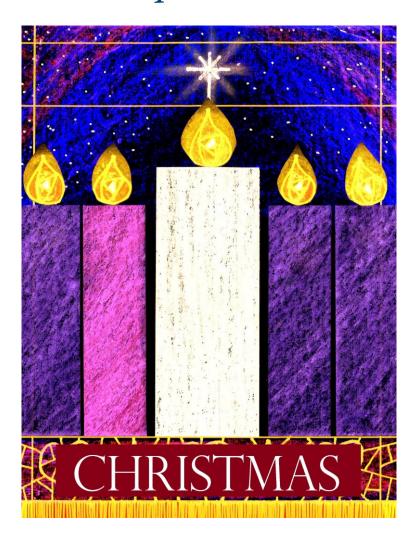
ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021

6:30 P.M.

Worship begins with the Chiming of the Hour and the Voluntary. To help maintain the spirit of worship, please silence all electronic devices.

• Please rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Jordan Stubblefield & David Weigle

Carol of the Bells/God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen — arranged by Matt Riley O Little Town of Bethlehem — arranged by A. D. Miller

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome to Worshipers

Harry Wooten

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

Processional Hymn 104 [see insert] (remain seated for stanzas one & two)

Once in Royal David's City — IRBY

Congregation

Harper Wooten – stanza one Choir – stanza two *Congregation – stanzas three & four

†The Bidding & Lord's Prayer

Steve Graham & 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:

(continued)

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 103 [see insert]

Congregation

O Come, All Ye Faithful — ADESTE FIDELES stanzas 1, 2 & 3

Coming of the Light

The Light of Hope

Wayne Meachum

Isaiah 9:2-7

Anthem

Choir

Carol of the Holy Family — Terre Johnson Diana Zavala, violin

The Light of Peace

Linda Cross

John 1:1-14

†Hymn 110 [see insert]

Congregation

Away in a Manger — MUELLER

The Light of Joy

Brandon Green

Matthew 2:1-12

Solo

Rita Nsbumbu

Behold That Star — arr. Mark Hayes

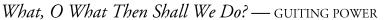
The Light of Love

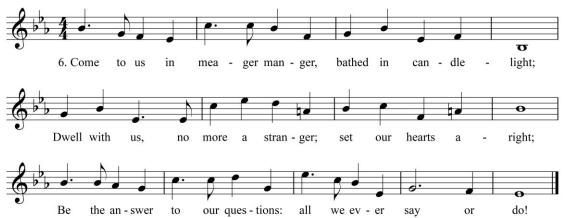
DeeDee Young

Luke 2:1-20

Advent Hymn

Congregation





The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jade Arnswald Rosa & Joey Belgard

Unison Prayer

Congregation

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.

Family Dedication

Ministers & Family

Anastasia Miranada Cruz

Daughter of Jade Arnswald

Grandparents

Mary & Ray Arnswald

Godparents

Rosa & Joey Belgard

(continued)

Minister

Jade, why have you come before this congregation?

Parent

I recognize the responsibility of parenthood and my dependence upon God for strength and wisdom to faithfully discharge my duties. I come to present Anastasia before God in loving commitment.

Minister

Godparents, where will you find strength for this task?

Godparents

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 Anastasia. We will love her, care for her, teach her, and model Christian living for her.

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 she may increase in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†Hymn 107 Congregation

O Little Town of Bethlehem — ST. LOUIS stanzas 1 & 3

Offertory Prayer Paulette Harrison

Beautiful Savior, we are so grateful for your birth so many years ago, and we are so joyful to have your presence in our lives this night. In gratitude, we offer our gifts, however humble they might be. Transform our gifts with your glory and grace, that our gifts might become grace and love, and light and hope, for a world in need of you. Amen.

Offertory Suré Eloff

O Holy Night — Adolphe Adam

Communion

Christmas Reflection & Invitation to the Table

Steve Graham

The Receiving of Communion

All

Individual Communion elements are available in the Narthex or from an usher.

The Communion elements are gluten free.

The Passing of the Light

Charge to the Bearers of the Light

Steve Graham

Do not be afraid—the light still shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. Bear the light of Christ into the world with hope and great joy!

During the introduction to Peace, Peace/Silent Night, please move your unlit candle toward the flame of the lighted candle and pass the light to one another.

#Hymn [see text below]

Choir & Congregation

Peace, Peace/Silent Night — Rick & Sylvia Powell, arranged by Fred Bock Please sing on direction.

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, Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. **P**Benediction

Steve Graham & Congregation

Go forth and shine light in the darkness.

Go and bring peace into our troubled world.

