be found on page 831 of the New Testament of the pew Bible or as an insert in your order of worship.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

(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!**

Christmas Eve Missions Offering

This Christmas Eve, we are thrilled to announce that our special Missions offering will go to The Knox Fund for Immigrant Relief. Named for Fellowship Southwest's founder Marv Knox, on the occasion of his retirement at the end of 2021, The Knox Fund for Immigrant Relief provides resources to pastors on both sides of the United States-Mexico border to serve immigrants and refugees. Fellowship Southwest regularly receives requests for financial assistance or ministry supplies from our partner pastors all along the border. Because of donations from churches like ours, they have been able to respond to these requests without interruption. Giving to this fund helps us be the presence of Christ for people Jesus called "the least of these." Join us in making a donation to this important cause.



Fellowship
Southwest

Robyn Watson – Guest Musician

Robyn Watson was born and raised in the Clear Lake area of Houston, Texas. She started her bassoon studies while a 5th grader at John F. Ward Elementary, under the tutelage of Jennifer Gunter. As a student at Clear Lake Intermediate, she was a member of the Symphonic Band for 2-1/2 years. Robyn attended The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, where her love of the contrabassoon began. She has since studied with J. Jeff Robinson, contrabassoonist in the Houston Symphony; with Peter Simpson and Mathew Schuler at the University of Kentucky; and with Patricia Gunter at Belmont University. Robyn earned her Bachelor of Music Technology degree in 2006 and completed a Master of Music Degree at the University of Houston, studying with Cheryl Huddleston.



As a performer, Robyn has attended music festivals in Las Vegas, Houston, Banff (CA), Powell River (CA), and Lake Tahoe. She has played as a member of the Moores School (UH) Symphony Orchestra, Moores School Chamber Orchestra, Moores School Ballet Orchestra, Moores School Opera Orchestra, Symphony of Southeast Texas, Clear Lake Symphony, and Brazosport Symphony.

The years spent completing her Master's degree at the University of Houston, provided Robyn with a love of teaching. She not only learned how to get better as a player, but also how to achieve that with her own students. Robyn is currently pursuing a performance diploma at the Meadows School of the Arts of Southern Methodist University.

Scriptures for Next Sunday

Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46b-55
Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45



Please recycle your order of worship in a marked bin.

What *THEN* shall we do?

Advent – 2021

December 15 – Mourning Light

6:15 pm — Sanctuary

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. Holy Communion offered.

December 19 – Advent IV – We Do Love

Scripture: Luke 3:7-18

December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 pm - Family Christmas Eve — Sanctuary (childcare provided)

6:30 pm – Candlelight and Communion — Sanctuary (childcare provided)

December 26 – First Sunday after Christmas

10:55 am — Sanctuary

Staff Love Gift – Deadline Extended



Our beloved staff at Royal Lane are the best in so many ways! Since the tornado of October 2019, they have dealt with circumstances no one ever could have imagined. If you are as old as I am, you may remember the plate turner on the Ed Sullivan Show. You know, the multiple, spinning plates atop the long, skinny sticks. The man hurriedly running from plate to plate, reviving them just before they toppled off the stick. Remember?

But the “plates” at Royal Lane never stop spinning. So, when observed in action on any given day of the week, our incredible staff reach “Hero Status” in my book! Their unending creativity, flexibility, stamina, and love for the Royal Lane people and mission is beyond Ed Sullivan worthy! **If you have not yet given a Staff Love Gift, you may still do that through Wednesday, December 15th**, either online at royallane.org/give/, by calling Janet in the Church office with CC information, or in today’s offering plate. Thank you for your gifts.

Terry Berrier, Deacon Chair

Schedule for the Week

- Sunday** **December 12 – Third Sunday after Advent**
12:30 pm Racial Justice Committee — Vickrey Hall
- Monday** **December 13**
7:30 pm Transition Support Team — Zoom
- Monday** **December 14**
9:00 am American Red Cross Blood Drive — Vickrey Hall (9:00 am – 3:00 pm)
 Register online at <https://rcblood.org/3pHnn3p>
- Wednesday** **December 15 – Mosaic**
10:00 am Holy Rollers — Room 212
6:15 pm Mourning Light — Sanctuary
7:00 pm Youth Gathering — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
- Saturday** **December 18**
2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom
8:00 pm Non-Traditional Class — Zoom
- Sunday** **December 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**
9:15 am Children’s SS Classes — Zoom
9:45 am Formations Class — Room 202
9:45 am Foundation Stones Class — Room 206
10:00 am Youth SS Class — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
10:30 am Children ages 3 year through 5th grade — Vickrey Hall
10:55 am Morning Worship, Choir – Christmas Music Sunday — Sanctuary
 or Royal Lane YouTube Channel

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 In-Person, Livestream, Virtual or Zoom 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 & Cheryl Robinson

When WE Give: we can Do Joy!

October 2021 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues*	\$ 585,450
Expenses	\$ 558,429
Surplus (Deficit)*	\$ 27,021

*Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.

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/



Royal Lane Baptist Church

6707 Royal Lane • Dallas, Texas 75230

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

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Steve Graham, Interim Minister
Laura Keller, Minister to Children &
Interim Minister to Youth
Barbara Merry, Administrative Assistant

Janet Schultz, Administrative Assistant
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David Weigle, Organist
Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship