



ADVENT AT PINES PRESBYTERIAN

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

Growing Inward

Gathering for Worship

Introit "Prepare Ye" Stephen Sondheim

Prelude

*Call to Worship Karen Davis

One Voice: In this season of anticipation, our hearts are filled with hope.

All Voices: We await God's Promised One, the one who will make all things new.

One Voice: We await the One who was, who is, and who shall come again.

All Voices: The babe in Bethlehem's manger is the One with us now.

One Voice: Jesus Christ: the Word made flesh, the Word that abides in Spirit.

All Voices: Our hope is built on nothing less than God's only Son.

One Voice: Come, let us welcome the Living Christ into our midst.

All Voices: Come, O long-expected Jesus!

*Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" See Screen

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Walker Family

Prayer After Candle Lighting

Lord Jesus, as we search for signs of hope this week, help us to become the signs of hope that others are searching for. As these candles are but a glimpse of the light of the heavens, help us to be a glimpse of heaven's hope. Amen.

Advent Response "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" See Screen

Prayer of Confession

When we turn away from you
or neglect your presence, O God,
don't rage against us
or turn away in silent wrath.

When we sin and fall short
of the people you would have us be,
don't hide your loving presence from us.

1st SUNDAY
December 3, 2023
IN ADVENT

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 with the Ushers.

Sound: Dan Schafer

Liturgist: Karen Davis

Flowers: The Advent wreath is in memory of Becky O'Connor.

*All who are able may stand

A congregation of the



**Speak to us anew,
that we may hear your voice
and notice your presence in our lives.
Shine upon us with your grace and mercy,
that we may return to you
and return to love.
In your mercy and grace, we pray.**

Silent Confession

Confessional Response "Breathe" See Screen

Assurance of Grace

One Voice: In Christ, we are made new and rich
in every grace needed to restore us
and make us whole.

All Voices: **In Christ, we are forgiven
and made blameless before God.
Praise God for this glorious gift!**

Looking Upward

Gospel Reading Mark 13:24-37

Response to the Word Children's Advent Play

 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

 "Away in a Manger"

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay.
The Little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strain.
Gloria! In excelsis Deo!
Gloria! In excelsis Deo!

 "We Three Kings"

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
O, star of wonder, star of night.
Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

 "Silent Night"

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright.
'Round yon Virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Pray for the People of Pines

Sara Anderson Nancy Watler
Bob Barr Darlene Wendt
Jean Danny Williams
Breitenwischer
Barbara Caffall
Carolyn Craig
Carol Schneider
Sam Singer

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, 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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“O Come All Ye Faithful”
 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.
 O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem.
 Come and adore him, born the King of Angels.
 O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him.
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

*Hymn “Live Into Hope”, v. 1 & 4 See Screen

Serving Outward

Saying What We Believe

Leader: In Advent, we renew our trust in God.

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

Leader: 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.**

Leader: In Advent, we renew our trust in the Holy Spirit

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

Leader: In Advent, we renew our commitment to the community around us

People: **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.**

Leader: In Advent we renew our trust that Jesus is still with us.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

*Gloria Patri See Screen

Offering and Offertory “Little Drummer Boy” Pines Pealers
 Katherine Kennicott Davis

*Doxology

Communion of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

*Hymn “Soon and Very Soon” See Screen

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response “Joy to the World” See Screen

Postlude

SERMON NOTES

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[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
Karen Cooper, Admin Asst

Session

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

Class of 2026

Linda Aldred
Shirley Bollich
Emily Gairo
Donna Partee
Tim Timmons

Class Elect of 2027

Patsy Jackson
Phil Wetz
Beth Patterson
Ron Langston
Brad Hofstetter

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 Phil Wetz or Ann Guerra, or call the church office.

Calendar for the Week of December 3, 2023

Monday	12:00 pm 7:00 pm	This Week articles due to Dan Schafer Al-Anon	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	7:00 am 9:00 am 7:00 pm	Men's Bible Study Bulletin articles due to Laurie Choir Rehearsal	Zoom Sanctuary
Wednesday	11:30 am 1:30 pm 5:45 pm 7:30 pm	Wholeness and Healing service Prayer Team Pines Pealers AA	Sanctuary Prayer Room C12 C3
Thursday	5:30 pm 8:00 pm	Advent Bible Study AA	Fellowship Hall C3
Friday	5:30 pm	Parents' Night Out	Fellowship Hall
Saturday	6:00 pm	AA	C3
Sunday	9:00 am 9:15 am 10:15 am 10:45 am 2:00 pm 3:30 pm	Nursery open Sunday School for all Coffee Fellowship Worship 2nd Sunday Lunch Youth Group/Raise Up Families	Narthex Sanctuary Café' Express Youth Rooms

Today's duty elder: Linda Johnson