



*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 4, 2022

## Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

*Brooke Lewis*

PRELUDE

*Janice Bradshaw*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Pastor Ben*

LIGHTING OF THE LOVE CANDLE

*Pete & Rita Rivera*

PREPARATION TO WORSHIP

*Janice Bradshaw*

*Please take a moment to silently prepare to worship,  
and reflect on Isaiah 7:14,*

*“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.  
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and shall call his name Immanuel.”*

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

*Pastor Ben*

*based on Philippians 4:4-6*

Leader: The mighty God summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets...

People: **Our God comes and will not be silent.**  
**God calls, and we respond to his love.**

Leader: The heavens declare God’s righteousness...

People: **The firmament declares God’s glory!**

Leader: Offer up to God your thanksgiving...

All: **For our God will hear us, save us, and abide with us forever!**

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION

*Pastor Ben*

✦SONGS OF ADORATION

*Congregation*

*O Come, All Ye Faithful* (Hymn #208, vs. 1, 2, and 3)  
(Latin hymn, Wade)

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* (Hymn #201, vs. 1, 2, and 4)  
(Brooks, Redner)

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

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

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✦Please stand if able

**DECLARATION OF GOD'S LAW**

*Ruling Elder Justin Chandler*

*James 1:13-14*

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Justin Chandler*

Leader: Almighty God, we often blame you  
and others for our sins and shortcomings.

**People: However, you tempt no person,  
and our sinful actions and decisions are ours alone.**

Leader: Father, forgive us for casting the blame  
for our sinful and rebellious actions on you or other people.  
Cause us to turn towards you in faith, love, and obedience.  
Hear now our silent prayers of personal confession...  
*silent confession of personal sin*  
...amen.

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*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.*

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**PRONOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S GOSPEL**

*Justin Chandler*

*1 John 1:7*

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

**PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD**

*Justin Chandler*

*concluding with the Lord's Prayer*

**✦SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

*Congregation*

*God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen* (Hymn #211)  
(Traditional English carol)

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

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**DIACONAL PRAYER**

*Deacon Stephen Kovach*

**OFFERTORY**

*Sing We the Song of Emmanuel*

*Band*

(Boswell, Papa, Townend, Getty)

Text on the next page.



## 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 is in the colored cups in the outer ring, wine is in the clear cups in the inner 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*

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (Hymn #194, vs. 2 and 5)  
(Latin hymn, Helmore; arr. Lawrence)

#### ✦BENEDICTION

*Pastor Ben*

#### ✦SONG OF BLESSING

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

*Congregation*

### POSTLUDE

*Brooke Lewis*

### DEACONS' FUND OFFERING

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

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## Announcements

<b>Monday, December 5</b>	
SAA Meeting Youth Building	7:30pm
<b>Tuesday, December 6</b>	
Men's Bible Study Room 118	7:00pm
CODA Meeting Youth Building	7:30pm
<b>Wednesday, December 7</b>	
Youth Group Youth Building	6:15pm
Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary	6:30pm
<b>Thursday, December 8</b>	
Diaconate Meeting Room 130	7:00pm
<b>Friday, December 9</b>	
<b>Saturday, December 10</b>	
<b>Sunday, December 11: Ugly Sweater Sunday</b>	
Worship Sanctuary & Live Stream	9:30am
Sunday School for all ages	11:00am
Children's Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary	11:45am

### **Advent Devotionals**

The Christmas season is one of the busiest times of the year. But it is also a season of reflection and preparation for that special day when we mark Emmanuel's coming - the arrival of our eternal God in our own frail humanity. To assist you in keeping Jesus at the center of this Advent season copies of several different Advent devotionals are available in the Narthex.. One per household, please.

### **Year-End Giving**

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 2022 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, 2022.** If you would like a year-to-date statement before the end of the year, email Robin, [robin@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:robin@springcypresschurch.com).

### **Children's Choir Rehearsal**

Sundays, **TODAY** and December 11, after worship, Sanctuary

Contact: Robin, [robin@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:robin@springcypresschurch.com)

The children of SCPC will help lead us in worship on December 18th! Rehearsal in the Sanctuary is immediately following worship TODAY and on December 11.

### **Youth Group Christmas Party**

Friday, December 16, 6:30-8:30 pm, Youth Building

Contact: Felix, [felix@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:felix@springcypresschurch.com) or 832-865-6087

Junior High and Senior High youth, join us for a joyful celebration of Christmas on Friday, December 16th! Nourishment, merriment, entertainment, encouragement - we'll have it all!

