

ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH

Diverse People United in Christ



The Worship of God

Epiphany Sunday

January 5, 2020

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 in the blue booklet at the end of the pew, and pass it to others.
To help maintain the spirit of worship, please silence all electronic devices.
† – Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Chiming of the Hour

The feast of Epiphany concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Today's scriptures are much more than a celebration of kings bringing tribute to the Messiah; they are a promise of light to those who live in darkness, a promise of righteousness to those who suffer at the hands of others, a promise of grace to those who are lost, and a promise of salvation to the Gentiles. Epiphany is a day to celebrate God's love for all — especially those who are most in need of God's light and love.

Opening Voluntary

David Weigle

Song for a New Year — Gilbert Martin

Choral Introit

Choir

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light — J. S. Bach
from *Christmas Oratorio*

†Call to Worship

Congregation

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Isa. 60:1

The brightness of God's light shines upon all the nations.

All are welcomed to the brightness of God's dawn.

Isa. 60:3

God gathers us from far away and carries us.
With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts,
we receive the abundance God gives.

Isa. 60:4-5

We respond in praise.

**With our gifts, with our very selves,
we worship God.**

Isa. 60:6b

†Invocation

Congregation

Let us pray:

O God, the source of all insight, whose coming was revealed to the nations not among people of power but on a woman's lap: give us grace to seek you where you may be found, that the wisdom of this world may be humbled and discover your unexpected joy, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

—Janet Morley, *All Desires Known* (London: SPCK, 1992)

†Hymn 151

Congregation

We Three Kings — KINGS OF ORIENT

Welcome to Worshipers

Garland Hamic

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

*[Please record your attendance in the blue booklet
at the end of the pew and pass it to others.]*

Scripture Lesson

Susie Leinneweber

Matthew 2:1-12 (Pew Bible page 783 of the New Testament)

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

Time of Silent Reflection

Sung Response 148

Congregation

What Child is This — GREENSLEEVES
(stanza three only)

Time for Young Disciples

Laura Keller

*Children through kindergarten are invited to Godly Play,
1st through 4th grade to Young Theologians.
You may collect your children in the Children's Building following the service.*

†Hymn [see insert]

Congregation

The Work of Christmas Calls Us — AURELIA

Our lighted candles are a sign of the divine glory of the one who comes to dispel the dark shadows of evil and to make the whole universe radiant with the brightness of his eternal light. Our candles also show how bright our souls should be when we go to meet Christ. —Sophronius (d.c. 638)

Offertory Prayer

Brittany Jones

Offertory

Rita Nsumbu

Behold that Star — arranged by Mark Hayes

Behold that star!

Behold that star up yonder!

Beyond that star!

It is the star of Bethlehem.

There was no room found in the inn,
It is the star of Bethlehem,
For Him who was born free from sin,
It is the star of Bethlehem.

The wise men came on from the east,
It is the star of Bethlehem,
To worship Him, the Prince of Peace,
It is the star of Bethlehem.

A song broke forth upon the night,
It is the star of Bethlehem,
From angel hosts all robed in white,
It is the star of Bethlehem.

“Glory to God, world without end.”
It is the star of Bethlehem.

“Peace on earth, good will to men.”
It is the star of Bethlehem.

Sermon

Michael Gregg

“ Looking for the Light ”

†Hymn of Commitment 137

Congregation

Sing We Now of Christmas — FRENCH CAROL

Please come forward during the singing of this hymn if you wish to confess or reaffirm your faith or identify with this fellowship. A minister will greet and receive you.

Communion

All Believers

Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Lift your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is a right, good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
who set a star in the sky to guide the Magi
as they searched for the holy Child
and warned them to go home by another way.

