



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church
 Co-Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett
 Co-Pastor: Rev. Savannah Goodman
 Business 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: Jim Kunkel
 Sarah Powell
 Mission Leader: Joel Alegria
 Worship Leader: Donald McDaniel
 Treasurer: Neal Dikeman

The Session

Clerk: Jan Fitts
 Moderator: Co-Pastor, Rev. Mark Plunkett
 Moderator: Co-Pastor, Rev. Savannah Goodman

Class of 2026

Kay Craig
 Sarah Dikeman
 Ethan Mitchell

Class of 2027

Joel Alegria
 Beth Mizwa
 Nina Rach

Class of 2028

Jim Kunkel
 Betty Magnuson
 Sarah Powell

Academy Board

Neal Dikeman
 Ashley Powell
 Carla Pace
 Jorida Vakiari
 Lee Dudinsky
 Lauren Tacchi

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Glenn Lanan
Children's Moment: Pastor Savannah
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Patty Blome
Acolytes: Clayton Powell & Dominic Tacchi

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website: www.springbranchpres.org
www.facebook.com/springbranchpres
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**“Christ in Action:
 Two Disciples Discuss
 Jesus’ End Time Message
 November 30, 2025**

1st Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

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 AND LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE (HOPE)

Mission Ministry Team

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who brings hope to the weary.

People: In a world filled with waiting and uncertainty, God draws near.

Leader: Like the prophets before us, we are invited to watch, to listen, and to trust.

People: Hope is coming — hope that lifts our heads and steadies our steps.

Leader: Emmanuel — God with us — awakens courage in our waiting hearts.

People: Come, let us worship the God of hope.

ALL: Let us worship God together!

*HYMN

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

GTG, No. 82

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Let us honestly examine our lives and our hearts before Christ comes. Let us turn to God in prayer to confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Prince of Peace, the wars and rumors of wars betray our addiction to violence, our destructive and dehumanizing ways. We deserve your judgement and condemnation. Yet, you remain faithful, a steadfast source of peace amid our warring madness. Holy God, turn us from evil. Return us to Christ and his path of peace. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: As the Apostle Paul wrote in 2nd Corinthians, *"Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun."* Know that you are a new creation who is forgiven and be at peace. Amen!

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

November 30 — 1st Sunday of Advent

Church Directory Photos (Parlor)

9:15 am Church Nursery 
9:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Packing Seafarer's Boxes (FH)
9:45 am Choir Practice
10:50 am Worship
12:00 pm Going Away Party: Bob Deutsch!
12:15 pm Handbells (S)
7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Zoom)

December 1 — Monday

5:30 pm Special Olympics* (GP)
6:00 pm PW Unwind: Hungry's!
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

December 2 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:15 pm Cub Scouts: Wolf (GP 1 & 2)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)
7:00 pm Session (CR)

December 3 — Wednesday

10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Cranberry Chicken!
6:30 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)

December 4 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
1:00 pm Pastor Mark's Bible Study (Zoom)
5:00 pm Messy Church (FH)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

December 5 — Friday

December 6 — Saturday

9:00 am Academy Parent's Day Out
9:00 am Cub Scouts: Service Project Day (FH)
5:00 pm SBM Arc Christmas Party* (FH)
6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

December 7 — 2nd Sunday of Advent

9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Children's Sunday School (GP 3)
9:30 am Youth Sunday School (YR)
9:45 am Choir Practice
10:50 am Worship
12:15 pm Handbells (S)
4:00 pm Cub Scouts: Webelos (GP 1 & 2)
5:00 pm BSA Committee Meeting (GP)

December 8 — Monday

10:30 am Staff Meeting (P)
5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)
5:30 pm Special Olympics* (GP)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

December 9 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (CR)
7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship* (FH)
7:00 pm Horizon's Bible Study on Zoom

December 10 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Circle (CR)
5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)
5:30 pm Academy Christmas Pageant (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Carnitas!
6:30 pm Contemporary Worship Service (GP)

December 11 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
1:00 pm Pastor Mark's Bible Study (Zoom)
5:30 pm Girl Scouts* (FH)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

December 12 — Friday

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

December 13 — Saturday

3:00 pm Fairbees 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 a Going Away Luncheon for Bob Deutsch in the Breezeway immediately after Worship today!

