



*We are a body of believers
called by the Holy Spirit
transformed by the Gospel to enjoy and glorify God
as we proclaim the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.*

Sunday, January 3, 2021

Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Janice Bradshaw*

PRELUDE *Saule Garcia*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pastor Ben*

MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH PCA Ministerial Relief Fund *Pastor Ben*

PREPARATION TO WORSHIP *Saule Garcia*

*Please take a moment to silently prepare to worship,
and reflect on Zechariah 2:13,*

*“Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD,
for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.”*

*Worship begins
where spiritual
life begins - with
God's call.
Appropriately,
we respond with
prayers and
songs of
adoration.*

✦CALL TO WORSHIP *Pastor Ben*

Isaiah 12:4-6

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name,

**People: Make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.**

Leader: Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously

People: Let this be made known in all the earth.

Leader: Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,

All: For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION *Pastor Ben*

✦SONGS OF ADORATION *Congregation*

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen (Hymn #211, verses 1, 2, 4)
(Traditional English Carol, arr. Willcocks, Lawrence)

Once in Royal David's City (Hymn #225, verses 1, 4, 5)
(Alexander, Gauntlett, arr. Willcocks, Helvey, Lawrence)

DECLARATION OF GOD'S LAW

Ruling Elder Chuck Dorau

Leviticus 20:7-8

Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am the LORD your God. Keep my statutes and do them; I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Chuck Dorau

Leader: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.

People: **You have called us, as your children, to be holy, even as you are holy.**

Yet we disobey you by what we do, and by what we do not do.

Leader: Father, by your Spirit bring to mind where we have not kept your statutes, and hear our prayers of personal confession...

silent confession of personal sin

Amen.

PRONOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S GOSPEL

Chuck Dorau

Colossians 2:13-14

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

God's law reveals God's righteous requirement. We confess our failure to keep God's law, and joyfully receive the good news of what God has done for us in Christ.

PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD

Chuck Dorau

concluding with the Lord's Prayer

✦SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Joy Has Dawned

Congregation

(Getty, Townend, arr. Lawrence)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Deacon David Farmer

OFFERTORY *My Soul Will Magnify the Lord* Cathy Thibaut, Elisa Haaland

(Getty, Townend, arr. Redford, McGlynn, Lawrence)

Text adapted from Luke 1:46-55

We are called to be faithful stewards of God's Word. Therefore, we eagerly and unashamedly read and proclaim the whole counsel of Scripture.

We confess our common faith as an expression of our unity in coming to the Lord's Table.

♣ **SONG OF PRAISE** *The Doxology* (Hymn #731) *Congregation*

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN *Pastor Ben*
After the blessing you are welcome to send your children ages 4-8 to Children's Worship or they may remain with you. Children will be returned to the Sanctuary after the sermon.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:21-40 *Pastor Ben*

SERMON *Songs of Advent: Simeon's Song* *Pastor Ben*

♣ **SONG OF PREPARATION** *Congregation*
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Hymn #196, verses 1 & 2)
(Wesley, Hunt, Pritchard)

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

♣ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Pastor Ben*
the Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER *Pastor Ben*

ABOUT THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

We welcome to the Lord's Table all who have been baptized, belong to a church which embraces the Gospel, and who look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. Since Communion is a sacrament of sustaining grace, we request that children not participate until they have professed their faith to the elders of this church or their church of regular worship.

*As the communion servers pass in front of you, please remember to take **both** of the stacked cups from the tray. Note that the bread is in the bottom cup and is gluten-free. **Grape juice in the colored cups in the inner ring wine in the clear cups in the outer rings.***

from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper Christ took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

MUSIC OF REFLECTION

Janice Bradshaw

✦ SONG OF RESPONSE

Congregation

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Hymn #196, verses 3 & 4)
(Wesley, Hunt, Pritchard)

✦ BENEDICTION

Pastor Ben

✦ SONG OF BLESSING

Gloria Patri (Hymn #735)
(Traditional 2nd century text, Greatorex)

