



ADVENT AT PINES PRESBYTERIAN

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

Growing Inward

Gathering for Worship

Introit "Prepare Ye" Stephen Schwartz

Prelude

*Call to Worship Phil Wetz

One Voice: Our souls magnify the Lord.

All Voices: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

One Voice: The Mighty One has done great things for us.

All Voices: Holy is God's name.

One Voice: God's mercy is ever near, from generation to generation.

All Voices: God's strength scatters the proud, but lifts the humble of heart.

One Voice: God's love fills us up, nourishing our hungry souls.

All Voices: God's grace has called us here, strengthening our lives of faith.

*Hymn "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear!" See Screen

Lighting of the Advent Candle Babineck Family

Prayer After Candle Lighting

Lord Jesus, as we search for signs of love this week, help us to become the signs of love 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 love. Amen.

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

Prayer of Confession

We watch for packages to arrive and Christmas cards to be delivered, but we do not keep our eyes open for your coming, Approaching God. We expect our Christmas "wish list" to be filled, and for the pile under the tree to grow and grow, but we hope you do not expect to transform our lives.

We notice where to find the best bargains, and what decorations our neighbors have put on their houses, but we do not notice the little, the least, the lost, the last walking down our streets.

We ask you to forgive us, Lord.

4th SUNDAY
December 24, 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: Ron Strawser

Liturgist: Phil Wetz

Flowers: The Advent wreath is given to the glory of God and in memory of Becky O'Connor.

*All who are able may stand

A congregation of the



*Gloria Patri		See Screen
Offering and Offertory		
*Doxology		
Preparation for Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer		
*Hymn	"Love Has Come"	See Screen
*Charge and Benediction		
*Benediction Response	"Joy to the World"	See Screen
Postlude		

Feed My Starving Children will be here before you know it. Dates for our MobilePack are February 23 & 24 and we need you to join us in packing meals for starving children. To register to volunteer go online to: give.fmssc.org/pines then click "Volunteer".

Christmas Joy Offering is being collected this month. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Please use the special "Christmas Joy" envelope located in the pew backs.

Remember Year-End Giving - Be sure your financial gifts are received in the church office or postmarked by December 31. If you have a question, email alexis@pinespc.org.

SERMON NOTES

access
ONLINE GIVING

scan QR code
with your camera phone:



[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

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

Our Worship services are recorded and livestreamed.

CHRISTMAS EVE
AND
CHRISTMAS DAY
@PINES⁺

December 24
Sunday Worship | 10:45am
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship | 5:00 & 7:00pm
Communion at Both Evening Services
All Services Livestreamed

December 25
Breakfast | 10:30am
Christmas Day Worship | 10:45am
Bring a Gift for the "Blessing of the Gifts"
Fellowship Hall | No Livestream Christmas Day

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.

A hard copy of the Poinsettia list can be found on the credenza in the Narthex.

Calendar for the Week of December 24, 2023

Sunday

5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Sanctuary

Monday — office closed

10:30 am	Christmas Breakfast	Fellowship Hall
10:45 am	Worship	Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	This Week articles due to Dan Schafer	
7:00 pm	Al-Anon	Fellowship Hall

Tuesday — office closed

7:00 am	Men's Bible Study	Zoom
9:00 am	Bulletin articles due to Laurie	

Wednesday

1:30 pm	Prayer Team	Prayer Room
5:45 pm	Pines Pealers	C12
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 pm	AA	C3

Thursday

8:00 pm	AA	C3
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Friday

Saturday

6:00 pm	AA	C3
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Sunday

9:00 am	Nursery open	
9:15 am	Sunday School for all	
10:15 am	Coffee Fellowship	Narthex
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary

Today's duty elder: Violet O'Brien