

Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021

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: God of all wilderness wanderers, you sent John to prepare the way for Jesus Christ, your beloved son.

People: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that, like John, we may proclaim the time to turn from sinfulness and to the good news of your grace;

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that like John, we may know that you, and you alone are the ruler of this world.

People: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that like John, we may speak your truth in boldness, stand against hypocrisy, and take true joy in being your servant.

ALL: Let us worship God.

HYMN

"God of the Sparrow"

(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.)

God of the sparrow God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

God of the neighbor God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Preparing for the Word

CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: The Psalmist wrote about experiencing God's voice as majestic power and force. Mark told of God's personal words of love to Jesus after his baptism by John. We long to hear God's words addressed to us, but too often we are so overwhelmed by uncertainty about the future, or feelings of powerlessness in the present, that we fail to recognize God speaking to us either personally or through the forces surrounding us. We long to hear God's words addressed to us as people beloved by God. Forgive us for listening to - and believing - voices that call us worthless and unlovable. Forgive us for treating others as if they are worthless and unlovable. Hear God's words speak louder: "You are my beloved sons and daughters!"

(silent reflection)

ALL: Loving and merciful God, forgive us when we allow our fears and our worries to stifle your voice of love. As you spoke so clearly to Jesus, speak to us also so that your words of love resonate in every corner of our being and we know that we too are your beloved, on whom your favor rests. Make us different, a people of peace in a violent world. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Our assurance of knowing the peace and joy of God's forgiveness is found in belief in the One baptized by John and identified by God in the words: "You are my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." Know therefore that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

People: Thanks be to God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hearing the Word

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor Kevin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

God of amazing power and might, in the waters of the Jordan, Jesus was baptized. Your voice proclaimed to us his very nature. May that same Spirit be with us as we turn to your Word. May you startle us as we learn about Christ, and about who we are as your children. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM

"Shall We Gather at the River?"

SBPC Choir, January 2018

Shall we gather? Shall we gather?
Shall we gather at the river? Where bright angels feet have trod
With its crystal tide forever Flowing by the throne of God

Refrain:

Yes, we'll gather by the river The beautiful, the beautiful river
Gather with the saints by the river That flows by the throne of God

When we reach the shining river Lay we every burden down
Grace our spirits will deliver And provide a robe and crown

Soon we'll reach the shining river Soon our pilgrimage will cease
Soon our happy hearts will quiver With the melody of peace

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5

HYMN OF REFLECTION

"Down to the River to Pray"

SBPC Choir, January 2017

Refrain:

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good ol' way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O brothers, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O brothers, let's go down
Down to the river to pray

O sisters, let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O sisters, let's go down
Down to the river to pray

O sinners, let's go down
Come on down, don't you wanna go down?
Come on, sinners, let's go down
Down to the river to pray

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:4-11

SERMON

"Guess Who's Coming to Church?"

Rev. Dr. Kevin R. Boyd

"You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased." -Mark 1:11

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

"Baptized in Water"

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
Heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our King;
One with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King;
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praises we sing.

CLOSING PRAYER

Leader: Sisters and brothers, our baptismal vows call us to be people of compassion and mercy on behalf of those in need.

People: God revealed the Christ in the waters of the Jordan and anointed him with the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim good news to all people.

Leader: May we each recall our baptism and our call to repentance and new life.

People: May we leave this place sanctified to be the beginning of the good news to all around us. 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 11:00am on Zoom on Tuesday mornings. Watch your email for instruction to join. We hope to see you there!

The PW Day Circle will meet on Wednesday, January 13th at 9:30 AM via Zoom to discuss Lesson 5 of *Into the Light*. **The Evening Bible Study** will meet on Tuesday, January 19th at 7:00 PM via Zoom to discuss Lessons 4 & 5. Please contact Carol Davis at caroldavis@entouch.net to receive a Zoom invitation for both studies. The Lesson 4 & 5 videos can be viewed at www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/into-the-light.

Join us for our first Drive-Thru Wednesday Night Supper of 2021, this Wednesday, January 13th at 6:00 PM! Jan & Gerald are serving up Cranberry Chicken, Rice, Steamed Vegetable Medley with Lemon-Butter Sauce, Applesauce, Rolls, and Cookies. Please email secretary@springbranchpres.org to place your dinner order.

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2021 Flowers 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 Box on Sunday mornings.

January 10 — Sunday

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

January 11 — Monday

5:00 pm Academy Board Meeting

January 12 — Tuesday

11:00 am Pastor's Bible Study

January 13 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Circle (Zoom)
6:00 pm Drive-Thru WNS!

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Miguel Carlin

Time For Young Disciples: Pastor Kevin

Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel

PowerPoint: Patty Blome

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