# Royal Lane Baptist Church

# Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God Christmas Eve

#### December 24, 2020

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Classic Brass & David Weigle Christmas Bell Fantasy — arranged by Dennis Klophaus

Choral Introit

Virtual Combined Choirs

Laura Keller & Worshipers

Gloria from GLORIA — Antonio Vivaldi

Call to Worship

Do not be afraid; for see—

I am bringing you good news of great joy.

#### To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.

#### Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace!

Processional Hymn [ see insert ]

Once in Royal David's City — IRBY Penelope Meier – stanza one (2019) Choir – stanza two (2019) Worshipers – stanzas 3 & 4 Worshipers

6:00 P.M.

The Bidding & Lord's Prayer

Michael Gregg & Congregation

Let us pray:

Beloved in Christ, in this Advent season let us prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind go to Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in the manger. But first let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all God's people. Let us also remember, in God's name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children. These prayers and praises we humbly offer to God and in the words which Christ himself hath taught us, saying boldly:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn [ see insert ]

Worshipers

O Come, All Ye Faithful — ADESTE FIDELES (stanzas 1, 3 & 4)

Coming of the Light

#### The Light of Hope

Isaiah 9:2-7

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

Sweet Little Jesus Boy — Robert MacGimsey Rita Nsumbu

#### The Light of Peace

John 1:1-14

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word ... Thanks be to God! Hymn [ see insert ]

*Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* — ANTIOCH (stanzas 1 & 4)

Worshipers

Larry Forth & Stephen Lewis

Michael Carter

Matthew 2:1-12

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

*Coventry Carol* — arranged by Mark Hayes Dan Thompson

#### The Light of Love

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

Away in a Manger — arranged by Mark Wilberg Virtual Choir

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Michael & Amanda Gregg Annaleigh, Beatrice, & Ford

Unison Prayer

Let us pray:

God of glory, your splendor shines from a manger in Bethlehem into the darkness of human night. Open our eyes to Christ's presence in the shadows of our world so that we, like him, may become beacons of your justice and defenders of all for whom there is no room. Amen.

Advent Hymn



Sarah & Rodney Macias

DeeDee Young

Worshipers

Worshipers

Luke 2:1-20

#### The Light of Joy

Christmas Eve Missions Offering All offerings received go to North Dallas Shared Ministries & Hope Supply Co.

> *O Holy Night* — Adolphe Adam Suré Eloff

### Communion

Christmas Reflection & Invitation to the Table

Michael Gregg

Communion

Worshipers

God of all times and places, we gather at your table of grace to recall your vision of hope for all people and for your world.

#### As we gather to share this sign of hope and fulfillment, we remember Jesus, the child born into obscurity, amid fear and uncertainty. We remember the fragility of that revelation, as well as the hope he stirred and the imagination he inspired.

On that night, in the midst of great confusion and fear, Jesus broke bread with friends saying, "This is my body, which I give for you and for all. When you do this, remember me."

With a blessing, he took the cup and offered it to them saying, "This cup is God's covenant which is given for all. When you drink this, remember me."

Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, that you have come to us through Jesus Christ, both in the midst of time and history in the city of Bethlehem, and in the timeless presence of Christ's Spirit as we have received the gifts of bread and wine. Send us out into the world rejoicing, ready to share your love with the people we meet; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## The Passing of the Light

Hymn [ see text below ]

Virtual Choir & Worshipers

Silent Night — arranged by Mark Pope

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, *sleep in heavenly peace*.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heavn'ly hosts sing Alleluia! *Christ the Savior is born*.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace, *Jesus, Lord, at thy birth*.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King; *Christ the Savior is born.* 

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright 'round yon virgin mother and child, Holy infant, so tender and mild, *sleep in heavenly peace*. Blessing

Michael Gregg & Worshipers

The people who walked in the darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.
We are that people. Christ is that light.
For a child has been born for us.
God's own Son has been given to us.
He is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace through his glorious reign.
Let the trees of the forest shout for joy.
Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the Newborn King.

Hymn [ see insert ]

Worshipers

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing — MENDELSSOHN (stanzas 1 & 3)

Postlude

David Weigle

The First Nowell - Ashley Grote

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Cover Art — Messenger Mandala by John Stuart, used by permission www.stushieart.com

Classic Brass

Glen Hummel, Trumpet Simon Willats, Trombone Don Burks, Trumpet Vurl Bland, Tuba

Gerald Wood, Horn Nate Collins, Percussion

#### Virtual Combined Choirs

University Park United Methodist Church, Mark Pope Royal Lane Baptist Church, Harry Wooten

#### Christmas Eve Missions Offering

We are beginning our Christmas Eve Missions Offering early this year! Please join us in giving to two very important organizations who are meeting the most basic needs of our beloved community this Christmas season. We will divide any missions offerings evenly between Hope Supply and North Dallas Shared Ministries. You can read more about these wonderful organizations below. To give to the Christmas Eve Missions Offering, choose this fund in the dropdown menu under "Give" on the RLBC website, or mail or drop off a check with "Christmas Eve Missions Offering" written in the memo section.



