

Prayer of Confession

Source of joy, you are the author of everlasting life. Touch us with the wonder of that holy night when your Son came into the world. For we yearn to leave the shadows behind to walk in darkness no more. We long to behold your light shining in our lives, as it shined in the stars above on the night love came down at Christmas. Guide our steps to the manger, and make us instruments of your justice and peace, that the gift of your salvation may reside in every corner of the globe. Oh Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, hear our prayers.

Silent Confession

Confessional Response "O Little Town of Bethlehem" See Screen

Assurance of Grace

One Voice: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

All Voices: those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined."

One Voice: Receive forgiveness. Receive light.

All Voices: We walk in God's light. Forgiven.

Children's Message (5pm) Kristin Beall

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Litany Prayer for Illumination

One Voice: Silent and still, we wait for God.

Many Voices: Still, still, still. . .

One Voice: Silent and still, we listen for God.

Many Voices: On this silent, holy night. . .

One Voice: Silent and still, we wait with hope.

Many Voices: Still, still, still. . .

One Voice: Silent and still, we pray for peace.

Many Voices: On this silent, holy night. . .

One Voice: Silent and still, we wait for God.

Many Voices: Still, still, still. . .

One Voice: Silent and still, listen for God's love for us.

Looking Upward

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

5 pm Brad Hofstetter; 7 pm Ann Guerra

Hymn "Still, Still, Still" See Screen

1st Gospel Reading Luke 2:1-7

5 pm Nolan Holland; 7 pm Steve Chaney

Hymn "What Child Is This" See Screen

2nd Gospel Reading Luke 2:8-14

5 pm Grace Holland; 7 pm Catey Gans

Anthem 5 pm "The Thrill of Hope — Advent Hymn" Christy Nockels

Ashley Gans, Catey Gans, Allie Guerra

7 pm "Lullaby"

Donna Partee and Faith Partee Taylor

Frederick Keel

Pray for the People of Pines

Sara Anderson	Fred Kelly
Norma Bender	Lynn Stauffacher
Jean Breitenwischer	Ray Stauffacher
Liz Buelow	Nancy Watler
Barbara Caffall	Darlene Wendt
Carolyn Craig	Danny Williams
Carol Greene	Bill Willis
Barbara Greenlee	

Pray for Friends in Mission

Joy Kreider
Ken and Judy McDyer

Pray for Pines Members and their family in the Military:

Olivia Williams (Army)
Noah Youngflesh (Air Force)
Jackie Hayre (Navy)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name. Thy
kingdom come, thy will be done, on
earth as it is in heaven. Give us this
day our daily bread; and forgive us
our debts, as we forgive our
debtors; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the
power and the glory, forever.
Amen.

A Stephen Ministry



Congregation

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3rd Gospel Reading

5 pm Will Hofstetter; 7 pm Kristin Beall

Luke 2:15-20

Sermon

“Unexpected Gifts”

Rev. Andy Gans

*Hymn

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

See Screen

*Saying What We Believe

One Voice: This Christmas night, we reclaim our trust in God

**All Voices: We believe in God,
who came to us as one of us,
who bends and kneels toward our world,
drenching it with love.**

One Voice: This Christmas night, we reclaim our trust in Jesus.

**All Voices: We believe in Jesus,
who came to us as in the fragile promise of a baby
and emerged as a herald of hope.**

One Voice: This Christmas night, we reclaim our trust in the Holy Spirit

**All Voices: We believe in the Spirit,
hovering God, present among us,
abiding, upholding,
awaking all things to her grace.**

One Voice: This Christmas night, we reclaim our commitment to the community around us

**All Voices: We believe we are called
to do justice, love kindness,
and walk humbly with God and each other,
ready for God’s reign, awake and alert,
as we work to bring it near.**

**We believe we are called,
as Christmas comes close,
to lift up our hearts in hope and in love,
seeking God’s advent.**

One Voice: This Christmas night, we reclaim our trust that Jesus is still with us.