Proclaim hope in the midst of despair.

Go with God's blessings—

for a child has been born to us, who is Love for the nations and Light for the world.

Amen.

Amen.

Hymn 127 [see insert]

Congregation

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

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

Ding Dong, Merrily on High — arranged by Roy Brunner

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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

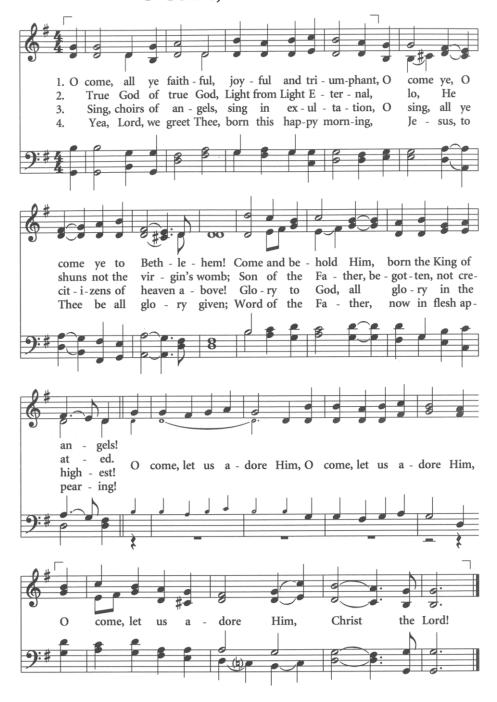


States-Mexico border to serve immigrants and refugees. Fellowship Southwest regularly receives requests for financial assistance or ministry supplies from our partner pastors all along the border. Because of donations from churches like ours, they have been able to respond to these requests without interruption. 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.

Once in Royal David's City



O Come, All Ye Faithful



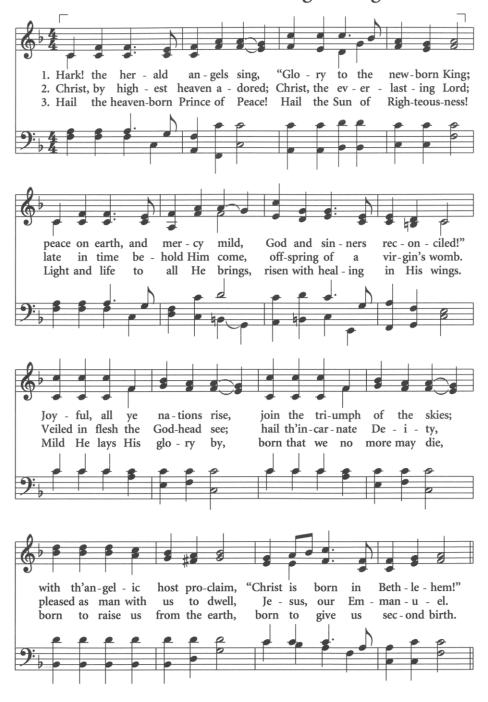
Away in a Manger



O Little Town of Bethlehem



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing





Register Your Attendance

Royallane.org/register



Cover Art

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Hymn Notes

Once in Royal David's City

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O Come, All Ye Faithful

Public Domain

Away in a Manger

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What, O What Then Shall We Do?

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O Little Town of Bethlehem

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Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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The Light of Hope – Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. 3You 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. 4For 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. 5For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 7His 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. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And 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, ²asking, "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." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'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." ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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."

⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And 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. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

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

New Year's Tea

January 8, 2022, 2-4 pm
Presented by Women of the Church

and
Children & Youth of the Church

Imagine the days of Paris poetic salons, with clever conversation and witty banter...a bit of live music...delicious and beautiful finger foods and hot tea...

Come and join us in Vickrey Hall as we welcome the new year. Wear your hat and pearls or fedora and bow ties. (We also have some!) An intergenerational afternoon of fun.



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.

Schedule for the Week

Sunday December 26 – First Sunday after Christmas

No Christian Education Classes

10:55 am Morning Worship — Sanctuary

or Royal Lane YouTube Channel

Wednesday December 29

No Wednesday Activities

Saturday January 1 – New Year's Day

No Christian Education Classes

Sunday January 2 – Epiphany Sunday 9:15 am Children's SS Classes — Zoom

9:45 am Formations Class — Library

9:45 am Foundation Stones Class — Room 208

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 Holy Communion Offered — Sanctuary

or Royal Lane YouTube Channel

The deadline for the Weekly Mosaic and the Mosaic is Monday, 5:00 p.m. prior to publication.

Royal Lane Baptist Church

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