

relationships matter 
GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Who's Who:

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

Ministry Teams:

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 2024

Charles Fairchild
Glenn Lanan
Donald McDaniel
Jennifer Miller

Class of 2025

Jacquie Ballesteros
Kathryn Dethloff
Stephen Earnest

Class of 2026

Kay Craig
Sarah Dikeman
Ethan Mitchell

Academy Board

Laurie Mitchell
Jani Shepard

Jim Kunkel
Web Trevathan

Neal Dikeman
Ashley Powell

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Todd Miller
Children's Moment: Pastor Mark
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Megan Hogg

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“The Word from a Geep”
November 26, 2023

Christ the King Sunday

November 26, 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: Come to worship Jesus Christ, the Alpha and the Omega, the one who is, who was, and is to come.

People: We come to worship the one who rules justly.

Leader: Come to worship Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, the ruler of the kings of the earth.

People: Bread of Heaven, God with us!

Leader: Good Shepherd, the True Vine!

People: Eternal Word, the Great I AM.

Leader: Wonderful Counselor, the Prince of Peace!

ALL: We come to worship Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords! To him be glory and dominion forever and ever! Amen.

***HYMN**

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

GTG, No. 187

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: We know that we have not lived as God hopes. But however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace. Let us come with our prayers of confession and needs to the One who prepares the way for our words...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Sovereign God, we confess that although we willingly say that "Jesus is King," we often fail to bow our knees before him. Instead, we grant our allegiances to the relationships and material goods of this world. In your mercy, hear our prayer of confession. Grant us the humility to bow before you, Ruler of all nations, so that we may be loyal servants in your kingdom. Through your son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

November 26 — Christ the King Sunday

9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Packing Seafarer's Boxes (FH)
9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
10:50 am Worship
12:15 pm Hanging of the Greens (S)

November 27 — Monday

9:30 am Staff Meeting (P)
6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
6:30 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos II (GP 1 & 2)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

November 28 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1 & 2)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)

November 29 — Wednesday

3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Baked Potatoes!
6:45 pm Worship Team Meeting (CR)

November 30 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

December 1 — Friday

7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

December 2 — Saturday

8:00 am Cub Scout Service Project (FH)
4:00 pm Fairbees Christmas Party* (FH)
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

December 3 — 1st Sunday in Advent

9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Children's Sunday School (GP 3)
9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
10:50 am Worship
1:00 pm Sunday Craft Workshop (FH)
4:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)
6:00 pm BSA Committee Meeting (GP)

December 4 — Monday

7:00 am Meet the Pastor (Foyer)
6:00 pm PW Unwind: Fratelli's!
6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball* (GP)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

December 5 — Tuesday

9:15 am Congregational Care Meeting (GP)
10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)
7:00 pm Session (CR)

December 6 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderator (CR)
10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Mexican Food!

December 7 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

December 8 — Friday

6:00 pm SBM Arc Meeting* (CR)
6:30 pm Drive-In Movie Night (Parking Lot)
7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program* (YR)

December 9 — Saturday

8:30 am Digital Skills Workshop (FH)
6:00 pm SBM Arc Christmas Party* (FH)
6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

Announcements & Events:

Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual packing and wrapping of the Seafarers' Christmas Boxes for the Port of Houston this morning!

Please join us for the Hanging of the Greens immediately after Worship today. Everyone is invited to help prepare the Sanctuary for the Advent Season. The Fellowship Hall will be decorated at Wednesday Night Supper later this week. We are hoping to have many hands help this year, so please come join us! A pizza lunch will be provided when we finish. Please see Donald McDaniel if you have any questions, or if you can attend.

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, November 29th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The Presbyterian Women are making Baked Potatoes. All proceeds will benefit the mission/scholarship fund! Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

The Unwind Dinner Group is meeting for the last time in 2023 at Fratelli's (1333 Wirt Rd, 77055), at 6:00 PM on Monday, December 4th. Please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114, only if you plan to attend. We hope to see you there!

Please don't forget to turn in your Pledge Card and Time & Talent Pledge. You can find blank copies in the Narthex, Church Office, or Parlor. There is a box in the Narthex for submitting cards. Cards can also be mailed to the Church Office, to the attention of Jorida. Thank you for your continued commitment!

Please join us for our next fun Sunday Craft Workshop in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 3rd, from 1:00-3:00 PM. Join the fun and learn how to put a charcuterie board together - choosing cheeses, meats, nuts, jams, crackers/breads, etc. We will divide into several groups and make a charcuterie board, then have it for lunch! All food will be provided. Please RSVP by November 30th so that there will be enough supplies. The cost will be \$8-\$10. Please make a reservation with Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com or 713-248-4138.