It's time for a new SBPC Photo Directory! There will be several opportunities this month to have your picture taken in the Parlor by a member of the church (TODAY, Sunday, Nov. 30th). If you would like to keep your picture from the 2019 directory, you may do so. You may also submit a picture of you and your family rather than having your picture taken at the church. We will also be collecting changes in phone/addresses/emails. Please see Sarah Dikeman or Ethan Mitchell if you have any questions.

The Unwind Group will meet for dinner at Hungry's tomorrow, Monday, December 1st, at 6:00 PM. Please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114, only if you plan to attend. We hope to see you there!

Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday, December 3rd, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Jan Fitts is making Cranberry Chicken. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Messy Church is on Thursday, December 4th, at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please make plans to join us! Our theme this month is *A Stable for a Savior!* Come for games, crafts, music, and activities. A free pizza dinner will be served about 6:00 PM. We hope to see you there!

Dust off your halos—It's Angel Tree time again! Tags will be available on December 3rd and 7th. Be sure to pick up one or two! The deadline for returning gifts is Sunday, December 14th. In addition to the gifts, each family receives a basket of food. Please pick up some kid friendly, non-perishable food items from the store the next few weeks and we will begin to set it aside for our Angel Tree families.

One of our long-time Missions in December is the **PCHAS Ornament Tree**. During Advent time, we hang ornaments on a Christmas tree. Each of the ornaments has a PCHAS tag attached with a suggested donation amount. You take the ornament home with you and leave the donation in the basket provided. (*If you pay by check, please make checks payable to SBPC and put "PCHAS Ornament Tree" in the memo line.*)

The Academy Christmas Pageant is Wednesday, December 10th, at 5:30 PM in the Sanctuary. All are invited to attend!

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

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!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: ...May the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: **And also with you!**

*GLORIA

"Angels We Have Heard on High" (v. 1)

GTG, No. 113

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo! Glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo!*

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Savannah

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Savior God, guide us by your Word and Spirit that we might hear your truth, heed your call, and be prepared for Christ's coming this Christmas. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 13:11-14

Red Pew Bible NT 162

ANTHEM

"E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"

Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 24:36-44

Red Pew Bible NT 27

SERMON

"Christ in Action: Two Disciples Discuss Jesus' End Time Message"

Rev. Savannah Goodman and Rev. Mark Plunkett

Responding to the Word

*HYMN

"Soon and Very Soon" (v. 1, 2, 4)

GTG, No. 384

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

(The Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***OUR RESPONSE**

"Joy to the World" (v. 4)

GTG, No. 134

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.*

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

Christ calls us to live generous and grateful lives. Take these gifts we offer today, O God, and use them to the fulfillment of Christ's ministry. May these gifts help to free the captives, heal the sick, comfort the lonely, feed the hungry, and heal the wounded. As Christ's hands and feet, use us too, in service to building your beloved community. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation

The Words of Institution

Serving of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Prayer After Receiving

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 Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v. 1, 4, 6)

GTG, No. 88

***BENEDICTION**

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

***POSTLUDE**

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.

Traditional Worship Service 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.

Stories & Songs: *Stories & Songs* occurs during Worship, with stories from *Growing in God's Love*, songs, coloring pages, and crafts. Pastor Savannah has chosen the stories to coincide with the Sermons. Children will leave the Sanctuary right after Children's Moment and be returned to their parents during the last hymn. This program is during the Worship Service for ages 3-6 years old.

Contemporary Worship Service

Join us for an exciting new contemporary worship service! Experience uplifting music and heartfelt messages in a welcoming environment. This is a great opportunity to connect with others and deepen your faith. Don't miss the chance to be part of this transformative journey. Bring your friends and family! Our next Contemporary Worship Service will be on **December 10th at 6:30 PM in the Gathering Place**. For more information, please visit: www.springbranchpres.org/contemporary-worship-service.

Sunday Morning Offerings at 9:30 am

Saints Under Construction: This class meets in Gathering Place Classroom No. 2. 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.

Calling All Youth: The Youth meet in the Youth Room for Bible Study, Fellowship, and Mission work with the Pastors. Meetings are at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Other volunteers for the program are Jordan Goodman, Carla Pace, and Riley Fairchild.