All Voices: Welcome, Emanuel, Welcome!

*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end,
Amen. Amen.**

Offering and Offertory

*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

Communion of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

*Lighting of the Candles

*Hymn

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

See Screen

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

“Joy to the World”

See Screen

Postlude

SERMON NOTES

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SCAN ME



[Instagram.com/pineshouston](https://www.instagram.com/pineshouston)

Get the latest announcements and reminders right before events happen. Find us here:
<https://twitter.com/HoustonPines>.

Find us on Facebook
[www.facebook.com
PinesPresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/PinesPresbyterianChurch)

The newsletter is available in the Narthex for those unable to access it online.

Our Worship services are recorded and livestreamed.

Church Staff

The Reverend Andy Gans
Pastor
Kristin Beall
Director of Family Ministries
Laurie Conner
Director of Music Ministries
Shawn Heller
Church Musician
Cindy Houlihan
Office Manager
Alexis Graham
Accounting Manager
Adrian Roman
Custodian/Maintenance

Preschool

Connie Pike
Director, Preschool
Karen Cooper
Administrative Assistant

Session

Class of 2023

Linda Aldred
Shirley Bollich
Phil Buelow
Emily Gairo
John Work

Class of 2024

Bob Barr
Leslie Friedrich
Judy Shamp
Connie Sipp
Phil Wetz

Class of 2025

Susan Babineck
Sharon Dotson
Linda Johnson
Walter Penberthy
Chris Wolfe

OPPORTUNITIES *To Grow* UPWARD, INWARD AND OUTWARD

Welcome, Guests! If you have questions about our church, or would like to discuss church membership, please speak with Pastor Andy.

In need of someone to talk to? If you want to know more about getting a Stephen Minister, please contact Bill Willis or call the church office.

The end of the year is a great time to reflect on and share your blessings. Year end giving must be received or postmarked by December 31 in order to be included on your 2022 donation statement from Pines. The church office will close at noon on December 30.

Poinsettias: A special thank you to all who gave to our poinsettia tree in honor or in memory of someone. Your gift is greatly appreciated and has been enjoyed for several weeks. If you did purchase a poinsettia, you may pick it up following tonight's 7:00 pm service.

Communion will be celebrated tonight using gluten-friendly elements. When invited to partake, the center sections will come forward down the center aisle to receive the bread and cup, and the outer two sections will go to the rear of the Sanctuary via the outer aisles to receive the elements. We will hold the elements until we can all partake together. Following worship, we ask that you place your used cup into the waste baskets located in the lobby.

Lighting of the Candles: The pastor or an usher will light the candle of the first worshiper in each pew. That person in turn will light the candle of the next person and so on until all the candles in the pew are lit. For safety's sake, please tip only the unlit candles and please supervise young children.

There will not be Sunday School this Sunday, Dec. 25th or next Sunday, Jan. 1st.

The church office will be closed Monday, Dec. 26th, and Monday, Jan. 2nd.

Feed My Starving Children is coming Friday, January 20th and Saturday the 21st! Be part of something amazing as we welcome our community to Pines as we package 100,000 meals to feed starving children around the world. Volunteers ages 5 to 105 are needed to help welcome volunteers and to package the meals. To find out more about FMSC and how you can help with your donation of time or your financial gift, go to www.give.fmssc.org/pines.

Calendar for the Week of December 25, 2022

Sunday

10:30 am	Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
10:45 am	Christmas Worship	Fellowship Hall

Monday

Church Offices closed
No Session meeting

Tuesday

7:00 am	Men's Bible Study	Zoom
1:00 pm	Pines Knitting Needles	Prayer Room
2:30 pm	Weekly Prayer Team	Prayer Room

Wednesday

5:45 pm	Pines Pealers	C12
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Thursday

2:00 pm	Lectionary Bible Study	Zoom
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Sunday

9:00 am	Nursery open	
10:15 am	Coffee Fellowship	Fellowship Hallway
10:45 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary