



*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 5, 2021

Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Janice Bradshaw*

PRELUDE *Stephanie Hicks*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pastor Ben*

LIGHTING OF THE LOVE CANDLE *Scott & Cathy Thibaut*

PREPARATION TO WORSHIP *Stephanie Hicks*

*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*

Leader: Rejoice, the Lord is King;

People: **Your Lord and King adore!**

Leader: Rejoice, give thanks, and sing

People: **And triumph evermore:**

Leader: Lift up your heart! Lift up your voice!

All: **Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION *Pastor Ben*

✦SONGS OF ADORATION *Congregation*

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Hymn #208, vs. 1, 3, and 4)
(Wade; arr. Willcocks, Lawrence)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Hymn #196, vs. 1, 2, and 4)
(Wesley, Hunt, Pritchard; arr. Harkness, Rawsthorne, Lawrence)

*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*

✦Please stand if able

DECLARATION OF GOD'S LAW

Ruling Elder Ian Achterkirch

1 Peter 4:10

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ian Achterkirch

Leader: Almighty God, you have blessed us greatly in Christ by the gifts of your Spirit.

Yet we confess that we are guilty of taking these gifts for granted and for both neglecting and abusing them.

People: We confess that we have used your good gifts for our own benefit instead of the good of others. Have mercy upon us and cleanse us from our sin through the blood of Jesus.

Leader: Father, for the glory of your great name, increase our faith in Christ and our faithfulness to use our gifts for the edification of others and the furtherance of your Kingdom.

We ask that you now hear our silent prayers of personal confession and forgive us for the sake of your Son...

silent confession of personal sin

Amen.

PRONOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S GOSPEL

Ian Achterkirch

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

Ian Achterkirch

concluding with the Lord's Prayer

✦SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Congregation

It Came upon the Midnight Clear (Hymn #200, vs. 1, 3, and 4)
(Sears, Willis)

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

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

DIACONAL PRAYER

Deacon Stephen Kovach

OFFERTORY

Silent Night

Choir

(arr. Manor)

text can be found in the hymnal on page 210

✦ SONG OF PRAISE

The Doxology (Hymn #731)

Congregation

(Ken, Bourgeois)

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

Pastor Ben

After the blessing on the first Sunday of the month,
children remain in the service with their parents.

SCRIPTURE TEXT

Joshua 21:43-45
2 Corinthians 1:19-20

Pastor Ben

SERMON

Hope that God Will Keep All His Promises to You *Pastor Ben*

✦ SONG OF PREPARATION

Congregation

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (Hymn #194, vs. 1, 3, and 4)

(12th century Latin antiphon, 13th century Plainsong; arr. Willcocks, Lawrence)

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.

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

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

I Wonder as I Wander Laurilyn Butin, violin
(arr. IJames)

✦SONG OF RESPONSE

Congregation

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (Hymn #194, vs. 2 and 5)
(12th century Latin antiphon, 13th century Plainsong; arr. Willcocks, Lawrence)

✦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.*

Announcements

Monday, December 6	
SAA Meeting Youth Building	7:30pm
Tuesday, December 7	
Men's Bible Study Room 116	7:00pm
CODA Meeting Youth Building	7:30pm
Wednesday, December 8	
Youth Bell Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary	6:00pm
Wednesday Family Night Fellowship Hall	6:30pm
Choir Sanctuary	6:30pm
Youth Group Youth Building	6:30pm
Thursday, December 9	
MOPS Play Date Pavilion & Playground	10:00am
Women's Christmas Party Tracy Allen home	7:00pm
Diaconate Meeting Pastor's Office	7:00pm
Friday, December 10	
Saturday, December 11	
Church-Wide Movie Cinemark Spring-Klein	2:00pm
Sunday, December 12 - Ugly Sweater Sunday	
Worship Sanctuary & Live Stream	9:30am
Sunday School for all ages	11:00am
Christmas Fellowship Meal Fellowship Hall	12:00pm

Children's Choir Rehearsal

TODAY after worship, Sanctuary

Contact: Elisa, elisa@springcypresschurch.com

The children of SCPC will be helping to lead us in worship next Sunday! Rehearsal in the Sanctuary is immediately following worship.

Music Ministry Christmas Program

TONIGHT at 6:00 pm, Sanctuary

Our tradition continues! A program of beloved old and new songs celebrating the birth of Christ shared by members of our music ministry. A time of wonderful music, carol singing, and fellowship.

Wednesday Family Night

Wednesday, December 8, 6:30 pm

RSVP by TODAY, elisa@springcypresschurch.com

Our monthly Wednesday Family Night is this coming Wednesday! Dinner will be served from 6:30-7:00, then the children will have a lesson and activity and parents will be lead in a study.

Advent Devotionals available in the Narthex

To assist you in keeping Jesus at the center of this Advent season pick up a copy of Tim Chester's devotional *Fixated* in the Narthex (one per household).

Church-Wide Movie: *Elf!*

Saturday, December 11, 2:00 pm

Cinemark Spring-Klein, 21440 Kuykendahl Rd

Join your church family for an afternoon filled with holiday merriment and laughter as we watch the modern Christmas classic *Elf!* **Register by December 9** at springcypresschurch.com.