And so, with your creatures on earth
and all the heavenly chorus,
we praise your name and join with their unending hymn:

Spoken:

**Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Sung to ADESTE FIDELES:

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest, Christ has come!**

Blessing of Bread & Cup

Michael Gregg

Response

And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts
in Jesus Christ we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Spoken:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Sung to ADESTE FIDELES:

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest, Christ has come!**

Communion Prayer

Michael Gregg

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and cup.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ
that we may offer light and hope
to a world that is broken and in pain.
To you, who are the only true light,
we give our thanks and praise,
praying as Jesus taught his disciples to pray, saying boldly:

Lord's Prayer (*using trespasses*)

The Receiving of Communion

*Following the choir, please move by way of the center aisle to partake
of communion by intinction* or separate cups.*

Gluten free bread is available in the center of the paten. Return via the outside aisles.

Let Us Break Bread Together – from *Four Sacred Songs* — Raphael Fusco

I Wonder as I Wander — arr. by Richard Delong
adapted for bassoon by Robyn Watson

† Passing of the Peace

Bathed in the light of God, turn to one another and observe the light that shines
within each and every one of us. Warmed by the light of Christ, greet one
another with signs of peace.
Peace be with you. . . **And also with you.**

† Sung Response

Hymn 151

Congregation

We Three Kings – KINGS OF ORIENT
(*refrain*)

**O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

** - intinction, the administering of the elements of Communion
by dipping the bread in the cup and receiving both together.*

Presentation of Decisions

Michael Gregg

Affirmation: **Thanks be to God!**

✠ Sending Forth

Michael Gregg & Congregation

Go forth as a light to the nations.

We go forth with the promise of new life in Christ.

Go forth as a people of blessing.

We go forth, proclaiming hope to the poor and needy.

Go forth as a light to the nations.

We go forth, with God's blessings.

Amen.

Amen.

Organ Dismissal

David Weigle

Go Tell It on the Mountain — arranged by John A. Behnke

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Hymn Notes

The Work of Christmas Calls Us

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Counting Our Homeless Population in Dallas

Thursday, January 23, 2020, 7:00 pm – 12:00 am

Once a year, along with communities across the country, we count our homeless friends. The Count, a requirement under Federal Law, helps communities understand the extent of homelessness, changing trends, and the measure of their success in making homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring. It's also an important reminder that in Dallas, everybody counts. To join a group of four people, contact Karen Miller at kmiller238@sbcglobal.net or 214.724.0655 by Monday, January 20.

Pastor's Book Group Resumes

The Pastor's Book Group resumes Tuesday, January 7, 2020, in Vickrey Hall with the study of *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Henisi Coates. Contact Mike Gregg at mgregg@royallane.org if you are interested in joining this group.

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. Robyn is currently pursuing a performance diploma at the Meadows School of the Arts of Southern Methodist University.

Study for Wednesday Evening

6:00 pm

Bible Study with Mike Gregg

Luke 11:1-32, The Lord's Prayer and Beelzebul

6:30 pm

e360 Training with Tim Schaefer

Join us at 5:30 for a Fellowship Meal

Scriptures for Next Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

For the Children!

Children's bulletins are available for ages 3-6 and 7-12.

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



The Work of Christmas Calls Us

1. The work of Christ-mas calls us to grow in heart and mind;
2. The work of Christ-mas calls us to suf - fer with the least,
3. The work of Christ-mas calls us be - yond one Ho - ly Night
4. The work of Christ-mas calls us to tasks which ne - ver end,

to feed the hun - gry mas - ses, to po - ver - ty re - signed;
with love, to teach the na - tions, 'til all come to the feast;
to love all those ex - clud - ed, and bring them to your Light;
to re - con - cil - i - a - tion, in - jus - ti - ces to mend;

to free the cap - tive pris' - ner, un - just - ly stripped of rights;
'til sys - tems of un - fair - ness give way to e - qui - ty,
in deeds of love and mer - cy, make mu - sic in the heart;
when Beth' - lem's star is ab - sent, and kings and prin - ces gone,

Oh, God, please light our path - ways, in peace, through dark - ened nights.
To - ge - ther, may we strug - gle to set all peo - ple free.
for in that low - ly man - ger, God brings a brand new start!
and shep - herds back to herd - ing, The work of Christ goes on.



