



*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 5, 2020

Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

PRELUDE *Saule Garcia*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pastor Ben*

MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH *Stephen Kovach*
Brooks & Meredith Harwood, RUF, University of Houston

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

Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.
Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION *Pastor Ben*

✦SONGS OF ADORATION *Congregation*

Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Hymn #32)
(Chisholm, Runyan)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (Hymn #38)
(Smith, Traditional Welsh melody)

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.

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.

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.

PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD

Chuck Dorau

concluding with the Lord's Prayer

✦SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Congregation

Before the Throne of God Above

(Bancroft, Cook)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Deacon Bruce Honts

OFFERTORY

Rick Toothman

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*
(Ken, Bourgeois)

BLESSING THE CHILDREN *Pastor Ben*
After the blessing you are welcome to send your children, ages 4-8 to Children's Worship in B123, or they may remain with you. Children will return to the main service after the sermon.

SCRIPTURE READING Nahum 1:1-8 *Pastor Ben*
found on page 782 in the pew bible

SERMON *God's Unchanging Character* *Pastor Ben*

✦ **SONG OF PREPARATION** *Congregation*
How Firm a Foundation (Hymn #94, verses 1-3)
(Rippon's *Selection of Hymns* 1787, Traditional American Melody)

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

✦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Pastor Ben*
the Apostle's Creed, (can be found on page 845 of the hymnal)

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 trays are passed, please note that we provide **gluten-free bread in the center cup** and **grape juice in the colored cups in the outer ring**, wine in the clear cups in the inner rings.*

from 1 Corinthians 11:23-24

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."

MUSIC OF MEDITATION

Janice Bradshaw

from 1 Corinthians 11:25-26

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

How Firm a Foundation (Hymn #94, verses 4-6)
(Rippon's *Selection of Hymns* 1787, Traditional American Melody)

✦ 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*

Please join us in The Gallery for light refreshments following the service.

Sermon Notes

God's Unchanging Character

January 5, 2020

Monday, January 6	
SAA Meeting (Youth Building)	7:30pm
Tuesday, January 7	
Women in the Word (Corley home)	9:30am
CODA Meeting (Youth Building)	7:30pm
Wednesday, January 8	
Youth Group (Youth Building)	6:30pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm
Praise Team Rehearsal	8:00pm
Thursday, January 9	
MOPS (B119-121)	10:00am
Friday, January 10	
Saturday, January 11	
Sunday, January 12	
Praise Team Rehearsal	8:30am
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	8:45am
Pray with the Elders (Pastor's Office)	9:00am
Sunday School for All Ages	9:30am
Worship	10:30am
Child Protection Policy Training (Forum)	12:00pm
Praise & Worship (Sanctuary)	6:00pm

Child Protection Policy Training

NEXT SUNDAY, after worship, The Forum

This one-hour training session is about our policies and practices and is **required for all staff and volunteers in the children's and youth ministries**. If you have any questions, please contact Elisa Haaland.

Praise and Worship

NEXT SUNDAY, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary

Join us for an evening of praise, prayer and song!

2020 Change for Life Baby Bottle Campaign

Give Change. Save Lives. Pick up a baby bottle from the Narthex, fill it with change, bills, or a check, and bring it back by Sunday, January 19th in support of the Pregnancy Assistance Center North in The Woodlands. By filling this bottle you are impacting lives for generations to come. For more information visit pacn.org.

New Session of Women-to-Women (W2W)

Register today through January 19 at

springcypresschurch.com/women or in the Narthex

Ladies, join us for our next session of W2W! This is your opportunity to gather with two other women and grow in your relationships as you meet once a month for a time of fun, fellowship, and encouragement. Don't miss out! Have questions? Contact Linda Farmer.

Women in the Word morning study:

Deuteronomy

Tuesday, January 7, 9:30 am, Julie Corley's home
Childcare provided with reservation, contact Elisa Haaland

Join us as we begin a new semester by gathering together for brunch at Julie Corley's home. Books for our study of Deuteronomy will be distributed. Bring a friend and a dish to share. Have questions? Contact Julie Corley.

Women in the Word evening study will begin

Thursday, January 16, 7:00 pm in B115.

Youth Group

Wednesday, January 8, 6:30 pm, Youth Building

Youth, join us for a fun evening of worship, teaching, fellowship, food, and games! Have questions? Contact Susy Tousha.

Sanctuary Choir

Wednesday, January 8, 6:30 pm, Sanctuary

Childcare available

New choir members are always welcome! This group is about Christ-centered fellowship, setting our minds, hearts, and voices to lead in the worship of our Lord and Savior. Have questions? Contact Wesley Lawrence.

MOPS

Thursday, January 9, 10:00 am, B119-121

Mamas of young children, join us as we kick-off the new year with a fun morning of food, fellowship, devotional and a craft. Please RSVP to mops@springcypresschurch.com.

Monthly Fellowship Meal

Sunday January 19, after worship

Watch for an email or sign-up next week to bring an item to make our meal complete. Have questions? Contact Tracy Allen.

Prayer

Pray for Our Church

Youth

Pray for our youth as they head back to school after winter break. May they reflect Jesus to their friends and teachers and persevere as they allow the Holy Spirit to work through them for God's glory.

