



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

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Brooke Lewis*

PRELUDE *Janice Bradshaw*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pastor Ben*

LIGHTING OF THE JOY CANDLE *Gutierrez Family*

PREPARATION TO WORSHIP *Janice Bradshaw*

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

*Please take a moment to silently prepare to worship,
and reflect on Numbers 24:17*

*"I see him, but not now;
I behold him, but not near:
a star shall come out of Jacob,
and a scepter shall rise out of Israel..."*

✦CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF ADORATION *Pastor Ben*

Leader: The Lord has done great things for us,

People: **And we are filled with joy!**

Leader: Our God has turned our weeping into singing,

People: **Our tears into songs of joy!**

Leader: O Son of God, come anew in our hearts this day,

All: **And by your Spirit, remain with us forever!**

*"Give me
understanding
that I may keep
your law and
observe it with
my whole heart."
Psalm 119:34*

✦SONGS OF ADORATION *Congregation*

Joy Has Dawned
(Townend, Getty)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Hymn #203)
(Wesley, Mendelssohn-Bartholdy; arr. by Cummings)

DECLARATION OF GOD'S LAW *Ruling Elder Danny McDaniel*
Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just,
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there
is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about
these things.

✦Please stand if able

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Danny McDaniel

Leader: Almighty God, the content of our inner person spills out into words and deeds, thus you call us to take care to fill our minds with good things.

People: **However, we confess that we are too careless in what we allow to shape our sense of right and wrong, good and bad, pure and impure.**

Leader: Father, forgive us for allowing our sensibilities to be shaped by fallen creation rather than your inspired and inerrant Word. Create within us a hunger for every word that proceeds from your mouth, O Lord, and hear now our silent prayers of personal confession...

silent confession of personal sin

...amen.

PRONOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S GOSPEL

Danny McDaniel

1 Corinthians 1:7-9

...You wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD

Danny McDaniel

concluding with the Lord's Prayer

✦SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Congregation

What Child Is This (Hymn #213)
(Dix, Traditional English carol)

DIACONAL PRAYER

Deacon Bill Dietz

OFFERTORY

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel *Sanctuary Choir*
(Boswell, Papa, Townend, Getty; arr. by Galbraith)

Sing we the song of Emmanuel; this the Christ who was long foretold.
Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem, promise of dawn now our eyes behold.
God most high in a manger laid; lift your voices and now proclaim:
Great and glorious, love has come to us. Join now with the hosts of heaven.

(continued)

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.

"Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, your salvation according to your promise."
Psalm 119:41

Sermon Notes

December 17, 2023

The Son Was Sent Forth for Us

Galatians 4:4-7

Announcements

Monday, December 18	
Tuesday, December 19 Men's Book Study Room 119	7:00pm
Wednesday, December 20 Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary	6:30pm
Thursday, December 21	
Friday, December 22	
Saturday, December 23	
Sunday, December 24 - Flannel Day	
Worship Sanctuary & Live Stream	9:30am
Christmas Eve Service Sanctuary	6:00pm

Children's Choir Rehearsal

TODAY, 11:00am, Sanctuary
SCPC Children's Choir (Pre-K thru 5th Grade) will remain in the sanctuary following our worship service to rehearse their special music for next week! Their Sunday School teachers will escort them to classrooms following rehearsal!

Children's Christmas Parties

TODAY, immediately following choir rehearsal, our Pre-K thru 5th Grade students will have Christmas Parties in their respective classrooms! Parents, please pick your children up after Sunday School and join us for our Christmas Dinner!

Christmas Dinner Fellowship Meal

TODAY, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall/Annex
Can you believe it's time for our final Fellowship Meal of the year? Join us **after Sunday School** for fellowship over an amazing Christmas Dinner!

Year-End Giving

Contact: Robin Trygstad

As you plan your year-end giving, prayerfully consider the ministry needs of our church and your covenant tithe. Although giving has been very strong throughout 2023, our year-end giving total will determine our budget for next year so please give generously. All contributions must be received or postmarked no later than December 31, 2023. If you would like a year-to-date statement before the end of the year, please contact Robin.

SCPC Christmas Eve Events 2023

NEXT SUNDAY, Sanctuary

Flannel Sunday

Join in the fun and wear flannel as we celebrate the final day of Advent together!

Children's Choir Final Rehearsal

Sunday, December 24th, 8:55am

Contact: Amy Dietz

SCPC Children's Choir (Pre-K thru 5th Grade) will rehearse their offertory music with the Sanctuary Choir before morning worship. Please be prompt!

Morning Worship Service, 9:30am

Our Children's Choir, children Pre-K through 5th Grade, have been working hard preparing a song to sing for our Christmas Eve offertory music. It is sure to bless your heart

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 6:00pm

Contact: Susan Cochran

Bring your family and join us for a relaxed and intimate candlelight service. We have child-safe candles for little ones. Childcare is available upon request, please contact the church office!

