



*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 25, 2022

Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

PRELUDE

*Janice Bradshaw
Brooke Lewis*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Ben

PREPARATION TO WORSHIP

Matthew 1:23

Janice Bradshaw

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Ben

from John 1

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

People: **All things were made through him, and without him
was not anything made that was made.**

Leader: In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

All: **The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.**

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION

Pastor Ben

✦SONGS OF ADORATION

Congregation

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Hymn #208, vs. 1, 2, & 4)
(Latin hymn, Wade)

DECLARATION OF GOD'S LAW

Ruling Elder Justin Chandler

Philippians 2:5-7

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Justin Chandler

Leader: Almighty God, with great sorrow we confess our great pride:
Our Lord, who existed from eternity past in the form of God,
emptied himself, being born in the likeness of men for our sakes,
yet we are not so willing to let go of place and position.

People: **Too often, we who are little think that we are great,
and we chafe at the thought of putting others before ourselves.
Forgive us for not following the way of Christ in this regard.**

✦Please stand if able

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

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

Leader: Father, sanctify us by your Spirit that we might recall
the words of Jesus to the effect that in his kingdom,
the first shall be last and the last shall be first.
Lord, hear now our silent prayers of personal confession
and forgive us for the sake of Jesus...

silent confession of personal sin
...amen.

PRONOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S GOSPEL
Isaiah 41:9-10

Justin Chandler

You whom I took from the ends of the earth,
and called from its farthest corners,
saying to you, "You are my servant,
I have chosen you and not cast you off,"
fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD
concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Justin Chandler

✦ SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Joy to the World! (Hymn #195, vs. 1, 2, & 4)
(Watts, Handel)

Congregation

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

Pastor Ben

SCRIPTURE TEXT

Luke 2:1-21

Pastor Ben

SERMON

The Nativity Sermon of John Chrysostom

Pastor Ben

✦ SONG OF RESPONSE

Good Christian Men, Rejoice (Hymn #207)
(Medieval Latin carol, German melody)

Congregation

✦ BENEDICTION

Pastor Ben

✦ SONG OF BLESSING

Gloria Patri (Hymn #735)

Congregation

POSTLUDE

Brooke Lewis

*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.*

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

Prayer

Pray for Our Church

College Students - Pray that our college students have a blessed time reconnecting with their family and friends during their winter break.

Pray for Our Congregation

Jeff Kuhn - for recovery from surgery and complete healing.

Ongoing health concerns: *René & Clairice Chapelle, Carl & Rose Gregory, Rick & Jeanne Maddy, Katie Medeiros, Mark Morrow, Jim & Mary Spiritosanto.*

Pray for Our Military and First Responders

Peter Achterkirch, Army, Washington

Christian Cory, Army, New York

Chris Dietz, Navy Reserves, Texas

Joshua Duncan, Army, Georgia

Shawn Maya, Spring Fire Department

Jessy Wykes, Army, Europe

Pray for Our College Students

Charlotte Achterkirch, Samford University

Claire Achterkirch, Samford University

Zach Allan, Tarleton State University

Rebekah Duncan, Montana State University

Austin Gatlin, Louisiana State University

Justin Gatlin, Louisiana State University

Jenna Haaland, Samford University

Rebekah Kooiman, Abilene Christian University

Ayden Steagall, Lone Star College

AJ Tousha, Lone Star College

Izzy Tousha, Lone Star College

Pray for Our Expectant Mothers

Theresa Adams is due in February.

Christine Harris is due in March.

Kathryn Ritchie is due in April.

Laurie Byerly is due in June.

Pray for Our Family & Friends

Christine Harris' cousin *Mary* & uncle *Ricky* - healthy pregnancy (23 weeks) for Mary while helping her father Ricky as he battles cancer; peace and comfort for all.

Cason Moncrief - for wisdom as he faces many decision in the coming months.

Amy Haaland's father *Gary Boldt* - pray for his recovery from a serious illness.

Jim & Mary Spiritosanto's daughter *Rebecca* - pray that her body will not reject the new kidney she received on December 1.

Greg Hagerman - pray for health struggles and financial concerns.

Heather Burch's sister *Kerri* - PRAISE - surgery went well; pray for pain management and complete healing.

Charles Zapp's 95-year-old mother *Jackie* - peace and comfort as she moves to critical care hospice in Harlingen.

Prayer for Our SCPC Missions Team

- Passion for foreign and domestic Gospel mission
- Wisdom regarding potential new partners and support/funding of strategic projects for current partners
- That the Lord would bring new, excited team members in 2023; faithfulness to care for our current missionary partners
- Continue to pray for our missionaries and missions partners!