

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:** Donald McDaniel  
**Children's Moment:** Pastor Mark  
**Usher Captain:** Marguerite Priest  
**PowerPoint:** Patti Nanney  
**AV Technician:** Riley Fairchild

*e-mail:* [churchoffice@springbranchpres.org](mailto:churchoffice@springbranchpres.org)  
*website:* [www.springbranchpres.org](http://www.springbranchpres.org)  
[www.facebook.com/springbranchpres](https://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



# January 14, 2024

2nd Sunday After Epiphany

January 14, 2024

10:50 AM

*\*Those who are able please stand*

Gathering in God's Name

**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 joyfully before the Lord!

**People: God knows us and loves us!**

Leader: Come prayerfully before the Lord!

**People: God sees our concerns, our fears, our sins!**

Leader: Come hopefully before the Lord!

**People: Christ proclaimed God's love and forgiveness for all God's people!**

Leader: Know throughout all of your being, that God absolutely loves you!

**ALL: How precious and powerful that knowledge is! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*"In the Secret"*

LUYH, No. 107

Preparing for the Word

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

Leader: Before we can truly be free from sin, we must first acknowledge its power in our lives and how we have fallen short of what God desires from each of us. Let us confess together:

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

**Lord, somewhere long ago, someone convinced us that we would not be good material for You to use in healing and helping ministries for this world. We don't really believe that we have anything worthwhile to offer. It is relatively easy for us to donate funds for missions and the good works of the church, but we do not see ourselves worthy of further involvement. Remind us of Your forgiving love, when we stubbornly refuse to believe Your claim on our lives. Open our eyes and spirits to see the gifts with which You have blessed us, and to commit those gifts to serving You by serving others. There are so many things that we can do. And everything starts with prayer. So, patient God, bear with us as we settle down to pray, asking for Your wisdom in our lives. Give us courage and strength to accomplish any task that You set before us. And give us hearts of grateful love to acknowledge Your presence in our lives, and live that presence with great joy. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

# Calendar of Events

[www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar](http://www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar)

**January 14 — Sunday**

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children's Chime Choir (S)
- 9:45 am Choir Practice (Choir Room)
- 10:50 am Worship
- 12:15 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration
- 5:00 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)

**January 15 — Monday**

- 10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball\* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

**January 16 — Tuesday**

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship\* (FH)

**January 17 — Wednesday**

- 9:00 am ZIP Trip: George H.W. Bush Library
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Hamburgers!

**January 18 — Thursday**

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 5:00 pm Idea Spring: Frogs & Fairytales! (FH)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP)
- 8:00 pm Cub Scouts: Pinewood Derby

**January 19 — Friday**

- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby (FH)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program\* (YR)

**January 20 — Saturday**

- PresPress Articles Due**
- 8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)
- 8:00 am Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby (FH)
- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service\* (GP)

**January 21 — Sunday**

- 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

**January 22 — Monday**

- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball\* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

**January 23 — Tuesday**

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm Session (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship\* (FH)

**January 24 — Wednesday**

- 9:30 am Happy Hands (CR)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Tacos!

**January 25 — Thursday**

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1)

**January 26 — Friday**

- 6:30 pm SBM Arc Meeting\* (FH)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program\* (YR)

**January 27 — Saturday**

- 11:00 am Hot Meals
- 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

# Announcements & Events:

**First Birthday Celebration of 2024** — Join us in the breezeway, weather permitting, for our first birthday celebration of the new year. Immediately after worship, we will gather for light snacks as we honor our January birthdays!

**The Gathering Place will meet tomorrow, January 15th, at 10:00 AM!** The theme for this month is *Thank Goodness it is Monday!* Please see Jacquie Ballesteros or Sarah Dikeman if you are interested in helping out.

**The January 17, 2024 ZIP Trip is to the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum.** We will be carpooling from the church. Our estimated time of departure will be 9:00 AM, and we will return after 2:00 PM. The cost will depend on the number of people, however, it will be no more than \$7.00. Please let Marguerite Priest know if you are interested in joining us at [mepriest@hotmail.com](mailto:mepriest@hotmail.com). This trip is open to Presbyterian Women and Presbyterian Men!

**Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday,** January 17th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Laurie Mitchell is making Hamburgers! Please email Kay Craig at [kay@craig-heidt.com](mailto:kay@craig-heidt.com) to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

**“HOPPY Holidays!” Our next Idea Spring event is this Thursday — “Frogs & Fairytales”, presented by the Houston Arboretum & Nature Center.** Join us at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall on January 18th for this free, family friendly program. Come observe a live specimen while you learn about the anatomy and life cycle of frogs and toads, and the habitats they live in. A hot dog dinner will follow. We hope to see you there!

**The 2024 Offering Envelope Books** are now available in the Narthex. Please sign your name by the number that corresponds to your book number. If you already have a book of offering envelopes, you can continue to use it since it doesn't correspond to specific dates. Thank you for your continued commitment!

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2024 Flower Sign-Up Calendar is located in the Narthex!** The cost per arrangement is \$65.00. Checks should be written to SBPC and mailed to the Church Office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

**Happy Hands will meet on Wednesday, January 24th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room.** Join us for some “stuffing and stitching” and lots of great conversation as we catch up after the holidays. See you there!

**Save-the-Date for our February Blood Drive** — SBPC will have a Blood Drive on Sunday, February 11th, from 8:30 AM-12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Ashley Powell at 972-571-2499 or [ashleycrawford161@gmail.com](mailto:ashleycrawford161@gmail.com) if you would like to donate. Share the gift of life!

**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!

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: From the very beginning, God has blessed us and planted within our spirits the words *"I can do all things through God who strengthens me."* We must not fear the task God sets before us. Rejoice, for God is with each of us every moment, and God's love washes over us always, healing and nourishing our lives. Amen.

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

### \*GLORIA

*"Glory to God"*

GTG, No. 583

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
alleluia, alleluia!*

## God's People Are Empowered

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Mark

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

**Our Lord and our God, now as we hear your Word, fill us with your Spirit. Soften our hearts that we may see your ways. Fill us with your light. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 3:1-21

Red Pew Bible OT 247

## ANTHEM

*"Know My Heart"*

Choir

## SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1:43-51

Red Pew Bible NT 92

## SERMON

*"Come and See"*

Rev. Mark Plunkett

## Responding to the Word

### \*HYMN

*"Cry of My Heart"*

(insert)

## \*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

*"Praise to God the Father"*

GTG, No. 605

*Praise to God the Father; praise to God the Son;  
Praise to God the Spirit: praise to the Three-in-One.  
Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.  
Praise to God Almighty; praise to the Holy One.*

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(unison)*

**This morning, Lord, we come not to pray over the financial offerings we make each week, but to dedicate and rededicate our bodies to your service. Let us go forth and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, that the world may know that God is in their midst. 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

*"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"*

GTG, No. 738

### \*BENEDICTION

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

### \*POSTLUDE



Portions of today's worship service are taken from [ministrymatters.com](http://ministrymatters.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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.springbranchpres.org/give).