Stay tuned... We will be kicking off 2024 with new Adult Sunday School classes, and new Men's and Women's Bible/book studies. Watch for more information coming soon!

Prayer

Pray for Our Church

Pray for our Children - Pray that they grow in their love for Jesus as we partner with their parents to nurture them in the Lord.

Pray for Our Congregation

Randy Bachman - Pray for God's comfort at the passing of his father.

Neal Benedict - Please pray for *Neal* as he is on dialysis and in need of a kidney transplant.

Camden Family - Praise God for the healthy delivery of Luke.

Jones Family - Praise God for the healthy delivery of Juliana!

Musima family - Ebenezer has been placed on dialysis and is need of a kidney transplant.

Jackie Toothman - Please pray for ongoing treatments and for complete healing.

Tony Tousha - Please pray for GI issues, injured knee, and various metabolic issues.

Steve Williams - Pray for diagnosis and treatment of a large mass found in his abdomen.

Ongoing health concerns: *René & Clairice Chapelle, Jeff Kuhn, Rick & Jeanne Maddy, Katie Medeiros, Mark Morrow, Mary Spiritosanto.*

Pray for Our Military and First Responders

Peter Achterkirch, Army, Washington

Christian Cory, Army, New York

Chris Dietz, Navy Reserves, Texas

Felix Espino, Army Reserves, Texas

Joshua Duncan, Army, North Carolina

Shawn Maya, Spring Fire Department

Jessy Wykes, Army, Germany

Pray for Our College Students

Claire Achterkirch, Samford University

Rebekah Allcorn, Abilene Christian University

Kyle Benedict, Lone Star College

Ben Chandler, Samford University

Rebekah Duncan, Blinn College

Austin Gatlin, Louisiana State University

Jenna Haaland, Samford University

Aiden Steagall, Texas A&M

Izzy Tousha, Texas State

AJ Tousha, Lone Star College

Pray for Our Friends & Family

Vincent & Eleanor Tracey's grandson *Elijah* - Praise for clear lumbar stick and positive hearing test. Pray for tolerance throughout 3rd round of chemo - that blood counts will remain stable, fever/infection will not develop, and strength for mom and dad.

Emily Wykes friend, *Annabelle Valadez* - for the unexpected loss of her father.

Daniel Burch's friend, *Kyle VanArsdall* - peace and comfort as his family mourns the loss of his sister over Thanksgiving week, and for strength as he provides care for his aging father.

Heather Burch's friend's daughter - fighting a brain tumor that has returned. Pray for successful radiation treatments, and for their family as they are separated during treatments in another state.

Cason Moncrief's coworker, *Carlos Aranda* - Pray for comfort, joy, and peace through the holidays following the loss of his maternal grandmother who he was very close to.

Pray for Our Expectant Mothers

Emily Wykes, due in March

Maretha Kritzinger, due in March

Brooke Lewis, due in April

Katelyn Schaeffer, due in May

Pray for David Stoddard, MTW's International Director for Europe

- *We are in great need of ongoing and one-time financial support. Please pray for new supporting churches and individuals who are willing to be a part of our support team.*
- *A fruitful home ministry assignment, reconnecting with many supporting churches and individuals.*

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 if you want us to be in touch, and so we know how we can pray for you.
- If you do not have a Bible of your own, please take one of the pew Bibles home with you today.

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

To see how our church participates in the global cause for Christ, check out the touch-screen monitor in the Narthex

Like and follow us on Facebook:

Spring Cypress Church

Restrooms are located in the Narthex.

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 parents with young children.
- Children ages 4-8 are welcome to go to Children's Worship prior to the sermon, and they are returned to the Sanctuary near the end of the service. On Communion Sundays (first of each month), children will remain with their families so that they regularly participate in corporate worship with our entire church family!

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.

You may place your gift in the offering plate, mail a check to the church office, or give online at springcypresschurch.com/give.

Our Church Leadership & Staff

Our Session

Justin Chandler
Ben Duncan

Erik Haaland
Danny McDaniel

Our Diaconate

Glenn Ayles
Jakob Basham
Kyle Bodden
Bill Dietz
David Jones

Stephen Kovach
Scott Lewis
Wayne Lin
Bob Pickard
Reed Wykes

Our Principal Staff

Rev. Ben Duncan, Senior Pastor
ben@springcypresschurch.com

Susan Cochran, Office Administrator
susan@springcypresschurch.com

Felix Espino, Director of Youth Ministries
felix@springcypresschurch.com

If you've lost or misplaced an item, please check with the office.

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm

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