

#### Who's Who:

# **Ministry Teams:**

Minister: All Members of the Church Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett Administrator: Jorida Vakiari Ministries Coordinator: C. Miguel Carlin Ethan Mitchell Administrative Assistant: Music Director: Gabriel Perez Jonathan Craft Accompanist: Ethan Mitchell AV Director: AV Technician: Ben Dethloff Academy Director: Renee Henry

Administration Leader: Jacquie Ballesteros Congregation Leader: Kay Craig Faith Development Leader: Kathryn Dethloff Mission Leader:

Worship Leader: Donald McDaniel Treasurer: Neal Dikeman

#### The Session

Clerk: Elizabeth Powell Moderator: Rev. Mark Plunkett

Class of 2024Class of 2025Class of 2026Charles FairchildJacquie BallesterosKay CraigGlenn LananKathryn DethloffSarah DikemanDonald McDanielStephen EarnestEthan MitchellJennifer Miller

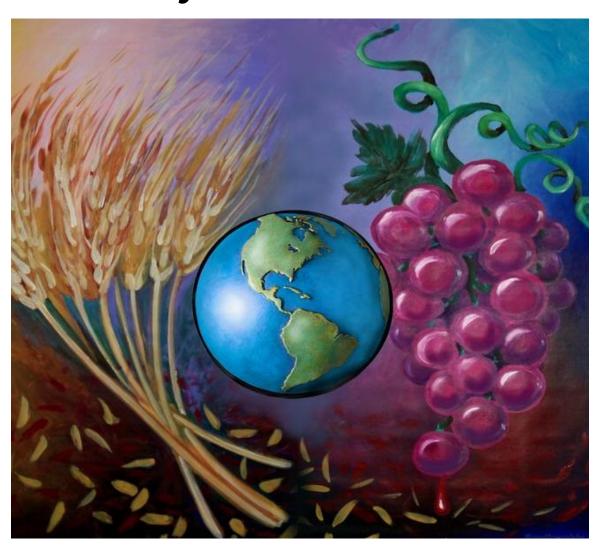
## **Academy Board**

Laurie Mitchell Jim Kunkel Neal Dikeman Jani Shepard Web Trevathan Ashley Powell

Serving today in Worship: Liturgist: Elizabeth Powell

Children's Moment: Pastor Mark Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel PowerPoint: Ethan Mitchell e-mail: churchoffice@springbranchpres.org website: www.springbranchpres.org www.facebook.com/springbranchpres Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM CCLI Streaming License # 20797349 CCLI License # 11266777 1215 Campbell Rd Houston, TX 77055 713-464-7659

# Spring Branch Presbyterian Church



World Communion Sunday October 1, 2023

## **World Communion Sunday**

October 1, 2023 10:50 AM

\*Those who are able please stand

## **God's People Connect**

#### WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

(Please sign the Friendship Book located in the pew rack next to the center aisle.)

#### **PRELUDE**

#### THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS THE SANCTUARY

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: From north and south and east and west, People: All Creation sings forth your praises! The mountains and the hills burst into song. Leader: People: The trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Leader: Your steadfast love never ceases.

ALL: With joy and peace, let us worship God together.

\*HYMN "I Come with Joy" GTG, No. 515

## **Preparing for the Word**

#### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

God's grace was given to us in Christ before the ages began. In spite of God's Leader:

love for us and gift of love to us, we often act in destructive and hateful ways. Trusting in Christ's mercy that never ends, let us with honesty confess our sins

before God and one another.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

Gracious Lord, you created the whole world and called it good, but we look out at your world and see division and suffering. You call us to maintain the unity of spirit in the bond of peace, but we choose division over diversity, confrontation over civility, and conflict over peace born from justice. You call us to love the least of those among us, but we hear the cries of the oppressed and choose our own comfort. Forgive us. Grant us fresh vision to see one another as siblings in Christ. Rekindle in us your gifts — the spirit of power, love and self-discipline — that with faith in Christ, we might be made new and be part of bringing forth your peaceable kingdom. Amen.

