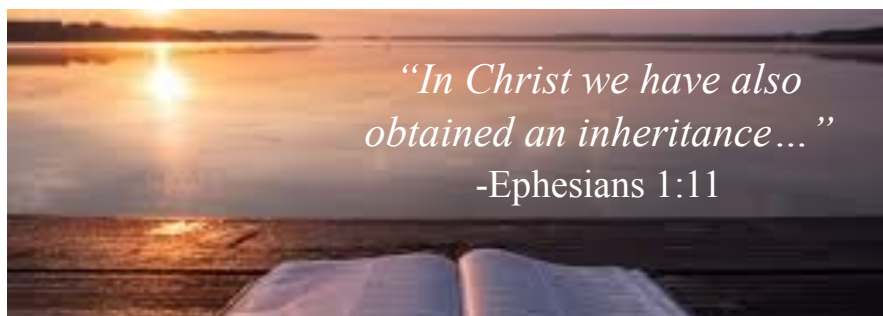


Second Sunday of Christmas

January 3, 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: Lord, as we gather in 2021, we pray for peace.

People: In spite of our circumstances, don't let us be anxious or troubled. Help us to pray about everything, leaving it all in your hands, and let your peace rest in our hearts.

Leader: Lord, as we gather in 2021, we pray for hope.

People: In this new year, help us to remember your promises, that we can have hope because you are faithful. Let your faithfulness be the source of our hope and joy.

Leader: Lord, as we gather in 2021, we pray for reconciliation.

People: This has been a year with many questions and very deep emotions. Help us, the body of Christ, to push past every divisive thing and move to a place of reconciliation. By your help, may we be a healer of broken and angry hearts.

ALL: Lord, in the past year it has sometimes been hard to see your blessings, abundant as they have been. Help us in the new year to instead seek your face, your approval, and your consolation. Be the object of our greatest affection and the prize of our hearts. In your name we pray, Amen.

HYMN

"Joy to the World"

SBPC Choir, December 2014

(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.)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

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.

Preparing for the Word

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Here, as we prepare to conclude our holiday season and begin a new year, may we each reflect on the year passed, and seek out God's grace to do better in the year to come.

CONFESSION OF SIN *(unison)*

This morning, we confess our uneven and often meager praise of you, Lord. How often have we found ourselves in spontaneous praise of a fine meal, an adorable child, or a person whom we love. We praise these things because we delight in them. Help us then to find our heart's delight in you, so that your praises cannot help but spring from our lips. Forgive us for finding our deepest joy elsewhere. Become our heart's desire, for in Christ Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(Colossians 3:13-16)*

Leader: We are called to bear with one another and to forgive each other, just as the Lord has forgiven us. We are invited to let his peace rule in our hearts and to be thankful...and with gratitude in our hearts to sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to God. This gratitude is our response to the good news that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hearing the Word

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Patty Blome

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

Lord, You make all things new. You bring hope alive in our hearts and cause our Spirits to be born again. Thank you for this new year, for all the potential it holds. As we turn now to your word, come and kindle in us a mighty flame so that in our time, many will see the wonders of God, and live forever to praise your glorious name. Amen.

ANTHEM

"How Can I Keep From Singing?"
The Kinkaid School Concert Choir
Chip Colvin, Director

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love prevails in heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Although the tempest round me roars, I know the truth, it liveth.
And though the darkness round me close, Songs in the night it giveth.

I lift eyes, the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it;
And day by day this pathway smooths, since first I learned to love it.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 31:7-14

HYMN OF REFLECTION

"What Child Is This"

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, one and all, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-14

SERMON

"To Heir Is Divine"

Rev. Dr. Kevin R. Boyd

"In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance..." -Ephesians 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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation

Sharing of Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Breaking of the Bread

Serving of the Elements

Prayer After Receiving

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.

Departing to Serve

HYMN

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

SBPC Choir, January 2018

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never Over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I: Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising we are raising, Worshiping God Most High.

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia Sounds through the earth and skies.

CLOSING PRAYER *(Based on Ecclesiastes 3:1)*

Leader: Dear Father, we thank you that throughout the seasons of life, there are endings and new beginnings.

People: **We are thankful that your Word reminds us that there is a time for every purpose under heaven.**

ALL: **So, we thank you for the things that have ended in our lives and bless you for new beginnings. In Jesus' Name. 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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Calendar of Events

January 3 — Sunday

9:15 am Explorers SS Class (Zoom)
9:30 am Saints Under Construction (CR)
10:50 am Worship

January 4 — Monday

7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting

January 5 — Tuesday

9:15 am Congregational Care Meeting
11:00 am Pastor's Bible Study

January 6 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderator (Zoom)
10:15 am PW Board Meeting (Zoom)

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!

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 details on how to join this study. We hope to see you there!

"Let Us Light Candles: Matthew 25 and the Work of Advent" is an online devotional which includes Christmastide and goes through Epiphany being offered through *Presbyterian's Today*. This particular year is stretching and exercising our creativity as we seek to stay connected and continue to reach out to the community at large. Here is the link to access the devotionals: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/advent2020/advent-and-christmas-devotional-12days/>. If you would prefer a printed copy, please contact Spring Branch Presbyterian Church secretary@springbranchpres.org.

Through our Presbytery and partners like Houston Responds, we have been identifying ways we can continue to help our neighbors in Louisiana who have been impacted by Hurricanes Laura and Delta. **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 weekend of **January 15th-18th**. If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor Kevin or Miguel know.

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.

Scholarship Applications are now available for interested students. Completed applications are due by May 1st for the year applying, and should be turned in to Sarah Dikeman for the Women's Scholarship and Ken Crawford for the Men's Scholarship. The 2021-2022 Scholarship Application can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.springbranchpres.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2021-2022-Scholarship-Application.pdf>.

The January/February/March Edition of the *These Days* daily devotionals have arrived! If you would like a copy of this devotional mailed to you, please contact secretary@springbranchpres.org, or call the Church Office (713-464-7659) and leave a voicemail.

2021 Women's and Men's Retreat Postponed — The Faith Development Team decided in their December 7 meeting to postpone the Women's Retreat, scheduled for Feb. 27, and the Men's Retreat, scheduled for Feb. 28. Continuing issues of Covid-19 that are predicted to extend through February, and the unknown availability of approved vaccines make the February dates potentially unsafe for our members. We want to schedule the retreats that are safe, fun and that promote fellowship. So, look for future announcements in *PresPress* when conditions improve. Rev. Rose Niles has agreed to be flexible with dates for being retreat leader at the Women's Retreat, and further information will be coming about a retreat leader for the Men's Retreat. Something to look forward to in 2021!! Carol Davis, Women's Retreat Coordinator, and Donald McDaniel, Men's Retreat Coordinator.



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
Denise Wilborn

Neal Dikeman
Sarah Dikeman

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgist: Donald McDaniel

Time For Young Disciples: Patty Blome

Usher Captain: Marguerite Priest

PowerPoint: Patty Blome

e-mail: churchoffice@springbranchpres.org

website: www.springbranchpres.org

www.facebook.com/springbranchpres

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