Spring Branch Presbyterian is joining with our friends at CarePartners and the Women's Resource to host an AARP Digital Skills Workshop to help all of us learn how to protect our identity online, and to pull our credit reports safely from the web. **This workshop is free and will be held on December 9th from 8:30 AM-11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.** A continental breakfast will be provided. RSVPs are encouraged - you can sign up with Miguel in the church office.

We are looking for Acolytes to help with the lighting of the candles on Sunday mornings. Please let Marguerite Priest know if there are certain Sundays that your kids can serve. We are especially hopeful that we can have Acolytes for every Sunday in Advent.

Poinsettias are available for purchase again this year. A sign-up sheet is located in the Church Office & Narthex to place your order until Thursday, December 21st. Remember to indicate who you are honoring, and/or remembering, with your payment of \$10 to SBPC, which you can drop off in the Church Office, or during Worship in the offering plate.

Please turn in all outstanding receipts for reimbursement to Jorida in the church office no later than Friday, December 15th.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Through the crucified body and blood of Christ the King, we have been given a pardon from God. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, in whom we have the forgiveness of our sins. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, proclaiming Jesus as Lord of all. Amen!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GLORIA

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

*Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
from the earth to the cross my debt to pay;
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.*

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Mark

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ezekiel 34:20-24

Red Pew Bible OT 804

ANTHEM

"The King of Love"

Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:31-46

Red Pew Bible NT 29

SERMON

"The Word from a Geep"

Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"Majesty"

LUYH, No. 46

*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

OFFERTORY

***RESPONSE** *"I Sing Praises to Your Name, O Lord"*

*I sing praises to your name, O Lord, praises to your name, O Lord,
For your name is great and greatly to be praised.*

*I sing praises to your name, O Lord, praises to your name, O Lord,
For your name is great and greatly to be praised.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*

In hope, we affirm the power of your love, and pray that you multiply these gifts to rescue those in need. In joy, we proclaim the eternal wonder of your promise to share your healing and redeeming love. Keep us faithful to the work of Christ today and always. Amen.

SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.

Departing to Serve

***HYMN** *"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"* (v. 1, 3, 5) GTG, No. 722

***BENEDICTION**

***THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD**

***POSTLUDE**

Portions of today's worship service are taken from umcdiscipleship.org/resources, worship.calvin.edu, and lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com.

Welcome Visitors

You are joyfully welcomed as you worship with us today. In the worship bulletin, you will see an asterisk (*) which invites you to stand as you are able throughout today's service. If you have any questions about Spring Branch Presbyterian Church's ministries and programs, you are invited to speak with Pastor Mark, an elder, an usher, or any other member of our church family. Also, the ushers have additional information for you as you leave today. We hope you will come back and that you consider Spring Branch as your church home.

Worship 10:50 am

Worship: Spring Branch Presbyterian Church welcomes families of all ages and sizes. For families with young children, relax! God put the wiggle in all children (and adults), we understand. You are invited to sit closer to the front so your children can hear, see, and experience worship with those around them. Remember, children and youth learn through what they observe. Participate and engage yourselves fully.

Nursery: Infants six weeks through Pre-K are welcomed in the nursery during worship. Kindergarten and older children will attend worship with their parents. The Church Nursery is available from 9:15 AM through shortly after Worship in the Bears classroom, Room 126, which is in the north hallway of the Education Building.

Sunday Morning Offerings at 9:30 am

Saints Under Construction: This class meets in the Sanctuary in the Garden Room. This discussion-oriented class focuses on what each of us can learn from the weekly Bible scriptures to build upon in strengthening our faith. Patti Nanney leads the class.

The Explorers: This class meets in the Conference Room in the Education Building. The class studies the Bible, book-by-book, using different translations which help the lively and thought-provoking discussions. Linda Crawford leads the class.

Children's Sunday School Class: This class meets in the Children's classroom in The Gathering Place on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month to learn more about the stories in the Bible by having crafts, stories, games, and other fun activities. The class is designed for elementary-age children, ages 5 to 10, but all are welcomed.

Children's Chime Choir: The Chime Choir meets in the Sanctuary on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. This is a chance for elementary aged children to get to ring chimes as part of Worship. We are excited to continue this new adventure! Megan Hogg leads the Chime Choir.

Other Faith Development Opportunities: Watch the monthly PresPress, weekly church-wide emails, and the worship bulletin for other opportunities throughout the year. It may be a short-term Special Topic or book discussions on Sunday mornings, a week night book study, or retreat.



SBPC offers the option to give a gift to the church using your laptop or any mobile device. Please see the "Giving" card in your pew for details and information on how to support the missions and ministries of SBPC from anywhere at anytime, or visit www.springbranchpres.org/give.