



# 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  
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: Co-Pastor, Rev. Mark Plunkett  
Moderator: Co-Pastor, 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:** Glenn Lanan  
**Children's Moment:** Pastor Mark  
**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*  
*CCLI Streaming License # 20797349*  
*CCLI License # 11266777*  
1215 Campbell Rd  
Houston, TX 77055  
713-464-7659



***“The Doves in Our Lives”***  
January 12, 2025

## Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025

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** *(By Larry J. Peacock)*

Leader: Come all you who are thirsty. Come to the source of living water.

**People: Some of us feel flooded. There is too much to do and we feel in danger of going under.**

Leader: Come, rest beside still waters and feel the ease of the cool stream.

**People: Some of us feel empty. We give and pour ourselves out with no time to tap into the source.**

Leader: Come, taste the eternal springs of living water. Drink deep and long.

**People: Some of us feel blocked and stagnant. Judgement, denial, frustration, and wounds limit the flow of grace.**

Leader: Come, be plunged deep in the healing waters and fresh rivers of God's love.

**ALL: We come to the living water and remember your baptism. Let the joyful water flow.**

#### **\*HYMN**

*"Baptized in Water"*

GTG, No. 482

### Preparing for the Word

#### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Without feet still wet from the waters of our baptism, we have sinned yet again because we are human. We are not perfect, and we continue to mess up and make mistakes. But, no matter what we think of ourselves, God is continually calling us to streams of living water. So, before God and with the people of God, let us affirm our brokenness and confess our failings together. Trusting in God's grace, let us open our hearts and confess our sins together. Let us pray:

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

**Gracious God, we often take our identity as your people so half-heartedly. We often want the blessings of your love and grace without the responsibility of being the instruments of your love. We often claim our privilege as being your people and yet we minimize the pursuit of your love, peace and justice in our world. Renew us once more in your forgiving and empowering love. Amen!**

#### SILENT CONFESSION

# Calendar of Events

[www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar](http://www.springbranchpres.org/church-calendar)

#### January 12 — Sunday

##### **Baptism of the Lord**

9:15 am Church Nursery  
9:30 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Children's Chime Choir (S)  
9:45 am Choir Practice (S)  
10:50 am Worship  
12:00 pm Monthly Birthday Celebration  
12:15 pm Undecorating the Sanctuary  
6:00 pm Worship Team Meeting (Zoom)

#### January 13 — Monday

5:30 pm Academy Board Meeting (CR)  
6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball\* (GP)  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)

#### January 14 — 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)  
7:00 pm Horizon's Bible Study on Zoom

#### January 15 — Wednesday

3:30 pm WOW (S)  
6:00 pm WNS: Hamburgers!  
7:00 pm Handbell Choir (S)

#### January 16 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)  
1:00 pm Pastor Mark's Bible Study (Zoom)  
5:00 pm Idea Spring: Crocodile Encounter!  
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP)

#### January 17 — Friday

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

#### January 18 — Saturday

8:00 am Pinewood Derby Build Workshop  
8:00 am Presbyterian Men (CR)  
6:00 pm CENTI Church Service\* (GP)

#### January 19 — Sunday

9:00 am Young Adult Breakfast Club (7 Taco)  
9:15 am Church Nursery  
9:30 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Children's Sunday School (GP 3)  
9:45 am Choir Practice (S)  
10:50 am Worship  
12:15 pm Congregational Care Meeting (CR)

#### January 20 — Monday

##### **PresPress Articles Due**

10:00 am The Gathering Place (FH)  
6:00 pm Special Olympics: Volleyball\* (GP)  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)  
7:00 pm Mission Team Meeting (Zoom)

#### January 21 — Tuesday

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

#### January 22 — Wednesday

9:30 am Happy Hands (CR)  
3:30 pm WOW (S)  
5:00 pm Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)  
6:00 pm WNS: King Ranch Casserole!  
7:00 pm Handbell Choir (S)

#### January 23 — Thursday

10:00 am Flexercise (GP)  
1:00 pm Pastor Mark's Bible Study (Zoom)  
6:00 pm Fairbees Square Dance\* (GP)  
9:15 pm Pinewood Derby Compliance Check

#### January 24 — Friday

6:00 pm Pinewood Derby Car Check-in (FH)  
6:00 pm SBM Arc Meeting\* (CR)  
7:00 pm CENTI Youth Program\* (YR)

#### January 25 — Saturday

9:00 am Cub Scout Pinewood Derby (FH)  
11:00 am Hot Meals  
6:00 pm CENTI Church Service\* (GP)



# Announcements & Events:

**January Birthday Celebration** — Join us for our first birthday celebration of the new year! Immediately after Worship today, we will gather for light snacks as we honor our January birthdays.