### **Christmas Dinner Fellowship Meal**

Sunday, December 18, after Sunday School Fellowship Hall

Contact: Kyra, [cateshouse@gmail.com](mailto:cateshouse@gmail.com)

Mark your calendar and join your church family for a Christmas feast! Ham, rolls, and beverages will be provided. Sign-up to bring a hearty portion of your family's favorite side dish or dessert in the Narthex **TODAY** or use the link that was emailed December 1.

# Prayer

## **Pray for Our Church**

*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**

*Jeff Kuhn* - staying hydrated & gaining strength in preparation for surgery to remove an esophageal tumor.  
*Leslee Stollberg and family* - peace and comfort following the death of her father James Brandenburg.  
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**

Heather Burch's sister *Kerri* - pray for the best possible outcome from surgery scheduled for December 5 and for as little pain as possible during recovery.  
Charles Zapp's 95-year-old mother *Jackie* - peace and comfort as she moves to critical care hospice in Harlingen.  
Charles Zapp's nephew *Wesley McCool* - wisdom and peace while handling marital issues.  
*Liz Zapp* - complete and quick recovery from hand surgery.  
Christine Harris' cousin *Mary* - comfort and peace for Mary's family on the death of her mother and healthy pregnancy for Mary.

## **Prayer for Our SCPC Missions Team**

- Passion for foreign and domestic Gospel missions.
- 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!

**Sermon Notes**

***The Virgin Birth***

December 4, 2022

Matthew 1:18-25





## MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH December 2022

### SCPC MISSIONS TEAM

The Missions Team serves SCPC under the authority of the Session in three broad categories: Missionary Communication, Congregational Awareness, and Providing Budgeted Partnership Recommendations to the Session for approval. Several of the current team members will be rotating off at the end of 2022. Please prayerfully consider joining this vital team; contact Justin Chandler ([justin@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:justin@springcypresschurch.com)) for more information.

We are excited to announce a short-term mission trip available to our SCPC family! Our hope is to assemble a group of people to travel to Honduras next summer to assist the Halberts (PCA Mission to the World) with a construction project. Watch for details about an upcoming informational meeting to be held mid-January where you can learn more about this life-changing experience.

The Mission Team covets the prayers of the members of SCPC in the following areas:

- Passion for foreign and domestic Gospel missions.
- 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!



# Advent at SCPC Sundays



First Sunday of Advent—Denim Sunday



## Second Sunday of Advent - TODAY! Classy Christmas Colors

December 4th

*Wear your classiest Christmas-colored clothes to worship on the 2nd Sunday of Advent.*



## Third Sunday of Advent—NEXT SUNDAY!

Ugly Sweater Sunday

December 11th

*Continue our advent fun by showing off your ugliest Christmas sweater on the 3rd Sunday of Advent!*



## Fourth Sunday of Advent Flannel Sunday

**December 18th**

*Soft flannel, plaid flannel, solid-colored flannel - be warm and comfy in your flannel on the 4th Sunday of Advent!*

## Special Events



### Christmas Fellowship Meal

**Sunday, December 18th after Sunday School**

*Mark your calendar for an early Christmas feast! Watch for a sign-up for side dishes and desserts.*

# Christmas Eve Service

December 24th  
6:00pm

*Bring your family and join us for a relaxed and intimate service.*

## 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](http://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](http://springcypresschurch.com/give).

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## Our Church Leadership & Staff

### Elders

Ian Achterkirch  
Justin Chandler  
Erik Haaland

Tim Kooiman  
Danny McDaniel

The elders may be reached at:  
[session@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:session@springcypresschurch.com)

### Deacons

Jakob Basham  
Kyle Bodden  
Bill Dietz  
David Farmer

David Jones  
Stephen Kovach  
Scott Lewis  
Bob Pickard

The deacons may be reached at:  
[deacons@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:deacons@springcypresschurch.com)

### Staff

Rev. Ben Duncan, Senior Pastor  
[ben@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:ben@springcypresschurch.com)

Robin Trygstad, Office Administrator  
[robin@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:robin@springcypresschurch.com)

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

6000 Spring Cypress Rd, Spring, TX 77379 · 281-320-3650 · [springcypresschurch.com](http://springcypresschurch.com)