



*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, September 17, 2023

Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Janice Bradshaw*

PRELUDE *Brooke Lewis*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pastor Ben*

PREPARATION TO WORSHIP *Brooke Lewis*

*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 Isaiah 54:5,*

*"For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name;
and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer,
the God of the whole earth he is called."*

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF ADORATION** *Pastor Ben*
from Psalm 66:1-5

Leader: Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise!

People: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! All the earth
worships you and sings praises to you."

Leader: Come and see what God has done:

All: He is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man!

✦ **SONGS OF ADORATION** *Congregation*

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

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

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (Hymn #604, vs. 1, 3, and 4)
(Plumptre, Messiter)

DECLARATION OF GOD'S LAW *Ruling Elder Justin Chandler*
Exodus 20:13

You shall not murder.

✦ *Please stand if able*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Justin Chandler

Leader: Almighty God, your 6th commandment, “you shall not murder,” is one which we proudly and boastfully believe we have kept in full. Yet your Word reveals the breadth and depth of this command and how we have indeed sinned by violating it. Indeed, every expression of anger, disdain, or even ambivalence of others that devalues the lives and personhood of other people is a violation of this commandment.

People: **O God, you know our secret thoughts. You know our hot anger, our brooding malice, our open contempt, and our cold indifference. Father, we admit and confess that we have not cherished and protected the lives of others as we should. Forgive us, we pray.**

Leader: Father, we ask you to forgive us for our transgressions of your 6th commandment, and we ask that by your Spirit you would sanctify us that we might better love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Please bring to mind where else we have sinned against you and hear our silent prayers of personal confession...

silent confession of personal sin

...amen.

PRONOUNCEMENT OF GOD’S GOSPEL

Justin Chandler

Psalm 103:2-4

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

PRAYER FOR CHRIST’S CHURCH AND THE WORLD

Justin Chandler

concluding with the Lord’s Prayer

✠SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Congregation

Beneath the Cross
(Getty, Getty)

DIACONAL PRAYER

Deacon Glenn Ayles

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.*

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

OFFERTORY

Psalm 121

Sanctuary Choir

(Kauflin, Getty, Merker, Papa, Larson)

I lift my eyes up to the hills; from where does my help come?
My help comes from the Maker of the heavens and the earth.
He will not let my foot be moved; He keeps my journey safe.

He is the shade at my right hand, my shelter in the storm;
no sun by day, nor moon by night shall ever bring me harm.
He will not slumber, will not sleep; He watches all my ways.

*O my soul, praise the Lord Most High; strong to save, He upholds my life.
Forevermore He will be my light; I lift my eyes up to the Lord Most High.*

I lift my eyes up to the hills; from where does my help come?
My help comes from the Maker of the heavens and the earth.
The God of Israel is my guide wherever I may go;
and in His strength I will abide until He leads me home.

✦ SONG OF PRAISE

The Doxology (Hymn #731)
(Ken, Bourgeois)

Congregation

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

Pastor Ben

*After the blessing you are welcome to send your children ages 4-8 to Children's Worship
or they may remain with you. Children will be returned to the Sanctuary after the sermon.*

SCRIPTURE TEXT

Matthew 16:1-12

Pastor Ben

SERMON

Connecting the Dots

Pastor Ben

✦ SONG OF RESPONSE

Speak O Lord
(Getty, Townend)

Congregation

✦ BENEDECTION

Pastor Ben

✦ SONG OF BLESSING

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

Congregation

POSTLUDE

Janice Bradshaw

Sermon Notes

September 17, 2023

Connecting the Dots

Matthew 16:1-12

Announcements

Monday, September 18	
Session Meeting Pastor's Office	7:00pm
Tuesday, September 19	
Women in the Word Room 119	9:30am
Men's Book Study Room 117	7:00pm
Wednesday, September 20	
<i>Enfuego</i> Youth Group Youth Building	6:15pm
Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary	6:30pm
Thursday, September 21	
Women in the Word Room 119	7:00pm
Friday, September 22	
Saturday, September 23	
Sunday, September 24	
Worship Sanctuary & Live Stream	9:30am
Sunday School for all ages	11:00am

Fellowship Meal - Southern BBQ

TODAY after Sunday School, Fellowship Hall
Join us for a time of fellowship over a southern BBQ!

Discovering Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church *Our Culture, Confession, and Calling*

Wednesdays, September 27-October 25, 6:30-8pm

Would you like to learn what kind of church we are trying to be, our beliefs, ministry, and mission? The class is open to all - the curious and those desiring to join SCPC. **TODAY is the last day to sign-up** in the Narthex or on our website, springcypresschurch.com.