**Un-Decorating the Sanctuary:** The Worship Team is seeking volunteers to help remove the Greens from the Sanctuary immediately after the Worship Service today. As usual, many hands make for light work. Pizza will be provided for volunteers. Please see Donald McDaniel if you have any questions.

The **Evening Bible Study** will meet on Tuesday, January 14th, at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Please contact Sarah Powell if you are interested in attending. The Lesson 5 video is available at the following link: [www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/let-justice-roll-down](http://www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/let-justice-roll-down).

**Join us for Wednesday Night Supper this Wednesday**, January 15th, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Laurie Mitchell is making Hamburgers. Please email Kay Craig at [kay@craig-heidt.com](mailto:kay@craig-heidt.com) to place your dinner order. We hope to see you there!

**Idea Spring returns this Thursday, January 16th, at 5:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall for The Crocodile Encounter. Come meet and learn about our amphibian friends! A free pizza dinner will follow. We hope to see you there!

**The 2025 Offering Envelope Books** are now available in the Narthex. Please sign your name by the number that corresponds to your book number. If you already have a book of offering envelopes, you can continue to use it since it doesn't correspond to specific dates. Thank you for your continued commitment!

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? **The 2025 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.

**Please don't forget to turn in your Pledge Card and Time & Talent Pledge.** You can find blank copies in the Narthex, Church Office, or Parlor. There is a box in the Narthex for submitting cards. Cards can also be mailed to the Church Office, to the attention of Jorida. Thank you for your continued commitment!

**Attention all young adults!** You are invited to the Young Adult Breakfast Club with Pastor Savannah Goodman at **7 Taco** (9109 Long Point Rd, 77055) on **Sunday, 1/19, at 9:00 AM**. The Young Adult Breakfast Club will meet monthly for a time of fellowship and connection. Childcare is available at the church. We will meet at the church at **9:00 AM** to carpool. Bring \$5 and the church will cover the rest! We look forward to connecting with you then! Please email **Pastor Savannah Goodman** ([savannah@springbranchpres.org](mailto:savannah@springbranchpres.org)) with any questions.

**The Gathering Place will meet on Monday, January 20th, at 10:00 AM!** The theme for this month is *Martin Luther King, Jr. Day!* Please see Jacque Ballesteros or Sarah Dikeman if you are interested in helping out.

**Happy Hands will return from our Holiday Break on Wednesday, January 22nd, at 9:30 AM** in the Conference Room. It'll be great to have a chance to sit and stuff, sew, crochet, knit, and reconnect. If you haven't joined us before, or if it's been a while, you might consider a New Year's Resolution to join us to create Heart shaped pillows to give to hospital patients. We hope to see you there!

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The love of God is always offered to us, freely and joyfully for all eternity. Hear and believe this good news. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen!

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: ...The peace of Christ be with you!  
People: **And also with you.**

## \*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.  
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

## God's People Are Empowered

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Mark

### ANTHEM

*"Down to the River to Pray"*

Choir

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Red Pew Bible NT 60

### SERMON

*"The Doves in Our Lives"*

Rev. Savannah Goodman

## Responding to the Word

### \*HYMN

*"Take Me to the Water"*

GTG, No. 480

## \*RENEWAL OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Leader: Through baptism we enter the covenant God has established. In that covenant God gives us new life; we are guarded from evil and nurtured by the love of God and God's people. In embracing that covenant, we choose whom we will serve, by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ. I ask you, therefore, to reject sin, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize. Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

People: **I do.**

Leader: Who is your Lord and your Savior?

People: **Jesus Christ is my Lord and my Savior.**

Leader: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word, and showing his love?

People: **I will, with God's help!**

Leader: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:  
Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

**People: I believe in God, the father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into Heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!**

Leader: Spirit of the Living God, hover once more over us as you did at creation, energizing us with your life, that as we remember our baptism in Christ, we may be an open conduit of your Holy Spirit flooding all of creation with blessings of your abundant, redeemed life. We ask this in the precious name of Jesus, the living water, to your glory we pray. Amen.

## INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

## OFFERTORY

### \*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(unison)*

**Lord God, in the baptism of Jesus, you proclaimed aloud to all who would hear that he is your beloved Son. In our baptism, we are adopted into that same family! Through our gifts, and through our service, may we be coworkers with Christ, our brother, our friend, our Lord, and our King. 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

*"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

GTG, No. 475

### \*BENEDICTION

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

### \*POSTLUDE

### *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, 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.

**Children's Sunday School Class:** This class meets in the Children's classroom in The Gathering Place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month to learn more about the stories in the Bible by having crafts, stories, games, and other fun activities. The class is designed for elementary-age children, ages 5 to 10, but all are welcomed.

**Children's Chime Choir:** The Chime Choir meets in the Sanctuary on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month. This is a chance for elementary aged children to get to ring chimes as part of Worship. We are excited to continue this new adventure! Megan Hogg leads the Chime Choir.