## SILENT CONFESSION

# **Calendar of Events**

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

October 1 — World Communion Sunda
Families with Young Children Retreat

Church Nursery 9:15 am 9:30 am Sunday School Choir Practice (Choir Room) 9:45 am

10:50 am Worship

Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2) 4:00 pm

#### October 2 — Monday

Meet the Pastor (Fover) 7:00 am 6:00 pm PW Unwind: Niko Niko's! Special Olympics: Volleyball\* (GP) 6:00 pm

7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

#### October 3 — Tuesday

Congregational Care Meeting (GP 2) 9:15 am Flexercise (GP) 10:00 am

Special Olympics: Bocce Ball\* (Field) 5:30 pm

Basketball (GP) 6:00 pm

Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2) 6:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship\* (FH) 7:00 pm

#### October 4 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderator (CR) PW Board Meeting (CR) 10:15 am

3:30 pm WOW (S)

WNS: Italian Sausage and Peppers! 6:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (CR) 6:45 pm

## October 5 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)

Special Olympics: Bocce Ball\* (Field) 5:30 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP) 6:00 pm

#### October 6 — Friday

CENTI Youth Program\* (YR) 7:00 pm

#### October 7 — Saturday

6:00 pm CENTI Church Service\* (GP)

\*Outside SBPC Reservations & Events

(CR) Conference Room

(FH) Fellowship Hall

(GP) Gathering Place

(L) Library

(P) Parlor

(S) Sanctuary

#### October 8 — Sunday

Church Nursery 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am 9:30 am Children's Chime Choir (S) 9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)

10:50 am Worship

Monthly Birthday Celebration 12:15 pm

#### October 9 — Monday

5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR) Special Ólympics: Volleyball\* (GP) 6:00 pm 6:30 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos II (GP 1 & 2)

7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

#### October 10 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)

5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce Ball\* (Field)

Basketball (GP) 6:00 pm

Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1 & 2) 6:00 pm

Fellowship Meeting (CR) 6:30 pm

CENTI Bible Study & Worship\* (FH) 7:00 pm

## October 11 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Circle (CR) Staff Meeting (P) 10:00 am 3:30 pm WOW (S)

Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3) 5:00 pm WNS: Hamburgers! 6:00 pm

## October 12 — Thursday

Flexercise (GP) 10:00 am

Special Olympics: Bocce Ball\* (Field) 5:30 pm

Cub Scouts: Bear (GP 1) 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP) 6:00 pm

## October 13 — Friday

SBM Arc Meeting\* (CR) 6:00 pm CENTI Youth Program\* (YR) 7:00 pm

## October 14 — Saturday

Wedding Reception\* (FH) 4:00 pm CENTI Church Service\* (GP) 6:00 pm



## **Announcements & Events:**

**The Flowers** for this morning are given by Jorida and Ruden Vakiari, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

We would like for everyone to start wearing their nametags on Sunday mornings. If your's has run away or is looking a little ragged, please see Linda Crawford and she will make a new one for you.

As the seasons start to change, so will our Church Office hours beginning tomorrow, Monday, October 2nd. The Church Office will be open from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Monday-Friday, and from 9:00 AM-12:30 PM on Sunday. We are trying this new schedule through the end of the year. We invite you to come see us!

The Unwind Group is meeting for dinner at 6:00 PM on October 2nd at Niko Niko's (1040 W. Sam Houston Parkway N. 77043). Hopefully we can sit outside! Please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114 or <a href="mailto:jballesteros1103@gmail.com">jballesteros1103@gmail.com</a> only if you are attending. See you there!

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, October 4th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Laurie Mitchell & Kate Cross are making Italian Sausage and Peppers on a Bun. Please email Kay Craig at <a href="mailto:kay@craig-heidt.com">kay@craig-heidt.com</a> to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

During the month of October we're having a Diaper Drive to benefit the Mission of Yahweh. They are in need of Newborn to 5 Toddler diapers for boys and girls. Donations may be brought to the church throughout the month of October.

**The PW Day Circle** will meet on Wednesday, October 11th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Please contact Patti Nanney if you'd like to attend via Zoom. The **Evening Bible Study** will meet on Monday, October 16th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah or Ashley Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 2 video is available at the following link: <a href="https://www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/sacred-encounters">www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/sacred-encounters</a>.

Idea Spring is kicking back off on Thursday, October 19th at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us as we are wowed by Mr. Magic himself, Scott Hollingsworth! A pizza dinner will follow. All are welcome to attend! The Idea Spring Speaker Series was originally created as a free program for our community—it's family friendly and fun for all ages! Events have been planned for the entire school year. Questions or want to help coordinate? Email Ethan Mitchell at <a href="mailto:ideaspring@springbranchpres.org">ideaspring@springbranchpres.org</a>. We look forward to seeing you there!

