

relationships matter

GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD



# Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

### Who's Who:

Minister: All Members of the Church  
 Co-Pastor: Rev. Mark Plunkett  
 Co-Pastor: Rev. Savannah Goodman  
 Administrator: Jorida Vakiari  
 Ministries Coordinator: C. Miguel Carlin  
 Administrative Assistant: Ethan Mitchell  
 Music Director: Gabriel Perez  
 Accompanist: Jonathan Craft  
 AV Director: Ethan Mitchell  
 AV Technician: Ben Dethloff  
 Academy Director: Renee Henry

### Ministry Teams:

Administration Leader: Ethan Mitchell  
 Congregation Leader: Kay Craig  
 Faith Development Leader: Jacquie Ballesteros  
 Mission Leader: Laurie Mitchell  
 Worship Leader: Donald McDaniel  
 Treasurer: Neal Dikeman

### The Session

Clerk: Elizabeth Powell

Moderator: Rev. Mark Plunkett  
Rev. Savannah Goodman

### Class of 2025

Jacquie Ballesteros  
Stephen Earnest  
Laurie Mitchell

### Class of 2026

Kay Craig  
Sarah Dikeman  
Ethan Mitchell

### Class of 2027

Joel Alegria  
Beth Mizwa  
Nina Rach

### Academy Board

Jan Fitts  
Jim Kunkel

Neal Dikeman  
Ashley Powell

Carla Pace  
Jorida Vakiari

### Serving today in Worship:

**Liturgist:** Elizabeth Powell

**Children's Moment:** Pastor Mark & Pastor Savannah

**Usher Captain:** Donald McDaniel

**PowerPoint:** Megan Hogg

*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)

*Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM*

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*1215 Campbell Rd*

*Houston, TX 77055*

*713-464-7659*



*“God’s Country”*  
July 7, 2024

7th Sunday After Pentecost

July 7, 2024

10:50 AM

*\*Those who are able please stand*

Gathering in God's Name

**PRELUDE**

**THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS THE SANCTUARY**

**WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH**

*(Please sign the Friendship Book located in the pew rack next to the center aisle.)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God's greatness is wondrous to behold.

**People: Everywhere we look, we can see the imprint of God.**

Leader: From the loftiest mountains to the crashing waters of the sea,

**People: There God's greatness stands majestically.**

Leader: God's greatness can be within the human heart.

**ALL: Let us honor and praise God with acts of loving kindness and compassion.  
Amen!**

**\*HYMN** "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" (v. 1, 3, 5) GTG, No. 688

Preparing for the Word

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

Leader: All of us fall well short of what God has planned for us. Without God's grace, we would be completely lost. Yet God loves anyway – despite our weakness. Together, let us share a prayer of confession as we ask God to heal us from ourselves.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(unison)*

**Loving God, we hear in the Gospel Message that Jesus was questioned and rejected by His own hometown, friends, and relatives, and we wonder how He was able to continue in ministry with such a lack of support. We want to enter our endeavors with full support and acclamation. We are afraid to begin a task if even our families, friends, and hometown folk belittle it. So rather than face degradation, we back down. Forgive our lack of faith and vision. Empower us to be in service to you, even when we do not feel the support of our family and friends. Let us trust in your power and presence with us. Guide our lives and our journeys all our days. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

# Calendar of Events

www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar

**July 7 — Sunday**

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 10:50 am Worship
- 7:00 pm BSA Planning Meeting (GP)



**July 8 — Monday**

- 9:30 am WOW (S)
- 5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

**July 9 — Tuesday**

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 6:30 pm Fellowship Meeting (CR)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship\* (FH)

**July 10 — Wednesday**

**July 11 — Thursday**

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP)

**July 12 — Friday**

- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program\* (YR)

**July 13 — Saturday**

- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service\* (GP)

**July 14 — Sunday**

- 9:15 am Church Nursery
- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am Children's Chime Choir (S)
- 10:50 am Worship
- 12:00 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration

**July 15 — Monday**

- 7:00 am Meet the New Co-Pastor!
- 9:30 am WOW (S)
- 10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (P)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

**July 16 — Tuesday**

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Basketball (GP)
- 7:00 pm CENTI Bible Study & Worship\* (FH)

**July 17 — Wednesday**

**July 18 — Thursday**

- 10:00 am Flexercise (GP)
- 6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP)

**July 19 — Friday**

- 7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program\* (YR)

**July 20 — Saturday**

**PresPress Articles Due**

- 8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)
- 6:00 pm CENTI Church Service\* (GP)



\*Outside SBPC Reservations & Events  
(CR) Conference Room  
(FH) Fellowship Hall  
(GP) Gathering Place  
(L) Library  
(P) Parlor  
(S) Sanctuary

# Announcements & Events:

**The Flowers** for this morning are given by Beth Mizwa, to the Glory of God, and are in celebration of Tad Mizwa's birthday.

**Thank you, Spring Branch Presbyterian Church members for helping kids at PCHAS!** Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS) provides Christ-centered care and support to children and families in need. Each year, we hold an annual Back-to-School drive for our kids heading to school in the fall. All supplies from SBPC will go to support children in our Foster Care program. In order to receive the correct and complete number of needed supplies for the kids, PCHAS is utilizing an Amazon Shopping List format this year. The supplies will be shipped directly to the PCHAS Cypress Office. **Scan the QR code on the right to buy school supplies!** If you would prefer to buy your own supplies and not use the Amazon Shopping List, please bring the supplies to Miguel Carlin before July 12th. **There will be a Backpack Stuffing Party on Tuesday, July 16th, from 11:00 AM-4:00 PM at the PCHAS Cypress Office.** Please sign-up with Miguel if you'd like to attend.