#### Hope Supply Co.

Hope Supply meets the critical needs of homeless and at-risk children across North Texas by providing necessities including diapers, clothing, school supplies and toys. to enhance their lives. They provide diapers and other essentials to social service organizations, including homeless shelters, transitional living centers, school districts and state agencies. We currently have a

network of 70+ partner agencies, ensuring that our items are given directly to the families and children that need them the most. Right now, they have seen requests for their help increase by almost 300%.

#### North Dallas Shared Ministries

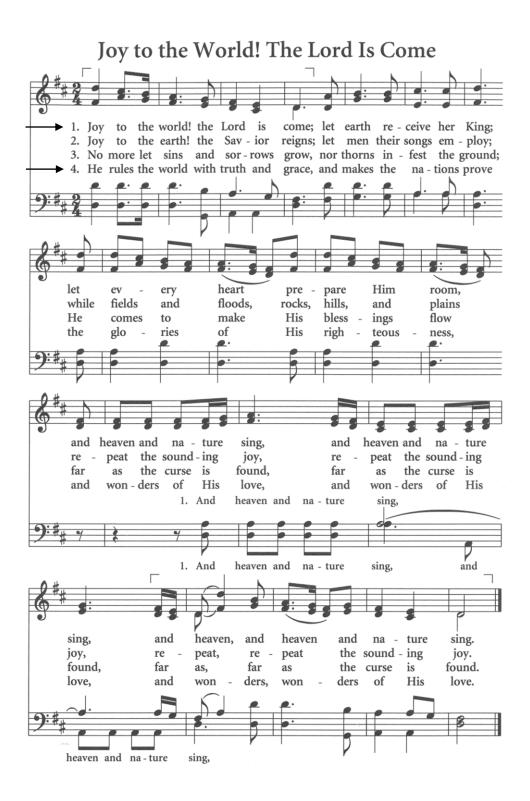
NDSM is an interfaith community of volunteers, partners and collaborators providing charitable assistance to persons in need. NDSM is one of the Missions to which we regularly give, but they are seeing higher than average need from their clients right now. According to Judy Rorrie, the Executive Director of North Dallas Shared Ministries, requests for food



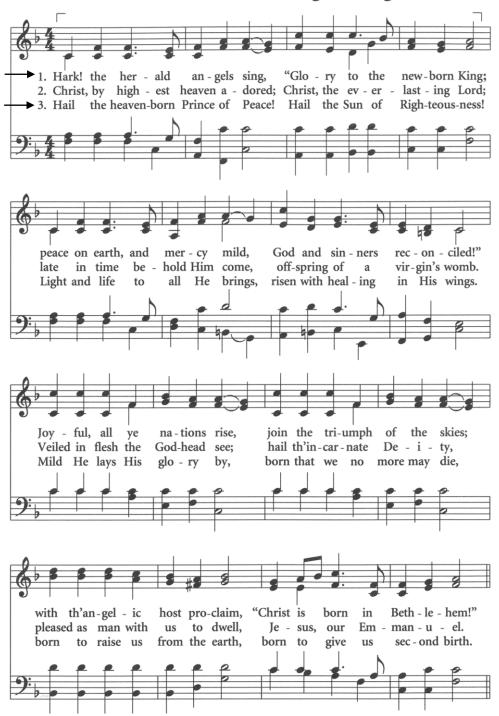
and financial assistance has increased sharply. Since April 27, a very small group of NDSM volunteers has reviewed 1,864 applications for financial assistance; to date in just under seven months, 644 Covid-19 related households have received \$480,643 in rent and/or utility assistance. The expectation is that the need for life-sustaining basic services will increase significantly as we begin the new year.



#### O Come, All Ye Faithful 1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um-phant, O come ye, O He True God of true God, Light from Light E - ter - nal, lo, 2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, O sing, all ye 3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap-py morn-ing, Je - sus, to 4. 6 Beth - le - hem! Come and be - hold Him, born the King of come ye to vir - gin's womb; Son of the Fa - ther, be - got-ten, not creshuns not the heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to glo - ry in the God, all cit - i-zens of glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap-Thee be all an - gels! at - ed. O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him, high - est! pear - ing! 7. Christ the Lord! 0 come, let us a dore Him,



#### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing





The Light of Hope – Isaiah 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Light of Peace – John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

<sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

#### The Light of Joy – Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."<sup>77</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

<sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Light of Love – Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.<sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

#### Schedule for the Week

Friday	December 25 – Christmas Day	
Saturday	December 26	
-	No Christian Education Classes	
Sunday	December 27 – First Sunday after Christmas	
	No Christian Education Classes	
11:00 am	Morning Worship — Livestream	
	Royal Lane Baptist YouTube Channel	
Wednesday	December 30	
-	No Wednesday Activities	
Friday	January 1 – New Year's Day	
Saturday	January 2	
2:00 pm	Questers Class — Zoom	
3:00 pm	3rd-5th Grade Saturday School — Zoom	
8:00 pm	Non-Traditional Class — Zoom	
Sunday	January 3 – Epiphany Sunday	
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	
3:00 pm	1st-2nd Grade Sunday School — Zoom	
4:00 pm	Formations Class — Zoom	
6:30 pm	Middle School Sunday School — Zoom	
7:00 pm	Connections Care Group — Zoom	

#### 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**

Sarah Fuller Phillips & Karen Simmons

When WE Give: we can support missions with a Christmas Eve Offering

#### 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/



# Royal Lane Baptist Church

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