



ADVENT AT PINES PRESBYTERIAN

12751 Kimberley Lane, Houston, Texas 77024 ~ 713-467-2234 ~ pinespc.org

Growing Inward

Prelude

Gathering for Worship

Introit

***Call to Worship**

The Wolfe Children

One Voice: Advent is upon us, a season of wondering, watching, and waiting.

All Voices: Come into our world, Lord Jesus.

One Voice: We look for signs of God's presence around us, waiting for God to come in new ways.

All Voices: Come into our lives, Lord Jesus.

One Voice: We wait with hope, peace, joy, and love.

All Voices: Come into our hearts, Lord Jesus.

One Voice: Come! Let us worship God who is breaking into our world, our lives, and our hearts in new ways!

All Voices: Come unto us, Lord Jesus, and do something new in us. Amen.

***Hymn**

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

See Screen

Lighting of the Advent Candle

See Screen

Prayer after Candle Lighting

See Screen

Advent Response

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

See Screen

Prayer of Confession

See Screen

God, we are ready now.

We want peace now.

We long to receive the Prince of Peace
in our world today.

But don't delay too long, Holy One,
for soon we'll be busy with parties,
and decorating, and baking, and shopping.

Our lives are crammed so full,
we find it hard to calendar you in;
we find it hard to locate the time
to welcome the Light of the World.

We need your help, O God.

1st SUNDAY
IN ADVENT
November 30, 2025

Welcome to Pines

Pines is a joyful Christian community that welcomes all. Our Mission is to make disciples who know, love, and trust in Jesus Christ. We live into our Mission by Looking Upward, Growing Inward, and Serving Outward.

Helpful devices: Auditory assistance receivers are available from the Ushers.

Liturgist: The Wolfe Children

Sound: Ron Strawser

Pines Presbyterian Church is located at 12751 Kimberley Lane Houston, Texas 77024 ~ 713-467-2234 ~ pinespc.org

A Congregation of the



Teach us to set aside our party wardrobes,
and clothe ourselves in Jesus Christ.
Guide us into true readiness,
even though we do not know the date and time,
when true peace will reign.
Wake us up;
shake off the cobwebs of our complacency;
and take us with you
on the path up your holy mountain.
Plant your peace within us,
so that each day, each moment,
we may be ready for the harvest of your love. Amen.

Silent Confession

Confessional Response "O Little Town of Bethlehem", v. 4 See Screen

Assurance of Grace

One Voice: In Christ, God brings light to our darkness, and life to all who sit
in the shadow of death.

All Voices: In Christ, all who seek the Lord find life anew.

Children's Message Ann Guerra

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.

Looking Upward

First Reading Isaiah 2:1-5

Anthem "Carol for Advent" Chancel Choir
Nancy Price and Don Besig

Gospel Reading Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon "Expectation" Rev. Andy Gans

Serving Outward

***Hymn** "Prepare the Way, O Zion" See Screen

***Saying What We Believe** See Screen
(adapted from an Affirmation of Faith by Susan Bock)

One Voice: In Advent, we renew 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: In Advent, we renew 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: In Advent, we renew 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: In Advent we renew our commitment to the community around
us.

Pray for the People of Pines

Sara Anderson	Angie Mills
Jean Breitenwischer	Donna Partee
Barbara Caffall	Tim Timmons
Marsha Deison	Juanita Vislocky
Sydney DeLaSalle	Nancy Watler
Elizabeth Deraps	Danny Williams
Sharon Dotson	Bill Willis
Cheryl Gans	

Pray for Friends in Mission

Joy Kreider

Pray for Pines Members and their family in the Military:

Olivia Williams (Army)
Jackie Hayre (Navy)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who 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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**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: In Advent we renew our trust that Jesus is still with us.

All Voices: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

***Gloria Patri**

See Screen

Offering and Offertory

***Doxology**

Preparation for Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

***Hymn**

"Soon and Very Soon"

See Screen

***Charge and Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

"Joy to the World", v. 4

See Screen

Postlude

Calendar for the Week of November 30, 2025

Sunday

4:00 pm

Christmas play rehearsal

Sanctuary

5:00 pm

Family Advent Night

Fellowship Hall

Monday

12:00 pm

This Week at Pines to Dan

1:00 pm

Congregational Fellowship committee

C7

6:30 pm

Session Meeting

C3

7:00 pm

Tending to Grief meeting

Parlor

7:30 pm

Al Anon Group

Fellowship Hall

Tuesday

7:00 am

Men's Bible Study

Zoom

9:00 am

Bulletin articles due to Laurie

Wednesday

1:30 pm

Weekly Prayer Team

Prayer Room

5:30 pm

Advent Art with Kezzie

Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm

Chancel Choir rehearsal

Choir Room

7:30 pm

Westside AA

C3

Thursday

7:00 pm

Stephen Ministers

Parlor

8:00 pm

AA Group

C3

Friday

7:00 am

Taco and a Prayer

Fellowship Hall

Saturday

9:00 am

Sherwood Gift Wrap

Fellowship Hall

Sunday

9:15 am

Sunday School

9:15 am

Christmas play rehearsal

Sanctuary

10:45am

Worship

Next Newsletter articles due December 19.
Today's Duty Elder: Patsy Jackson

SERMON NOTES

Get the latest announcements and reminders right before events happen. Find us here:

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/PinesPresbyterianChurch)

PinesPresbyterianChurch

Instagram:

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

Pineshouston

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

Our Worship services are recorded and livestreamed.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW UPWARD, INWARD AND OUTWARD

Church Staff

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



Connie Pike
Director, Preschool
Alicia Flick
Administrative Assistant

PinesPresbyterianPreschool.com

Session

Class of 2026

Linda Aldred
Shirley Bollich
Emily Gairo
Donna Partee
Tim Timmons

Class of 2027

Brad Hofstetter
Patsy Jackson
Ron Langston
Beth Patterson
Phil Wetz

Class of 2028

Mark Babineck
Steve Ballard
Terrie Cardwell
Fred Ellis
Roger Mowell

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

Save the Date — Join us Sunday, December 14th for the Christmas Cantata followed by the Christmas Luncheon, hosted by the Congregational Fellowship Committee.

You will want to join us in worship on Sunday, December 21, for the annual Christmas play, where we take an intergenerational look at the true meaning of Christmas!

Advent begins today and so does the online Family Advent Video series! With daily Scripture, crafts, carols, lessons, an explanation of one of the symbols of the season, as well as prayer, this is a wonderful way for your whole family to prepare to receive the gift of the Christ Child on Christmas Eve! Go to pinespc.org for the link.

Come experience Advent Art with Kezzie each Wednesday of Advent from 6pm – 7pm. All ages are welcome to come and learn to paint from the master artist herself as she helps us create beautiful pieces of art that you can gift to friends and family. A light dinner will be served from 5:30-6:00pm. If you're interested, and to make sure we have enough supplies for you, please contact Pastor Andy. andy@pinespc.org

Our Pines Advent Devotionals are available around the church. Pick up your copy to see what your Pines family members have to share about the gifts of Christmas.

Come help wrap presents for Sherwood Christmas this coming Saturday, December 6, at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

Joy Gift Christmas Offering will be collected during the month of December. This gift supports current and retired church leaders and the future leaders studying at Presbyterian-related colleges.

You're invited to join us on our **Footsteps of Faith through Scotland and the Reformation**, September 1-11, 2026. Our trip won't just be admiring Scotland's rugged landscapes and ancient castles, but we'll also be delving into a pivotal period of its past: the Scottish Reformation and the history of the Presbyterian Church. For a brochure and application go to pinespc.org/Scotland or talk to Pastor Andy.

Service of Wholeness and Healing — This year's "Service of Wholeness and Healing" will be on Tuesday, December 9 at 12:30pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome. Bring a friend. Lunch to follow at Cafe Express. For more information, reach out to Ann Guerra or Phil Wetz.

Alternative Gift Market is back, Dec. 7 & 14, in Fellowship Hall Hallway, benefitting four of Pines' Mission Partners. Donate in a loved one's name, help a worthy organization.

Response to MAM's Urgent Request: The Missions Committee gave \$500 for MAM's Christmas Share program. If you're interested in donating toys, contact Margaret Schafer for all the details.

You are invited to join the Foundations Class for their Advent study, "A Child is Born, A Beginner's Guide to Nativity Stories" by Amy-Jill Levine. This 4-week study book with DVD examines the fascinating connections between ancient birth stories and the Nativity of Jesus. Classes begin November 30, in C-8. If you are interested in a book or in joining us,

Our final results this year depend on each of us! In order to be recorded on your charitable giving report from Pines for 2025, gifts (including stock donations) must be postmarked or received via Zelle by December 31, or received in the church office no later than noon on Wednesday, December 31. If you have questions, please contact Alexis Graham at alexis@pinespc.org.