



# Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

## Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church  
Co-Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett  
Co-Pastor: Rev. Savannah Goodman  
Administrator: Jorida Vakiari  
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: Ethan Mitchell  
Congregation Leader: Kay Craig  
Faith Development Leader: Jacquie Ballesteros  
Mission Leader: Laurie Mitchell  
Worship Leader: Donald McDaniel  
Treasurer: Neal Dikeman

## The Session

Clerk: Elizabeth Powell

Moderator: Rev. Mark Plunkett  
Moderator: Rev. Savannah Goodman

## Class of 2025

Jacquie Ballesteros  
Stephen Earnest  
Laurie Mitchell

## Class of 2026

Kay Craig  
Sarah Dikeman  
Ethan Mitchell

## Class of 2027

Joel Alegria  
Beth Mizwa  
Nina Rach

## Academy Board

Jan Fitts  
Jim Kunkel

Neal Dikeman  
Ashley Powell

Carla Pace  
Jorida Vakiari

## Serving today in Worship:

**Liturgist:** Elizabeth Powell

**Children's Moment:** Pastor Savannah

**Usher Captain:** Donald McDaniel

**PowerPoint:** Patty Blome

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[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*

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*Houston, TX 77055*

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## World Communion Sunday

October 6, 2024

World Communion Sunday

October 6, 2024

10:50 AM

\*Those who are able please stand

Gathering in God’s Name

PRELUDE

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS THE SANCTUARY

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

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

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (spoken in Albanian, French, Italian, Russian, and Spanish)

Leader: Let all the Earth praise the Lord!

People: Praise the Lord!

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\*HYMN

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

GTG, No. 509

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Great indeed is the faithfulness of God, and yet our hearts are not so reliable. We wander. We argue. We forget. We divide ourselves with anger, bitterness, and falsehood. Let’s try to come back together again, and let’s start with the truth. Let’s confess our sins, to God, and also to each other:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Almighty God, Lord of mercy and grace, You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

October 6 — World Communion Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children’s Sunday School (GP 3)
- 9:30 am Confirmation Class (GP)
- 9:45 am Choir Practice (S)
- 10:50 am Worship

October 7 — Monday Academy Firetruck Visit

- 7:00 am Coffee with the Pastors (Foyer)
- 6:00 pm PW Unwind: Juarez!
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball\* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

October 8 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce\* (Field)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (CR)
- 7:00 pm Horizon’s Bible Study on Zoom
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship\* (FH)

October 9 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am PW Circle (CR)
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Brats with Potatoes & Sauerkraut!
- 7:00 pm Handbell Choir (S)

October 10 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce\* (Field)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP)
- 6:30 pm Cub Scouts: Arrow of Light (GP 1)

October 11 — Friday

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

October 12 — Saturday

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

October 13 — Sunday

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children’s Chime Choir (S)
- 9:45 am Choir Practice (S)
- 10:50 am Worship
- 12:00 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration
- 2:00 pm Sunday Craft Workshop (FH)
- 3:00 pm Cub Scouts: Bear (GP 1 & 2)

October 14 — Monday

- 9:30 am Academy Mission Monday (FH)
- 5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball\* (GP)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

October 15 — Tuesday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (CR)
- 5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce\* (Field)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1)
- 6:30 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 2)
- 7:00 pm Faith Development Meeting (Zoom)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship\* (FH)

October 16 — Wednesday

- 9:30 am ZIP Trip: Glenwood Cemetery
- 3:30 pm WOW (S)
- 6:00 pm WNS: Barbeque Sandwiches!
- 7:00 pm Handbell Choir (S)

October 17 — Thursday

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 5:00 pm Idea Spring: Houston SPCA (FH)
- 5:30 pm Special Olympics: Bocce\* (Field)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP)

October 18 — Friday Session Retreat

- 5:30 pm Trunk or Treat (Parking Lot)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program\* (YR)

October 19 — Saturday Session Retreat

- 8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)
- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service\* (GP)





# 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 20th Wedding Anniversary.

**The Peace & Global Witness Offering** is received during the Season of Peace, which ends today, World Communion Sunday. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the Church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. This year, SBPC will be sending 25% to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

**The Unwind Group will meet for dinner tomorrow, Monday, October 7th, at 6:00 PM** at Juarez Mexican Restaurant, located at 2545 Gessner Rd. We have been there before. We have a private room and the food is good and fairly cheap! Please join us! As usual, RSVP only if you plan to attend to Jacque Ballesteros at 713-305-1114 or [jballesteros1103@gmail.com](mailto:jballesteros1103@gmail.com).

