

Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 15, 2020

10:50 AM



Welcome back to Worship at Spring Branch Presbyterian Church! Please enter through the Breezeway Narthex doors and follow the instructions of the Greeters and Ushers. Should you need a restroom, the Narthex family bathroom is available. After the service begins, both Narthex bathrooms will be available.

* Those who are able please stand

Gathering in God's Name

PRELUDE

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let your light shine!
People: Let your hearts be glad!
Leader: God is faithful to us.
People: God rules in love.
ALL: Then let us worship God.

HYMN

"My Life Is In You, Lord"

(In lieu of Congregational singing, our Socially Distant Choir has pre-recorded our Hymns for this morning. You are invited to ponder the text as the images as shown on the screens.)

My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.
My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.

I will praise you with all of my life,
I will praise you with all of my strength;
With all of my life, with all of my strength.
All of my hope is in you.

My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you.
My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord;
My hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you, in you.

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: God doesn't call us to a blind faith, but to a faith that is eye-opening and mind-expanding. But we often find it more beneficial for ourselves if we pretend we cannot see or understand God's vision for creation. So please join me in the prayer of confession...

CONFESSION OF SIN *(unison)*

Merciful God, we confess that we do not want to be challenged by the cross. We set our minds on human things— we long for the security from our possessions; we prefer our own comfort. Forgive us, we pray. May our sense of self-preservation be disturbed by your Son's example; that we might take up his cross in service to the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news. Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. The Mighty One has sent his deliverance for all people; even the generations yet unborn. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Christ we are forgiven. Glory to God!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hearing the Word

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Patty Blome

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

Holy God, giver of wisdom, we ask that your Spirit would guide us in meditation on your word, that we might be led more deeply into knowledge of you and love for all your creatures and creations. In Christ we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

"This Little Light of Mine"

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Judges 4:1-7

HYMN OF REFLECTION

"Lord, Be Glorified"

Gabe Perez

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In our song, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In our song, Lord, be glorified today.

In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:14-30

SERMON

"Mission Improbable, Part 7: Alternative Investors" Rev. Dr. Kevin R. Boyd
"...enter into the joy of your master." -Matthew 25:21

Responding to the Word

***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

A TIME OF GIVING

Contributions may be placed in the wooden offering box in the Narthex on your way out, or you can give online at www.springbranchpres.org/give.

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

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

(In lieu of Congregational singing, our Socially Distant Choir has pre-recorded our Hymns for this morning. You are invited to ponder the text as the images as shown on the screens.)

I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so, God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, Anytime!

CLOSING PRAYER

Leader: As we take our worship, praise and prayer from this place and into our daily lives,
People: may our lives be sustained through the love of our Heavenly Father.
 Leader: May we feel the presence of our Savior walking beside us,
People: and know the power of the Spirit in both our actions and our words. To the praise and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Thank you for joining us for Worship this morning! Please wait for the Ushers to dismiss you by row.

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Announcements & Events:

You are invited to attend Pastor’s Bible Study with Kevin! The group gathers at 11:00 AM on Zoom on Tuesday mornings. Watch for details on how to join this study. We hope to see you there! Pastor’s Bible Study will not meet Thanksgiving week, Tuesday, November 24th.

The Evening Horizon’s Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, November 17th at 7:00 PM via Zoom to discuss Lesson 3 of *Into The Light*. Please contact Carol Davis at caroldavis@entouch.net to receive a Zoom invitation. The Lesson 3 video can be viewed at www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/into-the-light.

Join us for our next Drive-Thru Wednesday Night Supper this week at 6:00 PM. On the menu is King Ranch Casserole, green beans, fruit salad, bread, and brownies. Contact secretary@springbranchpres.org to place your dinner order.

You will need to **register for Worship every Sunday** until the Session and Worship Team determine that we no longer need to do so. A digital form for signing up for Worship will be become available on Monday mornings the week prior to the service, and will close at 8:00 PM the Saturday evening before. The form can be accessed at www.springbranchpres.org/worship-registration. You can also register by email at secretary@springbranchpres.org or calling the Church Office and leaving a voicemail.

