

## First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 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: Into your presence we come, Lord God, as your children have done throughout the centuries. In vast Cathedrals, parish churches, homes, warehouses, converted cinemas, in places online. Alone or gathered together with others, your Church is wherever your people meet together in worship, in fellowship and in prayer.

**All: Be with us now, loving Lord.**

Leader: Into your presence we come, Father God, mindful of our own finiteness while you are the Infinite.

**All: Meet us, loving Father.**

Leader: Into your presence we come, Redeeming God; remembering the sacrifice of your Son to bring us freedom from the guilt of sin, and communion again with our Creator.

**All: Thank you, loving Redeemer. Come now and give us hearts of worship.**

#### **HYMN**

*"Lord of the Dance"*

*(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 danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

#### Refrain:

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
But they would not dance and they would not follow me.  
I danced for the fisherman, for James and John.  
They came with me and the dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.  
The holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,  
And left me there on a cross to die.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
But I am the dance and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt up high.  
I am the life that will never, never die.  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

### **Preparing for the Word**

#### **INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

**Leader:** Just as sin came into the world through one person, and death came through sin, so we continue to sin even as we struggle to follow Jesus.

**People:** **Let us come before God to confess and ask for forgiveness.**

#### **CONFESSION OF SIN** (*unison*)

**Creating and Renewing God, in this Lenten season, we each need the opportunity to clear our eyes of the glaze of indifference and apathy. The events of this week have caused us to focus on self, comfort, feelings of helplessness and self-pity.**

**Remembering your faithfulness, help us to start over. Remind us that Lent is all about starting over. Re-orient our heads and hearts so that we may fill our whole selves with Christ-honoring, life-affirming activities and thoughts. Change us as we begin our Lenten journey we pray. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### **SILENT CONFESSION**

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Leader:** Brothers and Sisters, hear wonderful news today: God hears our prayers and, even in our human frailty, promises to be with us in the wilderness times. Observe, find comfort, and offer with courage to restore and build relationships among God's people. Experience a new and renewed sense of hope, peace, and pardon! Amen.

**People:** **Alleluia! Amen!**

#### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Hearing the Word**

#### **TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Pastor Kevin

#### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** (*unison*)

**Holy God, send us your Spirit to calm our thoughts and prepare our hearts and minds to hear your Word. Through your Word, teach us to see you more clearly and love you more deeply, day by day. Amen.**

## ANTHEM

*"The Color Purple (Reprise)"*  
*The Color Purple Broadway Revival Cast Recording (2015)*

Dear God, dear stars, dear trees, dear sky, dear peoples, dear everything, dear God.

God is inside me and everyone else that was or ever will be.  
I came into this world with God and when I finally looked inside I found it.  
Just as close as my breath is to me.

Rising like the sun is the hope that sets us free.  
Your heartbeat make my heart beat when we share love.

Like a plate of corn, like a honeybee, like a waterfall, all a part of me.  
Like the color purple, where do it come from?  
Now my eyes are open. Look what God has done.  
It take a grain of love to make a mighty tree.  
Even the smallest voice can make a harmony.  
Like a drop of water in the river high,  
There are miracles for you and I.

Like a plate of corn, like a honeybee, like a waterfall, all a part of me.  
Like the color purple, where do it come from?  
Now my eyes are open. Look what God has done. Amen.

## FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 9:9-15

## SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 26:31-32, 36

## HYMN OF REFLECTION

*"Holy Ground"*

We are standing on holy ground,  
And I know that there are angels all around;  
Let us praise Jesus now;  
We are standing in his presence on holy ground.

## THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Peter 3:13-22

## SERMON

***"Purple Daze, Part 1: Telling the Story"*** Rev. Dr. Kevin R. Boyd  
*"...Always be ready to make your defense." -1 Peter 3:15*

### 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](http://www.springbranchpres.org/give).*

## 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

*"Jesus, Name Above All Names"*

Jesus, name above all names,  
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.  
Emmanuel, God is with us,  
Blessed Redeemer, living Word.

### CLOSING PRAYER

**Leader:** As we go out into this holy season, give thanks for God's promise of new life that sustains us, especially as these months of pandemic stretch on. We leave as a thankful people!

**People:** **Yes we are thankful for tiny signs of hope, even in a bleak landscape or on challenging days; For glimpses of beauty in a smile or a ray of sunshine; For scientific achievements that ease suffering in this time of pandemic and winter; For the people who support and serve others in times of weakness or loss; For the chance to recover from mistakes, to begin again.**

**Leader:** We must be good news: To anyone we have hurt by harsh words or careless deeds; to those known to us who are carrying heavy burdens; For all who are seeking employment or worry about their businesses; For teachers, students and school administrators managing so many challenges this year.

