



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

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
 AV Technician: Ben Dethloff
 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 2022

Steve Blair
 Ethan Mitchell
 Web Trevathan
 Denise Wilborn

Class of 2023

Silvia Argyriou
 Megan Hogg
 Elizabeth Powell
 Lu Taylor

Class of 2024

Charles Fairchild
 Glenn Lanan
 Donald McDaniel
 Jennifer Miller

Academy Board

Anne Johnson
 Denise Wilborn

Neal Dikeman
 Sarah Dikeman

Laurie Mitchell
 Jani Shepard

Serving today in Worship:

Liturgists: Jan Fitts & Megan Hogg
Time For Young Disciples: Jan Fitts
Usher Captain: Donald McDaniel
PowerPoint: Patty Blome

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December 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

10:50 AM

**Those who are able please stand*

God's People Connect

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's People Are Empowered

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

Lord, let us hear your words spoken through the ages, and shared with us once again today. Let us listen for the light in the darkness. Let us listen to your words, both from the scriptures and from our fellow congregants, and hear your message of hope, of peace, of joy and of love. Let us hear your message of Christmas Day. Amen.

LESSONS IN CAROLS

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

Red Pew Bible OT 3

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN *(unison)*

**Creative, passionate God,
you delight to shape the world in beauty and harmony.
You invite us to participate in the balance of creation.
We grow in wisdom as our experience unfolds;
we take good learning out of difficult situations,
yet also find our well-meant endeavors leading to unintended consequences.
Too often we give in to temptation
that disrupts the joyous, chaotic order of the universe.
We cannot undo all our mistakes,
but we can turn once more to the living presence of Jesus
and find new ways to live and love each other and the earth.
Do not let our hearts be fearful,
but let us in silence, acknowledge our sin,
and seek the forgiveness that restores your peace. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

December 12 — 3rd Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Sunday School
10:50 am Lessons & Carols Service

December 13 — Monday

5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
6:00 pm Yoga (CR)
7:30 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut & GP)

December 14 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
11:00 am Pastors Bible Study (CR)

December 15 — Wednesday

Reimbursement Deadline

5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 2)
5:30 pm Academy Christmas Pageant (S)
6:00 pm Reception (Breezeway)
6:45 pm Santa Iglesia* (GP 1)

December 16 — Thursday

9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)
10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm Advent Party! (FH)
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance* (GP)

December 17 — Friday

9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)
6:30 pm Santa Iglesia* (GP 1)

December 18 — Saturday

1:30 pm Special Olympics* (GP)
6:00 pm CENTI Church* (GP)

*Outside SBPC Reservations & Events

(CR) Conference Room
(FH) Fellowship Hall
(GP) Gathering Place
(L) Library
(P) Parlor

December 19 — 4th Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Sunday School
10:50 am Worship

December 20 — Monday

PresPress Articles Due

10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
7:30 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut & GP)

December 21 — Tuesday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
11:00 am Pastors Bible Study (CR)
6:30 pm Santa Iglesia* (GP 1)

December 22 — Wednesday

6:45 pm Santa Iglesia* (GP 1)

December 23 — Thursday

Church & Academy Close @ 2:30 PM

9:00 am Jessie's Bites* (Kitchen)
10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
6:00 pm CENTI Church* (GP)

December 24 — Friday

Church Office & Academy Closed

5:30 pm Hot Chocolate & Cookies
6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service



December 25 — Saturday

11:00 am Hot Meals



Announcements & Events:

The Flowers for this morning are given by Marguerite Priest, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of Bryan's 44th birthday!

One of our long-time Missions in December is the **PCHAS Ornament Tree**. During Advent time, we hang ornaments on a Christmas tree. Each of the ornaments has a PCHAS tag attached with a suggested donation amount. You take the ornament home with you and leave the donation in the basket provided. *(If you pay by check, please make checks payable to SBPC and put "PCHAS Ornament Tree" in the memo line.)*

Angel Tree is back in person this season! The deadline for returning gifts is December 15th. In addition to the gifts, each family receives a basket of food. Please pick up some kid friendly, non-perishable food items from the store and we will begin to set it aside for our Angel Tree families.

Pledge Cards can be turned in starting today. There is a box in the Narthex for submitting cards. You may also mail your pledge card to the Church Office (to the attention of Jorida). Thank you for your continued commitment!