November 15 — Sunday

9:30 am Saints Under Construction (CR)
 10:50 am Worship

November 16 — Monday

5:00 pm Faith Development Meeting
 7:00 pm Mission Team Meeting

November 17 — Tuesday

11:00 am Pastor’s Bible Study
 7:00 pm Horizon’s Bible Study on Zoom

November 18 — Wednesday

6:00 pm Drive-Thru WNS: King Ranch Casserole!

November 20 — Friday

PresPress Articles Due

November 22 — Sunday

9:30 am Explorers SS Class (FH)
 9:30 am Saints Under Construction (CR)
 10:50 am Worship

November 26 — Thursday

A Season of Thanks: Calling Seniors



November 28 — Saturday

11:00 am Hot Meals

Announcements & Events:

The packing and wrapping of the Seafarers Boxes will be a little bit different this year. This is how you can be involved:

- Go on a family shopping trip and fill your own shoebox with goodies, make a Christmas card to put inside, wrap it, and return it to the church.
- Make a Christmas card or cards for the Seafarer(s) and return them to the church.
- Let Laurie know that you would like to wrap gifts at your home. Completed boxes, paper and tape can be supplied.
- Bring empty ladies sized shoe boxes to the church.
- Buy toiletries and small gifts off the suggested list and return them to the church.
- Sign-up to deliver all of the boxes to the Port of Houston on or after November 29th.

All items and family finished shoe boxes should be brought to the church by November 21. You can bring finished shoe boxes, empty boxes, and goodies to fill them on Sunday mornings or to the Drive-Thru dinner this week. The Academy is open Monday-Friday from 7:30am-5:30pm and can receive items at the front doors if you'd like to bring them during the week.

Below is the list of requested items from the Port of Houston. The seafarers prefer full sized items over small travel sized items. We already have enough of the following: toothbrushes, pens, notepads, and hard candy.

Hairbrush / Comb	Kleenex	Lip Balm
Magnets	Gold Bond Powder	Gold Bond Cream
T-shirts (new)	Needle & Thread	Shaving Cream
Nail Clippers	Toothpaste	Gum
Q-Tips	Mechanical Pencils	Flashlight w/ batteries
Popcorn	Socks	Word Search/ Sudoku/ Fill-in books
Earbuds / Headphones	USB Flash Drives	2021 Calendar
Band-Aids (fabric)	Baseball Caps (new)	Disposable Razors
Dental floss	Deodorant	Lotion
Hot Chocolate	Key Chains	Texas Souvenirs
Soap & Shampoo	Playing Cards	Personal note or card

Spring Branch Presbyterian has continued to pray for our neighbors in Louisiana who have been impacted by Hurricanes Laura and Delta. Through our Presbytery and partners like Houston Responds, we have been identifying ways we can continue to help. **The Mission Team is partnering with Fuller Center for Disaster Recovery to plan a mission trip** to go help our neighbors with rebuilding their homes. All skill levels are welcome, and we are hoping to send a team the week of December 13th. If you are interested in getting more information or signing up, please let Pastor Kevin or Miguel know. The deadline to sign up to participate and get additional information is November 29th.

Spring Branch Presbyterian, as part of our Season of Thanks, is partnering with Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston to call seniors in Houston to wish them a Happy Thanksgiving on November 26th. These seniors are participants of Interfaith Ministries Meals on Wheels program. We are inviting members and friends to join us by signing up to call ten of our neighbors on Thanksgiving Day from 10 AM to Noon. The church and Interfaith Ministries will provide you with everything you need to make the calls. If you are interested in participating, please sign up with Miguel in the Church Office by November 16th (miguel@springbranchpres.org or 713-464-7659, extension 14).

Dust off your Halos—It's time for our annual Angel Tree Christmas Program! Although this ministry is virtual this year, we are still serving local children. Each child will receive a \$40 gift card to Walmart. We encourage SBPC folks to join together with another member or family if the \$40 is out of your individual price range. The children will receive these gift cards directly in the mail from Angel Tree. The SBPC Virtual Angel Tree Website can be accessed here: <https://vat.angeltreetool.org/61b9fe72-cb77-4454-a778-fdd56e9cfe24>. This is our Access Code: 8DXUI (8dxui). Laurie created an [informational video](#) for how to access, select, and purchase the gift cards for our Angel Tree children. If you have any additional questions, please reach out to her.