**People:** **For troubled places in our world and those who work for reconciliation and understanding; For our congregation and all churches seeking new ways to minister in these months of disaster and distancing from each other;**

**Leader:** Be the good news!

**People:** **Amen!**

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

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

### Serving today in Worship:

**Liturgist:** Jan Fitts

**Time For Young Disciples:** Pastor Kevin

**Usher Captain:** Donald McDaniel

**PowerPoint:** Patty Blome

**Socially Distant Choir:** Rebecca Castillo, Kyle Eveler, Gary & Laurie Mitchell  
Gabe Perez, and Lin Sabala

*e-mail: [churchoffice@springbranchpres.org](mailto:churchoffice@springbranchpres.org)*

*website: [www.springbranchpres.org](http://www.springbranchpres.org)*

*[www.facebook.com/springbranchpres](https://www.facebook.com/springbranchpres)*

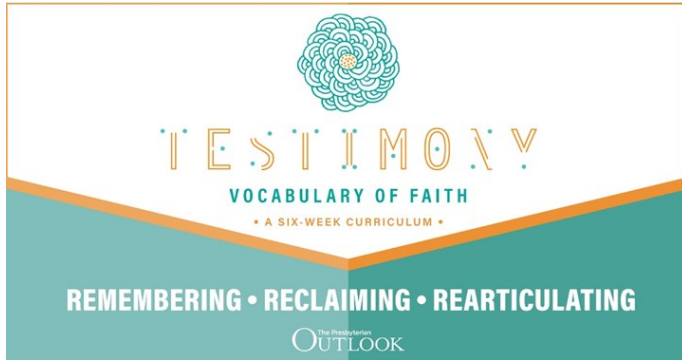
*CCLI License # 11266777*

*1215 Campbell Rd*

*Houston, TX 77055*

*713-464-7659*

# Announcements & Events



All are invited, welcomed, and encouraged to join a five-week exploration of who God is, and who we are in relationship with God. This Lenten study will now begin on the Second Sunday of Lent, February 28th and go through Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Participants will gather via Zoom at 7 pm each Sunday and Rev. Dr. Kevin Boyd will facilitate the discussions. Let Denise Wilborn know you are interested in joining this Lenten journey by emailing her at [faithdevelopment@springbranchpres.org](mailto:faithdevelopment@springbranchpres.org).

**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 instructions to join. We hope to see you there!

**Please join us for a Drive-Thru Wednesday Night Supper** this Wednesday, February 24th at 6:00 PM! Jan & Gerald Fitts are dishing up Red Beans & Rice with Sausage, Salad, Cornbread, and Dessert. Please contact [secretary@springbranchpres.org](mailto:secretary@springbranchpres.org) to place your dinner order. **Starting this week, the Drive-Thru line will begin in a different location!** Watch your email for the specifics.

**The Evening PW Bible Study** will meet on Tuesday, February 23rd at 7:00 PM via Zoom to discuss Lesson 6 of *Into the Light*. Please contact Carol Davis at [caroldavis@entouch.net](mailto:caroldavis@entouch.net) to receive a Zoom invitation to join the study. The Lesson 6 video can be viewed at [www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/into-the-light](http://www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/into-the-light).

**Please don't forget to turn in your Pledge Card.** You can find one in the Narthex or the Church Office. Pledge Cards that are mailed or emailed should be addressed to Jorida in the Church Office.

**If you have an article that you'd like included in the March 2021 PresPress,** please send submissions ASAP to [ethan@springbranchpres.org](mailto:ethan@springbranchpres.org) or [secretary@springbranchpres.org](mailto:secretary@springbranchpres.org).

## February 21 — First Sunday in Lent

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

## February 23 — Tuesday

11:00 am Pastor's Bible Study  
7:00 pm Session (Zoom)  
7:00 pm Horizon's Bible Study (Zoom)

## February 24 — Wednesday

6:00 pm Drive-Thru WNS:  
Red Beans & Rice with Sausage!

## February 27 — Saturday

11:00 am Hot Meals

## February 28 — Second Sunday in Lent

9:30 am Explorers SS Class (FH)  
9:30 am Saints Under Construction (CR)  
10:50 am Worship  
7:00 pm Testimony Study (Zoom)

## March 1 — Monday

7:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Zoom)

## March 2 — Tuesday

11:00 am Pastor's Bible Study  
1:30 pm Congregational Care Meeting

## March 3 — Wednesday

9:30 am PW Moderator (Zoom)  
10:15 am PW Board Meeting (Zoom)  
6:00 pm Drive-Thru WNS: Hamburgers!