Congregation

POSTLUDE

Janice Bradshaw

DEACONS' FUND OFFERING

*Having received
God's blessing,
we depart
blessing the
name of the
Lord.*

Sermon Notes

January 3, 2021

Songs of Advent: Simeon's Song

Luke 2:21-40



MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH January 2021

PCA MINISTERIAL RELIEF FUND

Care for Widows and Pastors in Need

pcarbi.org/relief



Pastors and their families often find themselves in seasons of hardship in addition to the emotional and financial constraints of pastoral work. The PCA Ministerial Relief Fund (MRF) partners with pastors and churches to support ministry employees and their families in need. When we give to the MRF we affirm to those who are or have been in ministry:

We see you. We acknowledge the decades you've spent praying for and serving the church.

We want to make sure you are properly honored and cared for through every season of ministry.

The MRF provides financial assistance and counseling services to these faithful servants many of whom live near or below the poverty line. Every month the wife of a PCA pastor becomes a widow. The number of PCA pastors retiring without sufficient savings will double in the next 5 years. 80% of pastors' wives would access Christian counseling if offered. This ministry is 100% funded through the generosity of individuals and churches.

"Words can never express our appreciation and gratitude for all you have done for us. We would have literally been on the streets if it wasn't for the support you have given to us. God bless you a hundredfold."

-widow of retired pastor

- Pray for peace and comfort for the PCA widows, ministers, and ministry families served by this fund.
- Pray for wisdom in the administration of the fund.
- Pray for increased donations so that more people may be served.

6000 Spring Cypress Rd, Spring, TX 77379 • 281-320-3650 • springcypresschurch.com

Announcements

Monday, January 4 - Office Closed	
Tuesday, January 5	
Women in the Word The Gallery	9:30am
CODA Meeting Youth Building	7:30pm
Wednesday, January 6	
Youth Group Youth Building	6:30pm
Thursday, January 7	
Women in the Word The Gallery	7:00pm
Men's Bible Study Zoom	7:00pm
MOPS Fellowship Hall	7:15pm
Friday, January 8	
Saturday, January 9	
Sunday, January 10	
Worship Sanctuary & Live Stream (LS)	9:00am
Adult Sunday School Sanctuary & LS	10:30am
Senior High Sunday School B215-217	10:30am
Junior High Sunday School Youth Bldg	10:30am
Children's Sunday School Fellowship Hall	10:30am

No Sunday School Today

See the insert for a description of the new classes which begin next Sunday, January 10!

2021 CHANGE FOR LIFE

*Baby Bottle Campaign:
Every child deserves a birthday,
every life has value.*

Give Change. Save Lives. Pick up a baby bottle from the Narthex, fill it with change, bills, or a check (made payable to PACN), and **return it by Sunday, January 17th** in support of Pregnancy Assistance Center North (PACN) in The Woodlands. For more information about the work of PACN and CareNet Pregnancy Center Houston (both ministries are supported by our church) go to:

pacn.org
houstonpregnancy.com

Pray for these ministries and their volunteers as they share the good news of the Gospel and empower women to choose LIFE!

Praise God with us! We finished 2020 on a strong financial note and are well positioned to begin 2021! **Thank you for your generosity!**

Women-to-Women registration begins today!

Contact: Linda

This is a perfect opportunity to enhance and embrace relationships with other women in our church. Sign up in the Narthex or through a link in the email to be sent out this afternoon.

Women in the Word

**Tuesdays at 9:30 am and Thursdays at 7:00 pm
The Gallery**

Contact: women@springcypresschurch.com

*Childcare available Tuesday am by reservation
(elisa@springcypresschurch.com).*

Join us as we study the Gospel of John that we may better believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing we have life in his name.

Youth Group resumes this week!

Wednesdays at 6:15 pm

Fellowship Hall & Youth Building.

Contact: Susy

Senior and Junior High youth, join us for food, worship, teaching, and games.

Youth Meals

We are resuming meals for our youth on Wed. night - be on the lookout for an email from Elisa with further details and consider signing up!

Men's Bible Study

Thursday at 7:00 pm via Zoom

Contact: Rick

We will continue our study of Genesis, the book of beginnings.

