

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God

Epiphany Sunday

January 2, 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

The magi sought a child who would be a king, but the palace was not home to this child. Instead, when the magi followed the star, they found the child in lowly estate, and were overwhelmed by joy. This is a story of pilgrimage, as we search for God's presence in our lives. This is a story of listening for the voice that draws us beyond the world's image of power. It is a story of the light that guides us as God's true power overcomes oppression. In the darkest night, a star shines. Follow this star, for it will lead to overwhelming joy.

Voluntary

We Five Kings KINGS OF ORIENT — Dan Miller

David Weigle

Choral Introit

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heav'nly Light — J. S. Bach

Choir

✠ Call to Worship

Arise, shine! Your light has come!

Glory to God in the highest.

Darkness covers the earth,

but God's glory shines brightly.

Lift up your eyes. Look around.

The light of God's love shines radiantly.

Arise, shine! Your light has come!

Our hearts thrill and rejoice!

Congregation

—*Isaiah 60*

✠Invocation

Congregation

Let us pray:

God of light and love, shine upon our lives, as we welcome the mystery of your love. Guide us toward your true gift, for our hearts long for encounter with the holy. Quiet our expectations, that we might be surprised by the unexpected. Open our eyes, that we might find you in unanticipated places. Shine your light upon us, that we might see you clearly, and recognize your face in all people. Amen.

✠Hymn 126 [see insert]

Congregation

Angels, from the Realms of Glory — REGENT SQUARE

Words of Welcome

Steve Graham

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

Scripture Lesson

Daniel R.

Matthew 2:1-12 [Pew Bible page *** 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!

Call to Confession

Jamie Lockett & Congregation

In the light of Christ, we see the shadows of our world and of our hearts. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

The Confession of Sin

Let us pray:

The celebrations have left us exhausted. Yet your Spirit comes again, guiding us toward true joy. In all of our busy celebrations, remind us that you desire righteousness and justice for a world in need of generous hearts. May the light of Jesus Christ, the world's true light, live among us and turn our lives from oppressive power toward liberation and hope. Amen.

Silence Is Kept

(continued)

Promise of Forgiveness

This is the good news: Christ is the light of the world,
who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins.

Thanks be to God.

✠Hymn 148 [see insert]

Congregation

What Child Is This — GREENSLEEVES

Prayers of the People

Donna Wood-Martin & Congregation

For your church throughout the world,
that it may be a faithful witness, declaring your wisdom to all authorities:
God of Wisdom, Glorious Light,

hear our prayer.

The wisemen came to King Herod in trust,
but he betrayed their trust and perpetrated unspeakable evil.
For the leaders of the government, that they reject the ways of Herod
and exercise their authority in truth, justice, and mercy.
God of Mercy, Glorious Light,

hear our prayer.

Joseph, Mary, and Jesus fled before the wrath of Herod
and became refugees in Egypt.
For all those who suffer from political oppression, injustice, or war,
and especially for refugees:
God of Justice, Glorious Light.

hear our prayer.

Joseph dreamed a future for his son,
and obeyed your will for his family.
For all families that they may live in peace according to your will.
God of Harmony, Glorious Light,

hear our prayer.

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:

**Hear our prayers, Gracious God, and grant us to live as heirs of your
promise, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Solo

Brittany Jones

I Wonder As I Wander — arranged by John Jacobs Niles

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
how Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die
for poor, orn'ry people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.*

When Mary had Jesus t'was in a cow stall,
with wise men, and farmers, and shepherds, and all.
But high from God's heaven, a star's light did fall,
and the promise of ages it lended recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
o'er all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
He surely could have it, cause He was the King.

Sermon

Steve Graham

“ Another Way! ”

Matthew 2:1-12 & Isaiah 60:1-13

Offertory Prayer

Nancy Ferrell

The wise travelers brought their gifts to honor the promised child. Let us bring the gifts of our lives, in gratitude for God's bright light of love. Giver of every gift, source of all goodness and light, we open the treasure chests of our hearts before you. We offer you gifts of gold, to care for those in need. We offer you gifts of love, to serve a suspicious world. Bless our gifts and our lives and use them to love and heal the world. Amen.

