



*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 29, 2024

## Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

### PRELUDE

*Janice Bradshaw*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Ruling Elder Ian Achterkirch*

### PREPARATION TO WORSHIP

*Janice Bradshaw*

Please take a moment to silently prepare to worship,  
and reflect on *Genesis 1:1*.

*"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."*

### ✦ CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF ADORATION

*Ian Achterkirch*

*from Deuteronomy 32:3-4*

Leader: Let us proclaim the name of the LORD!

**People: We ascribe greatness to our God!**

Leader: The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice.

**All: A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he!**

### ✦ SONGS OF ADORATION

*Congregation*

***This Is My Father's World!*** (Hymn #111)  
(Babcock, Sheppard)

***How Great Thou Art*** (Hymn #44, verses 1, 3, and 4)  
(Hine, Swedish Folk Melody)

### DECLARATION OF GOD'S LAW

*Ian Achterkirch*

*Exodus 20:14*

"You shall not commit adultery."

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Ian Achterkirch*

Leader: Almighty God, you have both created and blessed us with the gift of sex to be cherished and protected within the bounds of marriage, which you have likewise given to us as a gift to be guarded. And we know that your 7th commandment, "you shall not commit adultery," forbids not only the act of marital

✦ *Please stand if able*

\*\**Denotes song ending on slides*

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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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unfaithfulness, but also impurity of imagination, as well as any unnatural or unchaste desire or behavior. Lord, we understand that the 7th commandment calls us to a high and noble faithfulness to our spouse as our covenant partner, to holding the marriage bed in honor, and to representing the Church's relationship with her Husband in its purity. Yet with great contrition we acknowledge that we often fall short.

**People:** O God, you know the thoughts and intentions of our hearts, and nothing can be hidden from your sight. You know the many ways in which we have let our eyes, minds, and hearts indulge in inappropriateness, and how we have treated neither sex nor marriage with the honor and sacredness we ought. **Forgive us, we pray.**

**Leader:** Father, we ask you to forgive us for our transgressions of your 7th commandment, and we ask that by your Spirit you would sanctify us that we might better love our neighbors as we love ourselves, that we would cherish your good gifts of sex and marriage by honoring and protecting them as you instruct us. Please also 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**

*1 Corinthians 15:56-57*

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Ian Achterkirch*

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

*concluding with the Lord's Prayer*

*Ian Achterkirch*

#### **✠SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

##### **He Will Hold Me Fast**

(Habershon, Merker)

*Congregation*

#### **DIACONAL PRAYER**

*Deacon Stephen Kovach*

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

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

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**OFFERTORY**      **Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above**      *Sanctuary Choir*  
(Schutz; arr. by Williamson)

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
The God of pow'r, the God of love, the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled, and ev'ry faithless murmur stilled:  
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,  
An ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,  
As with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band:  
To God all praise and glory!

Thus all my gladsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,  
That all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; Both soul and body, take your part:  
To God all praise and glory!

**✦ SONG OF PRAISE**      **The Doxology** (Hymn #731)      *Congregation*  
(Ken, Bourgeois)

**BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN**      *Ruling Elder Justin Chandler*

*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**      *Luke 15:11-32*      *Mr. Felix Espino*

**SERMON**      The Parable of the Prodigal Son      *Mr. Felix Espino*

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

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**✦ SONG OF RESPONSE**      *Congregation*  
***Jesus I Come***  
(Sleeper, Thompson)

**✦ BENEEDICTION**      *Mr. Felix Espino*

**✦ SONG OF BLESSING**      ***Gloria Patri*** (Hymn #735)      *Congregation*  
(Traditional 2nd century text, Greatorex)

**POSTLUDE**      *Linda Stringer*

✦ Please stand if able

\*\*Denotes song ending on slides

**Sermon Notes**

September 29, 2024

**The Parable of the Prodigal Son**

*Luke 15:11-32*

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# Announcements

<b>Monday, September 30</b>		
<b>Tuesday, October 1</b>		
Women in the Word Childcare Nursery		9:15am
Women in the Word Rm. 119		9:30am
<b>Wednesday, October 2</b>		
Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary		6:15pm
Enfuego Youth Meal Fellowship Hall		6:15pm
Enfuego Youth Group Rm. 116/Youth Bldg.		6:30pm
<b>Thursday, October 3</b>		
Women in the Word Rm. 119		7:00pm
<b>Friday, October 4</b>		
<b>Saturday, October 5</b>		
<b>Sunday, October 6</b>		
Worship Sanctuary & Live Stream		9:30am
Sunday School for all ages Campus-Wide		11:15am

**Women's Fall Workshop Signups  
"Steadfast...In Times Like These"**

Saturday, October 12, 8am-NOON

**Contact: Women's Ministry Team**

Ladies - Mark your calendar for this very special event focusing on Biblical stewardship and cultivating healthy, efficient, and God-centered homes! Today is the last day to sign up in the Narthex. You may also register online in Church Center. Online registration ends at midnight on Sunday, October 6. Don't miss this special time together with your sisters in Christ!

