

relationships matter

GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD



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
Director of Operations & Technology:
Ethan Mitchell
Director of Music: Gabriel Perez
Accompanist: Jonathan Craft
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: Jan Fitts
Children's Moment: Pastor Mark
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Ethan Mitchell

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website: www.springbranchpres.org
www.facebook.com/springbranchpres
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713-464-7659*



“Business As Usual”
May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

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** *(from Psalm 31)*

Leader: Our God refuses to shame us. God's justice delivers us.

People: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

Leader: Our God listens to us. God rescues us from danger.

People: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

Leader: We trust our God, whenever we face danger, pain, intolerance, or wickedness.

People: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

Leader: Our God renews our spirits. God is always faithful, even when we are not.

People: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

ALL: Let us worship God, whom we call ours!

***HYMN**

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

GTG, No. 645

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: We all stray from doing God's justice. When we confess our sins, we tell the truth and admit our own power to enact injustice and our own weakness that harms others. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*


God of compassionate mercy, your grace and love extend to all people. We are called to forgive others, as you forgive us. Far too often, however, we wield forgiveness like a weapon. We see others doing wrong and feel haughty when we grant them grace. We call out the sins of the powerful – but fail to notice our own power. We become narrow in our quest for truth, and ignore other people crying out for your justice. Help us search ourselves and seek forgiveness from all whom we harm. Connect us to others and guide us to share power and grace as we follow you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

May 3 — Sunday

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 VBS Planning Meeting (CR)
4:00 pm Cub Scout Pack Graduation (FH)

May 4 — Monday

6:00 pm Cub Scouts: Bear (GP 1 & 2)
6:00 pm PW Unwind: Carrabba's!
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

May 5 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)

May 6 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderators (CR)
10:15 am PW Board Meeting (CR)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
6:00 pm WNS: Spaghetti and Meatballs!
6:30 pm Cub Scouts: Tiger Cub (GP 1 & 2)

May 7 — 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)

May 8 — Friday

Muffins for Mom (Foyer)
6:00 pm SBM/Arc Meeting* (CR)

May 9 — Saturday

6:00 pm CENTI Church Service* (GP)

May 10 — Sunday

Mother's Day

9:15 am Church Nursery
9:30 am Sunday School
9:45 am Choir Practice
10:50 am Worship
12:00 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration

May 11 — Monday

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

May 12 — Tuesday

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

May 13 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Circle (CR & FH)
3:30 pm WOW (S)
5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)
6:00 pm WNS; Chicken Tenders!
6:30 pm Contemporary Worship Service (GP)

May 14 — Thursday

Ascension of the Lord

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

May 15 — Friday

11:30 am Academy Pre-K Graduation (S & FH)

May 16 — Saturday

2:00 pm SBM/Arc Annual Meeting* (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



Announcements & Events:

The Unwind Group will meet for dinner on Monday, May 4th, at 6:00 PM at Carrabba's Italian Grill (11339 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77079). 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, May 6th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Nina Rach is making Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad, and Garlic Bread. Please email Kay Craig at kay@craig-heidt.com to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

Join us for the final Messy Church of the school year on Thursday, May 7th, at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please make plans to join us! Our theme this month is *Jesus Speaks My Language*. Come for games, crafts, music, and activities. A free pizza dinner will be served about 5:45 PM. We hope to see you there!

Celebrate our May Birthdays — Join friends and congregation members in the Breezeway immediately after Worship on Sunday, May 10th, as we celebrate folks born during the month of May. Fellowship and light refreshments will be available following worship that Sunday.

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, May 13th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. Please contact Patti Nanney if you'd like to attend via Zoom. A salad luncheon will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a salad to share. **The Evening Bible Study** will meet on Tuesday, May 12th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 9 video is available at the following link: www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/resilience-joy-identity.

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2026 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.

SBPC Hot Meals on Weekends – The 4th Saturday of each month we look for individuals to deliver meals to shut-ins. We have 2 routes, so we usually need a total of 4 volunteers each month. Please contact Lu Taylor if you are interested in volunteering to deliver meals one month.

Pastor Mark is facilitating a Zoom Bible Study on the 12 Minor Prophets of the Old Testament on Thursdays at 1:00 PM. The Zoom information is available in the Friday email if you are interested in giving it a try over your lunch hour. If you wish to receive the Zoom invite every week, please email Mark to get on his list.

Shredding Service Available — We've added a secure shredding service for church-related documents. Shredding boxes are located in the Conference Room and are available for use by office staff and church members who need to dispose of sensitive materials properly.

If you make purchases for the church, please keep a copy of our tax-exempt form in your car or wallet. Even small tax savings add up and help us be better stewards of the church's finances. Please stop by the office and the staff can provide you with one.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Jesus promised his followers there are many rooms in a world filled with God's justice. When we speak truth to our own power, we make room for God's just world. This is the good news: God raised Jesus and made room for us, calling us to live out of God's forgiveness by making sure there is room for all. Alleluia, Amen!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: ...The peace of the Lord be with you all!

People: **And also with you!**

*GLORIA

"Glory"

LUYH, No. 148

*Glory, glory in the highest. Glory to the Almighty.
Glory to the Lamb of God, and glory to the living Word, glory to the Lamb!
We give glory, glory, glory, glory, glory, glory to the Lamb!
We give glory to the Lamb!*

*Glory, glory in the highest. Glory to the Almighty.
Glory to the Lamb of God, and glory to the living Word, glory to the Lamb!
We give glory, glory, glory, glory, glory, glory to the Lamb!
We give glory to the Lamb!
We give glory, glory, glory, glory, glory, glory to the Lamb!
We give glory to the Lamb!*

God's People Are Empowered

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Mark

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

Your Word, O God, is a source of refuge and guidance. Lead us, and inspire our hearts and souls as we engage holy Scripture with our minds and spirits. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 7:55-60

Red Pew Bible NT 126

ANTHEM

"Let Not Your Hearts Be Troubled"

Eduardo Martinez

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 14:1-14

Red Pew Bible NT 108

SERMON

"Business As Usual"

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

OFFERTORY

***OUR RESPONSE** *"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"* (v. 4) GTG, No. 1
Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*
God, who faithfully fortifies the world you created, bless our gifts and use them to protect all creation and allow us all to flourish in Your justice and love. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation
The Words of Institution
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Serving of the Elements
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** *"How Great Thou Art"* (v. 1, 2, 4) GTG, No. 625

*BENEDICTION

*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 **May 13th 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.