Offertory

David Weigle

Allegro from Concerto Grosso no. 8, Christmas Concerto — Arcangelo Corelli

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

†Hymn of Commitment 151 [see insert]

Congregation

We Three Kings — KINGS OF ORIENT
(stanzas 1, 3, 4 & 5)

*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

Steve Graham

As you follow the star on your journey,
don't look for the holy in places of power and prestige.

Instead, may we pay attention to the ordinary, the quiet places.

There may we be overcome with joy and share your gifts with creation.

Amen.

Amen.

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

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Register Your Attendance

Royallane.org/register



Cover Art

Heavenly Window stained glass, Chapelle Notre-Dame de-Grâce et de Toute-Joie
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Hymn Notes

Angels, from the Realms of Glory
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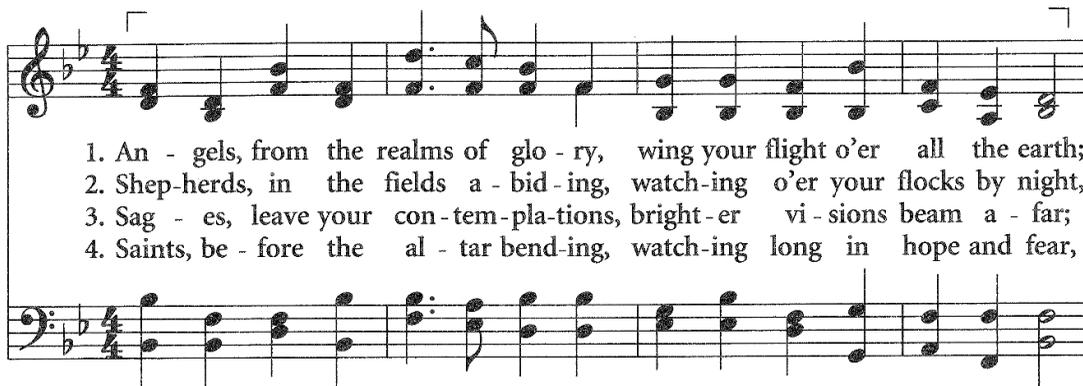
What Child Is This

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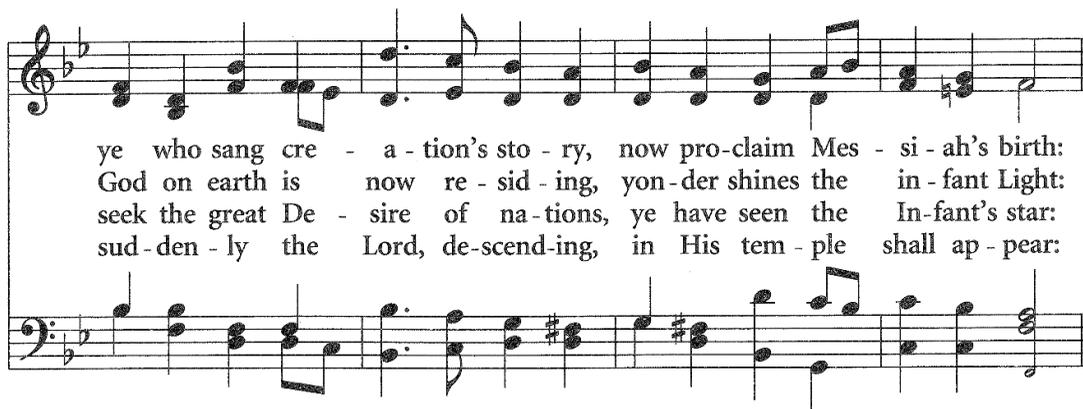
We Three Kings