Christmas Dinner Fellowship Meal

Sunday, December 12, 12:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Contact: Tracy

Mark your calendar for an early Christmas feast! **Sign-up to bring side dishes and desserts** via the link to be emailed this afternoon.

Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 19, 5:00 pm

Contact: Wesley, wesley@springcypresschurch.com

Grab your family and friends, young and old, and join us as we bring Christmas Cheer to some of the brothers and sisters in our congregation who are not able to worship with us regularly. Meet in the church parking lot at 4:45 pm and the caravan will leave at 5:00 pm. We plan to finish back at the church for cider and snacks. See you there!

Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 19, following Christmas Caroling

Esteves home

Contact: Felix

Senior and junior high students! Join our church family for caroling and then we'll go to the Esteves' home for Christmas fun!

Year-End Giving

As you plan your year-end giving, prayerfully consider the ministry needs of our church and your covenant tithe. **Currently we are at 89% of our budgeted goal for 2021.** 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, 2021.** If you would like a year-to-date statement before the end of the year, email Robin.

Prayer

Pray for Our Church

Session - Pray for our Session as they seek the Lord's direction and will for our church, and wisdom as they shepherd our covenant community.

Pray for Our Congregation

Rusty Allen - relief from pain and healing of his lower back.

René & Clairice Chapelle - PRAISE - René and Clairice are healing well and enjoying time with their family.

Carl Gregory - complete healing and recovery from surgery.

Joyce Hill - complete healing and recovery from wrist surgery and relief from pain.

Mark Morrow - healing of chronic asthma and wisdom regarding other ongoing health concerns.

Arlene Rodney - wisdom in regards to scheduling sinus surgery and protection from new infection.

Ongoing health concerns: *René & Clairice Chapelle, Carl & Rose Gregory, Rick & Jeanne Maddy, and Katie Medeiros.*

Pray for Our Military and First Responders

Peter Achterkirch, Army, Washington

Shawn Maya, Spring Fire Department

Christian Cory, Army, New York

Jessy Wykes, Army, Kentucky

Chris Dietz, Navy Reserves, Texas

Pray for Our College Students

Charlotte Achterkirch, Samford University

Jenna Haaland, Samford University

Zach Allan, Tarleton State University

Rebekah Kooiman, Abilene Christian University

Daniel Duncan, Lone Star College

Ayden Steagall, Lone Star College

Rebekah Duncan, Montana State University

Lauren Steagall, University of Houston

Austin Gatlin, Louisiana State University

AJ Tousha, Lone Star College

Justin Gatlin, Louisiana State University

Izzy Tousha, Lone Star College

Pray for Our Families and Friends

Heather Burch's mother, *Susan* - complete healing following surgery to repair a perforated colon.

Thecla Musima's mother, *Elizabeth* - peace and comfort following the death of her son and mother-in-law and as she spends time with her family in Cameroon.

Pray for Our Expectant Mothers

Emily Wykes is due in December.

Felicity Bodden is due in March.

Email prayer requests to robin@springcypresschurch.com.



Advent at SCPC Sundays



**First Sunday of Advent
Denim Sunday**



**Second Sunday of Advent
Classy Christmas Colors
December 5th**

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



**Third Sunday of Advent
Ugly Sweater Sunday
December 12th**

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



**Fourth Sunday of Advent
Flannel Sunday
December 19th**

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





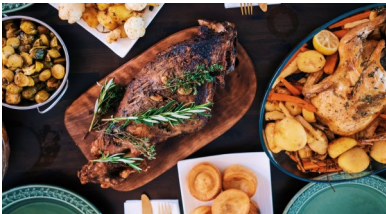
Special Events



Church-Wide Movie

Featuring *Elf*, Saturday, December 11th, 2:00 pm
Cinemark Spring-Klein, 21440 Kuykendahl Rd

Join your church family for an afternoon filled with holiday merriment and laughter as we watch the modern Christmas classic Elf! Register by Dec. 9th at springcypresschurch.com



Christmas Fellowship Meal

Sunday, December 12th after Sunday School

Mark your calendar for an early Christmas feast! Sign-up to bring side dishes and desserts with the link emailed 11/28.



Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 19th at 5:00pm, meet at the church

Come "fa-la-la" with us as we visit home-bound members of our church family and bring wonderful encouragement to our brothers and sisters through song. Then join us back at the church for Christmas cookies and fellowship!

Christmas Eve Service

December 24th, 6:00pm
In our Sanctuary
Childcare by reservation
(elisa@springcypresschurch.com)

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

Elders

Ian Achterkirch
Justin Chandler
Chuck Dorau

Erik Haaland
Tim Kooiman
Danny McDaniel

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

Deacons

Jakob Basham
David Farmer

Stephen Kovach
Scott Lewis

The deacons may be reached at:
alldacons@springcypresschurch.com

Staff

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

Dr. Wesley Lawrence, Music Director
wesley@springcypresschurch.com

Elisa Haaland, Multidisciplinary Ministry
Coordinator
elisa@springcypresschurch.com

Robin Trygstad, Office Administrator
robin@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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