Pray for Our Congregation

Jeanne Maddy - complete healing of fractured knee

Rick Maddy - continued success in walking in his stubbies

Katie Medeiros - resolution of kidney issues

Paul Rodney - PRAISE that some measures of his blood have greatly improved; continue to pray for strength and protection from illness

Pray for Our Military and First Responders

Christian Cory, *Army, New York*

Chris Dietz, *Navy Reserves, Kingsville, Texas*

Daniel Duncan, *Navy, IL*

Shawn Maya, *Spring Fire Department*

Pray for Our College Students

Charlotte Achterkirch, *Samford University*

Peter Achterkirch, *The Citadel*

Ian Allan, *Calvin University*

Zach Allan, *Tarleton State University*

Austin Gatlin, *Louisiana State University*

Justin Gatlin, *Louisiana State University*

Hannah Haaland, *Belhaven University*

Jacob Kerr, *Texas A&M University*

Matthew Kooiman, *Olivet Nazarene University*

Aaron Lewis, *Texas Tech University*

Lauren Steagall, *University of Houston*

AJ Tousha, *Lone Star College*

Naomi Tousha, *University of Houston*

Pray for Families and Friends

Jess McGlothlin's mother, Karen - Pray that the remaining chemo treatments are effective and that Karen's body will handle them well.

Beverly Crowder's mother and father, Carolyn and Tom - Beverly is back in Kenya with her family. Pray for healing and strength for Carolyn as well as patience and longsuffering for Tom's caretakers. (SCPC supports the Crowder's work in Africa.)

Brenda Ricks' cousin, Glenda Jones - peace & comfort following complications from liver cancer treatment.

Amy Haaland's co-worker, Sandi Wyatte - Recovery from lumpectomy (stage I breast cancer). Positive results from radiation therapy.

MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

January 2020

BROOKS & MEREDITH HARWOOD
SOPHIE

Reformed University Fellowship
University of Houston



Brooks has a heart for speaking and demonstrating the gospel to those of diverse religious backgrounds, the unchurched, and those who have moved away from the faith in which they were raised. The University of Houston is the sixth most ethnically diverse university in the nation, with students from many nationalities and religious traditions.

Prayer Points:

- that God would keep sending students of other religions, students who aren't religious, and students who are skeptical and searching
- that students who are hurting (past abuse, crippling anxiety, money issues, loneliness, etc.) would find comfort and care in the group
- that the Spirit would guide Brooks' preparation for teaching and fellowship in the Spring

Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 26, 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 2019, sharing key goals for 2020 - to include presenting the approved 2020 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, January 26th at 6:00 pm.



IAN ACHTERKIRCH, Elder

Ian and his wife, Christine, have been members at SCPC for almost 8 years. They have 3 adult children and 2 children still at home. After joining SCPC, Ian began teaching 5th and 6th grade Sunday School, and then adult Sunday School classes. He's currently in his first term on the Session. If elected, this would be his second term on the Session.



CHUCK DORAU, Elder

Chuck and his wife, Pam, have been members at SCPC for 30 years. Chuck is currently the treasurer of SCPC and has taught many Sunday School classes through the years. Chuck and Pam have 2 children and 5 grandchildren. They have been retired for just over a year and enjoy traveling and being involved in various ministries. Chuck is currently in his first term on the Session. If elected, this would be his second term on the Session.



TIM KOOIMAN, Elder

Tim and his wife, Lauri, have been members at SCPC for over 20 years. They have 3 children who have grown up in this church. Tim was raised in a Christian Reformed home and made a profession of faith as a freshman in high school. In addition to overseeing all of our church's audiovisual needs, he is currently a member of the Session. If elected, this would be his second term on the Session.



DAVID FARMER, Deacon

David and his wife, Linda, have been members at SCPC for 6 years. They have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. David retired after being in the oil and gas industry for 40 years. Saved at the age of 12 on Easter Sunday, David became reformed in his theology simply by reading the bible. He enjoys golf, chess, fly fishing, water skiing, and playing the clarinet. If re-elected, this would be David's second term on the Diaconate.

New Sunday School Classes Begin January 12, 9:30-10:15 am

ADULTS

The Already But Not Yet: Studies on the Kingdom of God, B119-121 taught by Tony Tousha
"Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.'" Mark 1:14-15 - Join us in a biblical theology survey where we try to discover the King and His kingdom.

Christ Crucified - A deeper look at the Gospel in the context of today's culture, *The Forum*
taught by Ian Achterkirch
"But we preach Christ Crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness..." (1 Cor. 1:23) Using a combination of video resources, biblical study, and discussion we will look at the theology of the crucifixion, how it is perceived by many today and how we can respond.

JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Youth Building

"Jesus" Is Not Just a Sunday School Answer taught by Erik Haaland
Junior and Senior Highers, make plans to join us Sunday mornings for this exciting new class! We will be going deeper in studying Jesus Christ: who he is, what he's done, and why it matters.

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 **Pre-K and Kindergarten students** will continue using a curriculum by **Great Commission Publications**. This quarter children will learn about God's promise to send a Savior, made so long ago to Adam and Eve, was fulfilled in Jesus, the Son of God.

Students in our **Lower Elementary Sunday school class (grades 1-3)** will continue their study for children on the greatness and worth of God using the alphabet as a framework for learning the ***attributes of God*** and other terms that describe his character. Through the use of a teaching aid called the Blessing Box, students will discover a new attribute of God each week and will be challenged to consider how they should respond to an amazing God who is worthy of their greatest love, their trust and obedience.

Fourth and Fifth graders in our Upper Elementary Sunday School class have embarked on 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 located in the pew in front of you.

If you do not have a Bible of your own, please take one of the pew Bibles home with you today.

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

A large print bulletin is available 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 return 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 easytithe.com/scpc.

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
Brett Kerr
Scott Lewis
Martin Morales
Bob Pickard
Stephen Robinson

The deacons may be reached at alldeacons@springcypresschurch.com.

Staff

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

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

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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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