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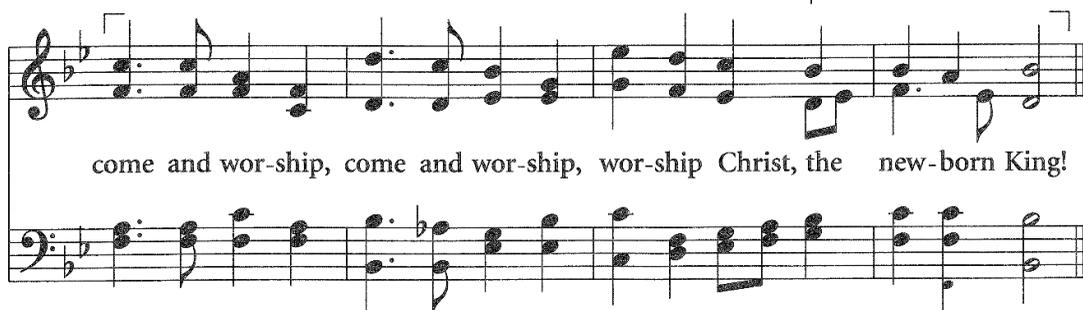
Angels, from the Realms of Glory



1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2. Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4. Saints, be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,

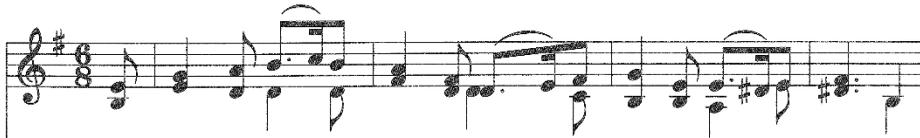


ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God on earth is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
seek the great De - sire of na - tions, ye have seen the In - fant's star:
sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in His tem - ple shall ap - pear:

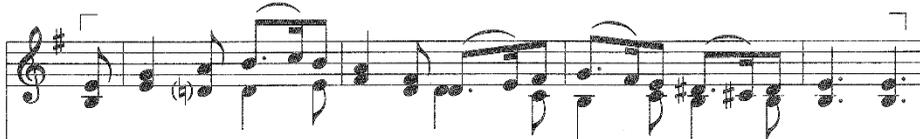


come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King!

What Child Is This



1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest on Ma-ry's lap is sleep-ing?
2. Why lies He in such mean es-tate, where ox and ass are feed-ing?
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come peas-ant, king, to own Him;



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tians, fear: for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en-throne Him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing:
Nails, spears, shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.



haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!



We Three Kings

1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him a - gain,
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a De - i - ty night;
4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5. Glo - rious now be - hold Him a - rise; King and God and sac - ri - fice:

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
prayer and prais - ing, voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship Him, God on high.
sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, sounds through the earth and skies.

O star of won - der, star of light, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

The Scripture this morning is Matthew 2:1-12, which may be found on page 783 of the New Testament of the pew Bible or as an insert in your order of worship.

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.
(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!**

Schedule for the Week

Wednesday January 5 – Mosaic

- 10:00 am Holy Rollers — Room 212
- 6:15 pm Midweek Study with Steve Graham — Zoom
- 7:00 pm Youth Gathering — Youth Portable (Portable 1)
- 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary

Saturday January 8

- 2:00 pm New Year's Tea — Vickrey Hall
- 2:00 pm Questers Class — Zoom
- 8:00 pm Non-Traditional Class — Zoom

Sunday January 9 – First Sunday after Epiphany / Baptism of the Lord

- 9:15 am Children's SS Classes — Zoom
- 9:45 am Formations Class — Room 202
- 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 — Sanctuary
or Royal Lane YouTube Channel
Commissioning of the Pastor Search Committee
- 7:30 pm Deacons Meeting — Zoom (Deacon Chat, 7:15 pm)

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

Study for Wednesday Evening

with Steve Graham

The Solace of Fierce Landscapes: Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality.

by Belden Lane

Scriptures for Next Sunday

Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22



Please recycle your order of worship in a marked bin.

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

Jamie Luckett & Donna Wood-Martin

When WE Give: we renew our covenant to support RLBC with our gifts and our service.

November 2021 Financials

	YTD Actual
Revenues*	\$ 625,950
Expenses	\$ 621,796
Surplus (Deficit)*	\$ 4,154

*Includes annual pledges paid up front in full.

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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