**The PW Day Circle** will meet on Wednesday, October 9th, 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 Tuesday, October 8th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 2 video is available at the following link: [www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/let-justice-roll-down](http://www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/let-justice-roll-down).

**Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday**, October 9th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Jan Fitts is making Brats with Potatoes and Sauerkraut. 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!

**Burrito-Style Pillowcase Workshops** - We had our first workshop on Sept. 22nd, and we had 11 people to help make 9 pillowcases and 6 more partially finished ones! We will have 2 more workshops in October, on the 13th & 27th, from 2:00-4:00 PM. For more information or to RSVP: Kay Craig at 713-248-4138 or [kay@craig-heidt.com](mailto:kay@craig-heidt.com).

**October PW ZIP Trip** - On Wednesday, October 16th, we will take a guided walking tour of the historic Glenwood Cemetery. Tours are \$15 per person with a minimum of 10 people. This event is open to both the Presbyterian Women and Presbyterian Men and Friends. We will have lunch at a convenient spot following the tour. Reservations are required to Marguerite Priest.

**Idea Spring returns on Thursday, October 17th, at 5:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. The Houston SPCA will be joining us to present "Pet Care & Responsibility." Come learn about the basic care required for a pet to be comfortable and healthy in their home. A free pizza dinner will follow. We hope to see you there!

**The Academy is hosting a Spooktacular Trunk or Treat in the parking lot on Friday, October 18th, 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 16th.

**Meet & Greet with Savannah and Jordan Goodman!** Join us at one of the following gatherings so you can get to know more about our new Co-Pastor, Rev. Savannah, and her husband, Jordan; and so they can get to know you! **Sunday, October 27th, 4:00-6:00 PM** at Jan & Gerald Fitts' home. **Saturday, November 2nd, 4:00-6:00 PM** at Liz & Stephen Earnest's home. Light refreshments will be served. Please call the hosts to make a reservation at least two days prior; space is limited. We have planned these so that you can attend one near your home if you wish, but you are welcome at any of them.

## SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows. Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows. And even when our hearts feel barren, God's love overflows. Friends, you have been called and claimed by the God of all things, and by the abundance of God's grace, and by the power of God's love, your sins have been forgiven. Go in peace. Amen!

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: ...May the peace of Christ be with you all!  
**People: And also with you!**  
Leader: Let us pass the peace to our sisters and brothers in Christ!

**\*GLORIA** *"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"* GTG, No. 582  
*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

### God's People Are Empowered

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** Pastor Savannah

**ANTHEM** *"In Remembrance of Me"* Choir

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** *(unison)*  
**Almighty God, give us ears to hear your story in these words of Scripture; give us eyes to see your story in the faces of those that surround us; and give us faith enough, that by your grace, we might serve you until the end of our days. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Mark 10:1-16 Red Pew Bible NT 45

**SERMON** *"Who Is Truly Welcome At YOUR Table?"* Rev. Mark Plunkett

### Responding to the Word

**\*HYMN** *"We Gather Here in Jesus' Name"* GTG, No. 510

**\*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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

- The Invitation
- The Words of Institution
- Serving of the Elements
- Prayer of Thanksgiving

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY GTG, No. 607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**Gracious God, you create more than we could ever hope to return. You share more than we could ever hope to deserve. And yet, we pray, accept these humble gifts. May they honor and glorify you in all creation, and may they empower us for the work of witness and service, for the sake of justice, and for the sake of peace, now and forever. 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 “One Bread, One Body” GTG, No. 530

\*BENEDICTION

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*POSTLUDE

*Portions of today’s worship service are taken from the Presbyterian Mission Agency.*

*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, Pastor Savannah, 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).*