**July Birthday Celebration** — Please join family, friends, and congregation members on Sunday, July 14th, right after our 10:50 worship service as we celebrate those in our church community born in July. Linger for conversation, fellowship, and light snacks.

**Save-the-Date for our July Blood Drive** — SBPC will have a Blood Drive on Sunday, July 21st, from 8:30 AM-12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Ashley Powell at 972-571-2499 or [ashleycrawford161@gmail.com](mailto:ashleycrawford161@gmail.com) if you would like to donate. Share the gift of life! All donors will receive an Olympics t-shirt!

**Join us for the Annual PW Welcoming Luncheon on Sunday, August 11th from 12:15-2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall!** You are invited to bring your mothers, grandmothers, daughters, and granddaughters to join us for a lovely luncheon. We will be serving a fabulous variety of foods including a surprise entrée, salads, and dessert goodies. We will be entertained by Tracey Pace, a comedienne/Musician. We will also have the introduction to our new Bible Study for the coming year. Please RSVP to Kay Craig at 713-248-4138 or [kay@craig-heidt.com](mailto:kay@craig-heidt.com). **We will also be raffling off fun themed baskets!** Get your creative juices flowing and fill a basket! If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Miller at [jennmill60@gmail.com](mailto:jennmill60@gmail.com) or 713-562-5897.

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2024 Flower 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 plate on Sunday mornings.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Do not be afraid of the opinions of others. Place your trust in God's call and guidance. Know that the Lord is with you always, even to the ends of the earth. Amen!

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

### \*GLORIA

*"Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!"*

LUYH, No. 74

*Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Since I laid my burden down.  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Since I laid my burden down.*

*I feel better, so much better  
Since I laid my burden down.  
I feel better, so much better  
Since I laid my burden down.*

*Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!"  
Since I laid my burden down.  
Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!"  
Since I laid my burden down.*

## God's People Are Empowered

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Mark & Pastor Savannah

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(unison)*

**As we hear your ancient Word today, may they do more than just alert our hearing. Let them fall fresh on our minds, our hearts, and our souls. May they stir us to action and to service in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Red Pew Bible OT 770

## ANTHEM

*"This Is My Song"*

Gabe Perez

## SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 6:1-13

Red Pew Bible NT 40

## SERMON

*"God's Country"*

Rev. Mark Plunkett

## Responding to the Word

### \*HYMN

*"The Summons"*

GTG, No. 726

**\*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  
The Words of Institution  
Prayer of Thanksgiving  
Serving of the Elements  
Prayer After Receiving

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

## OFFERTORY

**\*RESPONSE** *"I Sing Praises to Your Name"* LUYH, No. 35

*I sing praises to your name, O Lord, praises to your name, O Lord,  
for your name is great and greatly to be praised.*

*I sing praises to your name, O Lord, praises to your name, O Lord,  
for your name is great and greatly to be praised.*

*I give glory to your name, O Lord, glory to your name, O Lord,  
for your name is great and greatly to be praised.*

*I give glory to your name, O Lord, glory to your name, O Lord,  
for your name is great and greatly to be praised.*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(unison)*  
**Gracious God, for every single gift You have given to us, we give You thanks. May our tithes, talent, and treasures help to serve Your will and Your plans with others in our world. We ask this in Your holy name. Amen.**

## 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** *"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"* GTG, No. 298

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

## \*POSTLUDE

*Portions of today's worship service are taken from ministrymatters.com.*

### *Welcome Visitors*

You are joyfully welcomed as you worship with us today. In the worship bulletin, you will see an asterisk (\*) which invites you to stand as you are able throughout today's service. If you have any questions about Spring Branch Presbyterian Church's ministries and programs, you are invited to speak with Pastor Mark or Pastor Savannah, an elder, an usher, or any other member of our church family. Also, the ushers have additional information for you as you leave today. We hope you will come back and that you consider Spring Branch as your church home.

### *Worship 10:50 am*

**Worship:** Spring Branch Presbyterian Church welcomes families of all ages and sizes. For families with young children, relax! God put the wiggle in all children (and adults), we understand. You are invited to sit closer to the front so your children can hear, see, and experience worship with those around them. Remember, children and youth learn through what they observe. Participate and engage yourselves fully.

**Nursery:** Infants six weeks through Pre-K are welcomed in the nursery during worship. Kindergarten and older children will attend worship with their parents. The Church Nursery is available from 9:15 AM through shortly after Worship in the Bears classroom, Room 126, which is in the north hallway of the Education Building.

### *Sunday Morning Offerings at 9:30 am*

**Saints Under Construction:** This class meets in the Sanctuary in the Garden Room. This discussion-oriented class focuses on what each of us can learn from the weekly Bible scriptures to build upon in strengthening our faith. Patti Nanney leads the class.

**The Explorers:** This class meets in the Conference Room in the Education Building. The class studies the Bible, book-by-book, using different translations which help the lively and thought-provoking discussions. Linda Crawford leads the class.