**Enfuego Movie Night/Fellowship**

Saturday, October 12, 5pm-8pm

**Contact: Felix Espino**

All youth (6th thru 12th grade) are invited to join us for an evening packed with fun, laughter, delicious snacks, and of course, a fantastic movie! Feel free to bring a friend or two!

**Guest Speaker, Felix Espino**

Our very own Felix Espino, Director of Student Ministries, is preaching today! Felix has worked with the SCPC youth since August of 2020, and serves in the Army Reserves. He is a graduate of Houston Baptist University and will soon complete his pursuit of a Masters of Divinity from Reformed Theological Seminary. Felix aspires to become a U. S. Army Chaplain upon his graduation and ordination.

**Food Drive to benefit Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministries (TEAM)**

TODAY is the **LAST DAY** we are receiving TEAM Food Drive donations in the Narthex. Items may be dropped off at the church office *until noon tomorrow*. Thank you for participating!

**Bibles for Babies - Owen Basham**

Add your name by your favorite Bible verse, or write a blessing or word of encouragement in the Bible for Owen Basham in the Narthex **TODAY!**

# Prayer

## **Pray for Our Church**

**Pray for our Missions Team** as they pray for and provide encouragement to the missionaries supported by SCPC.

## **Pray for Our Congregation**

*Kathryn Ritchie* - Please pray for relief from pain and wisdom for her doctor as she begins a year-long therapy to realign her jaw due to complications from a 25 year old injury.

*Bill Dietz* - PRAISE God for successful treatment of infection! Pray for *Bill* as he continues to heal and regain strength.

*Neal Benedict* - Pray that *Neal* will be cleared to be presented to the transplant committee, and that he will receive approval to be listed for a transplant at UTMC.

*Liz Zapp* - Liz recently reinjured a 7 week old shoulder injury, requiring her to start over on treatment/recovery. Please pray that she not be discouraged, and for complete healing.

*Genny Wykes* - Please pray for Genny's mom, *Emily Wykes*, as she recovers from poison ivy.

Ongoing health concerns: *Neal Benedict, René & Clairice Chapelle, Jeff Kuhn, Katie Medeiros, Mark Morrow, Ebenezer Musima, Mary Spiritosanto.*

## **Pray for Our Military and First Responders**

*Levi Camden*, National Guard, Texas

*Christian Cory*, Army, New York

*Chris Dietz*, Navy Reserves, Texas

*Joshua Duncan*, Army, North Carolina

*Felix Espino*, Army Reserves, Texas

*Shawn Maya*, Spring Fire Department

*Jessy Wykes*, Army, Germany

## **Pray for Our College Students**

*Claire Achterkirch*, Samford University

*Kyle Benedict*, Lone Star Community College

*Ben Chandler*, Samford University

*Sergio Esteves*, Texas A&M

*Jenna Haaland*, Samford University

*Oliva Kay*, Lone Star Community College

*Izzy Tousha*, Texas State University

## **Pray for Our Friends & Family**

*John Wiltbank and family* - Please pray for John and his family as they grieve the passing of his wife, Alison. John and Alison were previous missionaries supported by SCPC.

*Mary Spiritosanto's neighbors* - Please continue praying for Mary's neighbors, *Harper and Heather Jones*. Harper's heart is better, but he is having lung-related problems. They will soon be reshaping the cut on his leg to better fit a prosthesis.

## **Pray for Our Missionary of the Month**

### ***Ryan & Katie Pekarek* - Mission to the World, Central Asia**

- Pray for their move to a new apartment, that the move and transition will go smoothly.
- Pray for their daughters, Claire and Sarah, as they adjust to a new home and school.
- Pray for the three men from summer internship, that God will give Ryan discernment on next steps and that God will use them.
- Pray for those onboarding in the fall, that the team will be unified and have clear goals and good communication. Pray for God to prepare visas, homes, and clear paths for their arrival.

Email prayer requests to [susan@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:susan@springcypresschurch.com)

## General Information

### 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) →

### 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

Restrooms are located in the Narthex.



Like and follow us on Facebook:  
*Spring Cypress Church*



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## Our Church Leadership & Staff

### Our Session

Ian Achterkirch  
Michael Byerly  
Justin Chandler

Ben Duncan  
Erik Haaland  
Danny McDaniel

### Our Diaconate

Glenn Ayles  
Bill Dietz  
David Jones  
Stephen Kovach

Scott Lewis  
Wayne Lin  
Bob Pickard

### Staff

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

Susan Cochran, Office Administrator  
[susan@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:susan@springcypresschurch.com)

Felix Espino, Director of Youth Ministries  
[felix@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:felix@springcypresschurch.com)

*If you've lost or misplaced an item, please check the Lost & Found at the Visitor's Kiosk!*  
*Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm*

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