Childcare is available upon request.

Directory Photos

Stop by the Gallery after worship service and **get your picture taken TODAY** to be added/updated in our online directory.

Women-to-Women (W2W)

Contact: Linda Farmer or Sarah Kooiman

Ladies, deepen your relationships with other women in our church through W2W! Meet about once a month for a time of fun, fellowship, and encouragement and reflect on select scripture as you walk alongside one another in your Christian journey. **TODAY is the last day to register** for the fall session (Oct-Jan) in the Narthex or call the church office.

Women's Ministry Volunteers

Contact: Susy Tousha or Cindy Peterson

Women, do you like to plan or help with events such as bridal and baby showers, Christmas parties, and women's conferences? Contact Susy or Cindy to express your interest and learn where you can use your gifts and talents to serve the Lord and the women of SCPC!

Men's Book Study

Tuesday, September 19, 7:00pm, Room 117

Contact: Michael Byerly

Men, make plans to join us as we start our study of *It's Good to Be a Man* by Michael Foster and Dominic Bnonn Tennant. We will be reminded that men's natural masculine instincts are a gift from God and meant to be used to grow his kingdom.

Food Drive to benefit Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministries (TEAM)

Contact: Stephen Kovach

Next Sunday is the last day to bring items for the TEAM Food Drive. One of TEAM's many services to families in our area is a food pantry that provides wholesome food for a balanced diet. YOU can help TEAM by bringing a donation of any of the items listed on the flyer in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Prayer

Pray for Our Church

Pray for good health and perseverance for *our College Students* as they prepare for the end of the spring semester.

Pray for Our Congregation

Ongoing health concerns: *Neal Benedict, Hannah Byerly, 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

Joshua Duncan, Army, North Carolina

Christian Cory, Army, New York

Shawn Maya, Spring Fire Department

Chris Dietz, Navy Reserves, Texas

Jessy Wykes, Germany

Pray for Our College Students

Claire Achterkirch, Samford University

Rebekah Allcorn, Abilene Christian University

Ben Chandler, Samford University

Aiden Steagall, Texas A&M

Rebekah Duncan, Blinn College

Izzy Tousha, Texas State

Austin Gatlin, Louisiana State University

AJ Tousha, Lone Star College

Jenna Haaland, Samford University

Pray for Our Friends & Family

Mindy Burton's daughter, *Mackelle Cannon* - for dissipation of blood clot from her brain/sinus cavity down her neck toward her heart.

Sara Carrera's sister, *Candace*, and friend, *Stephanie*, both have cancer. Pray for healing, comfort, and endurance for both of them and their families..

Bill & Denise Cooper's two-year-old grandson *Daniel* - complete healing of broken femur.

Kathryn Ritchie's friend *Melody* - comfort and peace following the unexpected death of her 1 day old baby.

Kathryn Ritchie's aunt *Nancy Villarreal* - recently diagnosed with advanced stage bone cancer.

Vincent & Eleanor Tracey's grandson *Elijah* - PRAISE he is halfway through his radiation and chemo treatments. Pray for effectiveness of treatments with minimal side effects, return of his ability to swallow, return of fine and gross motor skills, and strength for Elijah and his family.

Reed & Jolene Wykes' daughter *Jessy Wykes* - Jessy leaves Kentucky next week for a permanent change of station in Germany. Pray for safety and her adjustment to her new responsibilities.

Pray for Our Expectant Mothers

Carrington Jones due in November.

Maretha Kritzinger due in March.

Emily Wykes due in March.

Brooke Lewis due in April.

Praise with & Pray for *Rick & Betty Aschmann, Anne & Nathan*, PCA Mission to the World, Ecuador

Pray for safety for the Aschmanns and their Christian friends in Ecuador. Crime is rampant and continuing to get worse.

Pray for Anne and Nathan as they study at Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska. Anne is starting her third year, studying math education and Nathan is in his freshman year studying Physics.

Pray for Rick and Betty's travels throughout the U.S. this 2023-24 school year as they visit partners in the ministry in about 10 different states.

Email prayer requests to robin@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

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

Robin Trygstad, Office Administrator
robin@springcypresschurch.com

Susan Cochran, Administrative Assistant
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

6000 Spring Cypress Rd, Spring, TX 77379 · 281-320-3650 · springcypresschurch.com