Women of the Church New Year's Tea

Saturday, January 11, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Vickrey Hall

“Grace Enough ... for New Year's High Tea
for young and old.

Pearls and fascinators provided, as needed.

An event you do not want to miss.

Faith & Film “Owned: Tale of Two Americas”

Sunday, January 26, 2:30 – 4:30 pm

Royal Lane Baptist Church – Vickrey Hall



Join us for a screening of this award-winning documentary followed by discussion about fair housing facilitated by leaders of our ministry partner, Faith in Texas.

Register online (free registration)

Royal Lane website, event listing — <https://tinyurl.com/vm2j2bv>



Prayer Place Sunday School Class – Book Study

Longtime church member Christine Nicolette-Gonzalez has published an inspirational memoir that tells the story of how she overcame the severe trauma of her childhood. The book, *My Mother's Curse: A Journey Beyond Childhood Trauma*, is available for purchase on the website laureatelifepress.com. On January 26th, in The Prayer Place Sunday School class, Christine will begin a four-week book study of her memoir. Each of you is invited to join her and the class for this study. If you are one of the hundreds of millions of people who endured a challenging childhood, this month-long study may be particularly meaningful to you. It is not necessary to have purchased or read the book to attend.

Schedule for the Week

- Sunday January 5 – Epiphany Sunday**
12:15 pm Education Committee — Room 206
12:15 pm e360 Training with Tim Schaefer — Vickrey Hall
- Tuesday January 7**
12:00 pm Pastor’s Book Group — Vickrey Hall
1:00 pm Missions Committee — Library
- Wednesday January 8 – Mosaic**
3:30 pm Holy Rollers Mission Project — Room 202
5:30 pm Midweek Family Dinner — Vickrey Hall
Enchilada Bake, Rice, Salad, White Cake
6:00 pm Youth Activities/Study Hall — Youth Basement
6:00 pm Midweek Service – Bible Study with Mike Gregg — Vickrey Hall
Luke 11:1-32, The Lord’s Prayer and Beelzebul
6:15 pm Children’s Activities — Children’s Building
6:30 pm e360 Training with Tim Schaefer — Vickrey Hall
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary
- Friday January 10**
10:00 am Second Friday at NDSM
- Saturday January 11**
2:00 pm New Year’s Tea — Vickrey Hall
- Sunday January 12 – First Sunday after Epiphany / Baptism of the Lord**
8:30 am Deacons Meeting — Portable 1 (childcare provided)
9:30 am Donuts, Coffee/Juice — Box Gallery
9:45 am Christian Education — Christian Education Classrooms & Portable 1
10:55 am Morning Worship — Sanctuary
12:15 pm Program Council– Calendaring — Vickrey Hall

The deadline for the order of service, the Midweek, and the Mosaic is Tuesday, 5:00 p.m. prior to publication.

IN FOCUS

Breaking Bread: At Peace with Mind and Body

Wednesday, January 15, 6:15 pm – Vickrey Hall

Prayer Cards

We invite you to use the Prayer Cards, available in the “pockets” on the back of each pew, to submit prayer requests. These may be placed in the offering plate or handed to a minister or deacon of the week.

Deacons on Call

Melanie Ferguson & Garey Wisdom

Godly Play

Charlotte Sewell & Anne Sewell

Young Theologians – Laura Keller & Cookie Stokes

When WE Give: inspired worship feeds our spirits.

November 2019 Financials

	YTD
Revenues	\$ 753,206
Expenses	\$ 669.667
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 83,539

Text **Royallane** to **73256** to give to the General Fund using your text messaging.

Standard text message rates apply.

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Royal Lane Baptist Church

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Tim Schaefer, Minister to Youth
Janet Schultz, Administrative Assistant
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician
Ray Vickrey, Pastor Emeritus
David Weigle, Organist
Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship

The Scripture this morning is Matthew 2:1-12, which may be found on page 783 of the New Testament of the pew Bible.

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)

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