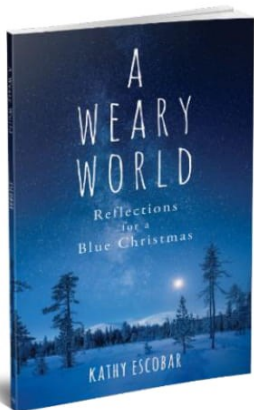
A Weary World: Reflections of a Blue Christmas

You're Invited to Participate

Discussion Group Begins Sunday, November 29 @ 1:30pm



2020 has been a tough year. You are invited to join a discussion group as we read and discuss Kathy Escobar's book, *A Weary World: Reflections for a Blue Christmas*. Her book includes daily readings through this Advent season which will provide discussion and reflection prompts. The discussion group will be a safe place to share and express your feelings and stories as you feel called to do. *The goal of this group study will be to enact in our lives the four central themes of the book: honoring reality, practicing honesty, embracing paradox, and borrowing hope.*



Beginning Sunday, November 29 we will gather by Zoom at 1:30pm for the four Sundays of Advent. Let Denise Wilborn know you are interested in participating by email to faithdevelopment@springbranchpres.org. Zoom invitations will be sent each week. If you are interested in being in a discussion group and Sunday afternoons do not work for you, please reach out to Denise to explore other day/time options.

Personal copies of the book may be ordered from: Amazon (paperback and Kindle); Barnes and Noble (paperback and Nook); Cokesbury (paperback); The Thoughtful Christian (paperback); or Westminster John Knox Press (paperback).

We will have poinsettias for purchase again this year! You can place your order in the Church Office, online at this form (www.springbranchpres.org/poinsettia-order-form/), or by emailing secretary@springbranchpres.org, today through Monday, December 21st! Don't forget to bring your poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Please remember to indicate who you are honoring, and/or remembering, with your payment of \$10.00 to SBPC. You can mail your payment to the Church Office or place it in the offering box on Sunday mornings. The names of those being remembered or honored will be shared with the congregation on Christmas Eve.

Interested in beautifying the sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? The Flowers Sign-Up Calendar is located in the Narthex! The cost per arrangement is \$65.00. Special arrangements vary and should be requested EARLY! Checks should be written to SBPC and mailed to the Church Office or placed in the Offering Box on Sunday mornings. If you order flowers, please remember to return the containers that the florist company uses for the arrangement. This helps us keep the cost at \$65 per arrangement.



SPRING BRANCH Presbyterian Church

relationships matter
GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD



Who's Who:

Minister:	All Members of the Church
Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Kevin Boyd
Administrator:	Jorida Vakiari
Ministries Coordinator:	C. Miguel Carlin
Administrative Assistant:	Ethan Mitchell
Music Director:	Gabriel Perez
Accompanist:	Chip Colvin
AV Director:	Ethan Mitchell
Academy Director:	Renee Henry

Ministry Teams:

Administration Leader:	Web Trevathan
Congregation Leader:	Kay Craig
Faith Development:	Denise Wilborn
Mission Leader:	Steve Blair
Worship Leader:	Megan Hogg
Treasurer:	Neal Dikeman

The Session

Clerk: Elizabeth Powell

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Kevin Boyd

Class of 2021

Kay Craig
Margaret Ford
Lisa Merritt
Christopher Powell

Class of 2022

Steve Blair
Ethan Mitchell
Web Trevathan
Denise Wilborn

Class of 2023

Silvia Argyriou
Megan Hogg
Elizabeth Powell
Lu Taylor

Academy Board

Elizabeth Earnest
Stephanie Premer

Anne Johnson

Neal Dikeman
Sarah Dikeman

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Elizabeth Powell

Time For Young Disciples: Patty Blome

Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel

PowerPoint: Patty Blome

Socially Distant Choir: Rebecca Castillo, Kyle Eveler, Jeff and Megan Hogg,
Emily, Gary, and Laurie Mitchell, Gabe Perez, Lin Sabala

e-mail: churchoffice@springbranchpres.org

website: www.springbranchpres.org

www.facebook.com/springbranchpres

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