MOPS (Mothers of PreSchoolers)

Thursday at 7:15 pm, Fellowship Hall

Contact: mops@springcypresschurch.com

Join us for our semester kick-off meeting! We will enjoy refreshments, create necklaces, and discuss how to CHASE JOY together during our first meeting. Hope to see you there!

Prayer

Pray for Our Church

Session - Praise God for our godly pastor and elders! Pray for them as they seek the Lord's direction and will for our church and wisdom as they shepherd our covenant community.

Pray for Our Congregation

Mike Hume - successful radiation treatment that will continue through January.

Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 - complete healing.

Ongoing health concerns: *Eldon & Virginia Faries, Carl & Rose Gregory, Rick & Jeanne Maddy, Katie Medeiros*

Pray for Our Military and First Responders

Peter Achterkirch, Army, Washington

Christian Cory, Army, New York

Chris Dietz, Navy, Texas

Shawn Maya, Spring Fire Department

Pray for Our College Students

Charlotte Achterkirch, Samford University

Ian Allan, Calvin University

Zach Allan, Tarleton State University

Austin Gatlin, Louisiana State University

Justin Gatlin, Louisiana State University

Jacob Kerr, Texas A&M University

Rebekah Kooiman, Abilene Christian University

Lauren Steagall, University of Houston

AJ Tousha, Lone Star College

Pray for Our Families and Friends

Gina Rieger (SCPC-supported missionary) - comfort and encouragement as she receives cancer treatments.

Georgia Hofman's sister, *Gloria* - correct diagnosis and treatment of illness (not COVID-19 related).

Marc Esteves' mother, *Vera Lucia Esteves* - healing of pelvic fractures.

Kelly Renee's step-mother, *Wanda Kiesling* - healing of recently diagnosed lymphoma.

Jeff Cory's sister, *Kim* - strength as she undergoes treatment for colon cancer and complete healing.

Pray for Our Expectant Mother

Kathryn Ritchie is due in March.

Pray for Our Missionary of the Month

PCA Ministerial Relief Fund

- Pray for peace and comfort for the PCA widows, ministers, and ministry families served by this fund.
- Pray for wisdom in the administration of the fund.
- Pray for increased donations so that more people may be served.

Email prayer requests to robin@springcypresschurch.com.

Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 31, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary

Members - please join us for this important congregational meeting! We will be celebrating what God has done in our midst over the course of 2020 and sharing key goals for 2021 - to include presenting the approved 2021 budget as being instrumental in realizing these goals, and holding an election for officers. Please contact Pastor Ben with any questions or concerns!

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Session has approved the following men to be on the ballot at our Congregational Meeting on January 31st at 6:00 pm.



JUSTIN CHANDLER, Elder

Justin and his wife Kristen have been married for 17 years and have four active children (1st grade through 11th grade). Justin has been working in the oil & gas industry for 13 years, largely as a Quality Manager. He currently serves on the SCPC Missions Team and Youth Leadership team. He has taught 5th and 6th grade Sunday School, as well as youth and adult Sunday School.



DANNY MCDANIEL, Returning Elder

Danny and his wife Pam have been married for 35 years (as of this February) and have one adult son and daughter-in-law. Danny is a practicing CPA in the area. He is a past treasurer of SCPC, and has previously taught adult Sunday school.



JAKOB BASHAM, Deacon

Jakob and his wife Elizabeth have been members of SCPC for four years. They have two young children, Joram and Nova. Jakob came to the Lord at a young age and was baptized in high school. His faith has grown through his role as husband, father, and provider for his family, and his knowledge of reformed theology has grown the last four years at Spring Cypress. Jakob enjoys time with his family adventuring out of doors and creating/fixing things.



STEPHEN KOVACH, Deacon

Steve and his wife Deborah have been at SCPC for over two years. They have four crazy kids (Lilly, Travis, Anna, and Daniel) and have both served in many ministries since joining the church including Children's Church, teaching children's Sunday School, Missions Team, MOPS, Nursery, and Meals Ministry, and are blessed to have found the Spring Cypress family. Steve was saved at a young age and came to the reformed faith while serving in the Navy. He has been in the PCA since 2005, recently serving as a deacon at a PCA church for four years and he looks forward to serving Spring Cypress on the diaconate.