Pastor's Bible Study will resume meeting this Tuesday, but will be led remotely by Kevin while he is out on continuing education. You may either join via the new video conferencing setup in the conference room, or by Zoom from your own device offsite. We hope to see you there!

Please turn in all outstanding receipts for reimbursement to Jorida in the church office no later than Wednesday, December 15th.

The Academy Christmas Pageant is Wednesday, December 15, at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary. All are invited to attend! A cookies and punch reception will immediately follow in the Breezeway.

Please join us for the annual Advent Party on Thursday, December 16th at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Come for food, fellowship, music, and crafts. On the menu is Ham, Caesar Salad, Mac & Cheese, Rolls, and Dessert. Please contact secretary@springbranchpres.org to place your dinner order. **We are also having an ornament exchange!** Bring a Christmas ornament to the Advent Party and exchange for another! Bring a new ornament wrapped, but without a card or label—you will be given a number. Before the end of the party, we will call your number for you to pick a new ornament to take home! We hope to see you there!

Poinsettias are available for purchase again this year. A sign-up sheet is located in the Church Office & Narthex to place your order until Tuesday, December 21st. Remember to indicate who you are honoring, and/or remembering, with your payment of \$10 to SBPC, which you can drop off in the Church Office, or during Worship in the offering plate.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Even as Adam and Eve faced the consequences of their sin, our God prepared a way for them still to be connected to the earth and to the living presence of God. So it is with all of us: in Christ's birth we are able to find hope, peace, joy and love. We are able to find light even in times of great darkness.

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

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

GTG, No. 82

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

Red Pew Bible OT 18

PRAYER

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v. 1, 2, 3, 7)

GTG, No. 88

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Red Pew Bible OT 638

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE (Joy)

Joel & Rebeca Alegria

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

GTG, No. 129

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Red Pew Bible OT 640

SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: God of grace, thank you for this season of waiting.

People: **Thank you for the beauty of the sleeping earth waiting for spring's new life.**

Leader: Thank you for the joy of children waiting for the excitement of gift giving.

People: **Thank you for the gift of familiar carols, whose joyful music touches waiting hearts.**

Leader: Thank you for far-flung family and friends that we can't wait to see this season.

People: **Thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ; we have been waiting for a Saviour.**

Leader: We pray for all who are waiting this morning;

People: **people who are waiting for an end to violence because they have known too much war;**

Leader: people who are waiting for healing because they live with sickness and pain;

People: people who are waiting for good news because they are weighed down with sorrow.
 Leader: We pray for all of the earth that is waiting-- creatures who are waiting for protection because their environment has been destroyed;
People: waterways that are waiting for renewal because they have been contaminated;
 Leader: lands that are waiting to be redeemed from pollution because we have forgotten that God called the land good.
People: Throughout the world, in and on and under it, waiting happens, waiting grows and gathers, the earth is pregnant waiting for redemption.
 Leader: In eager expectation we wait for the revelation of the Son of God.

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.

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (v. 1-3) GTG, No. 133

FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-35, 38 Red Pew Bible NT 56

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*unison*)

**Our souls magnify the Lord,
 and our spirits rejoice in God our Saviour,
 for he looks with favour upon us
 and sees our unrealized potential.**

**In the tradition of Mary,
 and all who have said "yes" to God,
 we stand here today,
 to add our assent to theirs.**

**Like Mary, we feel overwhelmed;
 we wonder if we are worthy,
 or capable, of following the calling.
 Like Mary, we have our questions
 and we will not be afraid to ask them.
 Like Mary, we will hear and ponder
 the assurance that God will empower us.
 Like Mary, we will strive to say -
 "Let it be with us according to your will."**

**To whatever God is inviting of us
 at this time in our lives,
 and relying on God's grace,
 we say "yes."**

"No Wind at the Window" GTG, No. 101

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7 Red Pew Bible NT 58

I SAW CHRISTMAS DAY... Megan Hogg

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (v. 1 & 2) GTG, No. 119

SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16 Red Pew Bible NT 58

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Jan Fitts

"The First Nowell" (v. 1, 2, 4) GTG, No. 147

EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-11 Red Pew Bible NT 2

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"We Three Kings" (v. 1, 5) GTG, No. 151

NINTH LESSON John 1:1-14 Red Pew Bible NT 91

Departing in Joy

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

"Joy to the World" GTG, No. 134

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**