We have a church-wide retreat in the works for March 14th-17th at Mo-Ranch in Hunt, TX! This is spring break week, so we're hopeful that we can have a big group go - including our families! This retreat will be Thursday-Sunday, with the option to stay with a small group into Monday. There will be lots of time for spiritual development, fellowship, recreation, worship, and good food! The total cost per person is \$185 for adults and \$120 for kids, for 3 nights, including all meals. We are asking those who would like to attend to please complete the registration form, reserve your room to secure the space you'd like, and pay \$75/person to the church. Copies of the registration form are available in the Narthex and in the Friday email. Please see Ethan Mitchell for any questions. We hope that you will join us!

The Academy is hosting a Spooktacular Trunk or Treat in the parking lot on Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30-6:30 PM. Church members are encouraged to attend and sponsor a Trunk or Treat vehicle. Copies of the registration form are available in the Narthex and in the Friday email. Please submit forms to the Academy office by October 27th. Please email questions to academy@springbranchpres.org.

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: We call to mind your promises and therefore we find hope. The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. God's mercies are new every morning. Believe the

good news. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

#### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*GLORIA

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

GTG, No. 620

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

## **God's People Are Empowered**

#### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Mark

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** (unison)

In the quietness of this hour, we wait for your Spirit. Tune our ears to hear the promise of your salvation. Incline our hearts toward your message of peace. Summon our will to respond to your Word with justice and love, that we might go forth with joy; through Christ. Amen.

ANTHEM "The One" Choir

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Matthew 21:23-32 Red Pew Bible NT 23

**MEDITATION** "Trick Questions" Rev. Mark Plunkett

## **Responding to the Word**

\*HYMN "Seek Ye First" GTG, No. 175

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

(The Apostles' Creed)

I Believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### **INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

arr. William Doane **OFFERTORY** "Near the Cross" Joan Belk, Piano

Jonathan Craft, Organ

**\*OUR RESPONSE** GTG. No. 645 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

> Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation. With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled: To God all praise and glory!

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Blessed and forgiving Lord, we praise your holy name that all your children can gather together in peace and worship you. We thank you for the gifts given by this group of your servants. Renew our dedication to the task at hand: namely, serving you in all that we say and do. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen!

#### **SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Leader: This is the table of the Lord. It is ready for those who love him and who

want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because it is I who invites you: It is our Lord. It is his will that those who

want him should meet him here.

People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit People:

at table in the kingdom of God.

Because Christ has made us one body, let us pray one for another. Leader:

Hear, O Lord, the needs among us... People:

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (spoken in different languages)

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you, Jesus, for the opportunity to remember you in the ordinary Leader:

things of our lives.

People: When we eat our daily bread, rice, tortilla, or potato, we remember

how you shared what you had with your friends, willing to be broken

vourself.

When we drink from the fruits of our harvest, we are reminded of how you Leader:

continually bless us with your teachings; our chipped and well-used cups

overflow.

As we come to this meal, we especially remember those around the People:

world who eat a different bread than we usually do.

We remember how in many countries, claiming your Name is dangerous or Leader:

even deadly.

We pray for brothers and sisters all around this world undergoing People:

persecution for their faith, and for those who take their faith for

granted.

God of steadfast love, you are not a distant God, but one prepared to Leader:

answer the cries of those sunk in the depths of sin and despair. You did not abandon your people of old, but through the prophets, spoke words of mercy and hope to them, simply because they were chosen and beloved by you. You revealed how beloved we are by entering our history in the person of Jesus Christ, who touches our lives with healing and wholeness and a love, which like yours, is unending and unconditional. At this table, we bear witness to that love. We remember that Jesus washed his disciples' feet and sat down to share the meal with them. He took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of

me." He took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. We remember and we give thanks for such

outpouring of love.

ALL: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, and upon these gifts of

bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ -

his life in us. Amen.

(Elements are distributed)

(As an act of communion, those partaking are invited to use the words, "The body of Christ broken for you." Likewise, when partaking of the cup, "The blood of Christ shed for you." Please feel free to use any language you wish)

## PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

## **Departing to Serve**

\*HYMN "You Are My All in All" GTG, No. 519

\*BENEDICTION

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*POSTLUDE

Portions of today's worship service are from the pcusa.org worship resources.