SCOTT LEWIS, Returning Deacon

Scott grew up in Biloxi where he met his wife Misti on the first day of high school, and they have been married for 35 years. Scott works in purchasing for Coca-Cola. He became a Christian shortly after moving to Houston in 1987. They have three adult children and have been members of SCPC for 12 years.

New Sunday School Classes Beginning January 10, 10:30-11:15 am

ADULTS Sanctuary

Reformed Soteriology

taught by Pastor Ben

Pastor Ben will lead us through an in-depth course on Reformed Soteriology. This class will emphasize the covenantal nature of redemption as well as the interrelatedness of the various loci of Christian theology that contribute to “the faith” once for all delivered to the saints. Finally, class participants will grow in their understanding of theological methodology, that is: how to “do” theological reflection.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH B215-217

Old Testament Survey

taught by Charlton Wimberly

Many of us know lots of stories from the Old Testament. But we sometimes struggle to understand how all of those stories contribute to one grand overarching narrative that even then, the Creator of the universe was working to redeem a people to himself through Jesus Christ. Senior High youth will survey the Old Testament at the 30,000 foot level—both to understand how God was at work in his people Israel then, and how Jesus could later say that the whole Old Testament pointed forward to his arrival, suffering, and glorification (Luke 24:26-27).

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH Youth Building

Teach Me Your Way

taught by Felix Espino

This study uses the Sermon on the Mount to demonstrate the character of a true believer: a believer’s surrendering to Jesus in salvation and submitting to His way in obedience. *“Teach me Your way, O LORD, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.”* -Psalm 86:11

CHILDREN Children’s Wing

Toddlers in our Nursery Ministry hear Bible stories and participate in activities from the *Show Me Jesus* curriculum as they build a sure foundation.

Our Elementary Students will all be using curriculum by Great Commission Publications. This quarter our **Pre-K and Kindergarten students** will learn that Jesus is the Son of God by following Jesus from the manger to the Mount of Transfiguration. The **Lower Elementary Sunday school class (grades 1-2)** will be focusing on the themes of loving the promise of the Savior; meeting him and responding to him. **Upper Elementary Sunday School (grades 3-5)** will be working through a two-year Bible survey course helping students desire God’s word and grow closer in relationship with Christ. Students will discover the joy of being called to be a part of this grand narrative of redemption as they study the scriptures together!

General Information

To our visitors:

Welcome, we're so glad you're here today!

- Stop by the Visitor's Center in the Narthex for a free gift!
- Please complete a connect/prayer card at the Visitor's Center.
- If you do not have a Bible of your own, please stop by the Visitor's Center.
- To see how our church participates in the global cause for Christ, check out the touch-screen monitor in the Narthex

Restrooms are located in the Narthex.

To learn more about us and our ministries, visit our website, springcypresschurch.com

Like and follow us on Facebook: *Spring Cypress Church*

Parents of Young Children:

- Nursery is available in the Children's Wing for children 4 years and younger.
- A cry room, located on the piano side of the sanctuary, is available for mothers with infants.
- Children ages 4-8 are welcome to go to Children's Worship prior to the sermon. They are returned to the Sanctuary near the end of the service.

Giving at SCPC:

We present our offerings as an act of worship, expressing our thankfulness for God's provision, our trust for God to meet all our needs, and our desire to be used of God for the furtherance of His kingdom on earth.

If you would like to give via **check**, please make your check payable to SCPC. **Online giving** is available at springcypresschurch.com/give. **Text** any amount to **84321** to give (standard message and data rates may apply).

Our Church Leadership & Staff

Elders

Ian Achterkirch
Chuck Dorau
Erik Haaland
Tim Kooiman

The elders may be reached at:
session@springcypresschurch.com

Deacons

David Farmer
Bruce Honts
Bob Pickard

The deacons may be reached at:
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*If you've lost or misplaced an item, please check with the office.
Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm*

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