



## 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 Kristen, Luke, and Rachel Wolfe

One Voice: How shall we prepare for the coming of the Lord?

**All Voices: With hearts filled with love and hope.**

One Voice: How shall we prepare for the coming of Christ?

**All Voices: With prayers filled with adoration and devotion.**

One Voice: How shall we prepare for the coming of our Savior?

**All Voices: With songs filled with joy and hope.**

One Voice: How shall we prepare for the coming of the Son of God?

**All Voices: With worship filled with passion and spirit.**

One Voice: Come! Let us worship.

\*Hymn "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?" See Screen

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Fellowship Committee

Prayer After Candle Lighting See screen

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

#### Prayer of Confession

Holy One, by the tender mercy of your grace,  
you shine the light of your love  
into the shadow of our lives,  
that those who sit in darkness  
may find peace and hope.

Shine your light on us, O God,  
for we have heard your call  
to prepare the way of the Lord,  
yet we feel the residue of death  
cling to us like a bitter frost.

Come to us like a refiner's fire and fullers' soap,  
that we may be purified in body and soul  
and made ready to make your paths straight,  
that all may see your salvation.

FIRST SUNDAY  
December 1, 2024  
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.

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

#### Helpful devices:

Auditory assistance receivers are available from the Ushers.

**Liturgists:** Kristen, Luke, and Rachel Wolfe

**Sound:** Ron Strawser

A Congregation of the



## Silent Confession

**Confessional Response** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" 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** 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.**

## Looking Upward

**First Reading** Malachi 3:1-4

**Anthem** "Away in a Manger" Pines Pealers  
William James Kirkpatrick and James R. Murray

**Gospel Reading** Luke 3:1-6

**Sermon** "What Do You Believe?" Rev. Andy Gans

## Serving Outward

**\*Hymn** "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" See Screen

**\*Saying What We Believe** (*Adopted 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  
**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!**

## Pray for the People of Pines

Sara Anderson	Juanita Vislocky
Jean Breitenwischer	Craig Walker
Barbara Caffall	Nancy Watler
Carolyn Craig	Darlene Wendt
Sharon Dotson	Danny Williams
Jill Sherrill	

**Prayers for Kristin Beall and family**  
in the passing of her mother  
Rev. Anne Beall

**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.

## A Stephen Ministry



Congregation

access  
**ONLINE GIVING**

scan QR code  
with your camera phone:



**SCAN ME**

\*Gloria Patri See Screen

**Offering and Offertory**

\*Doxology

**Communion of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

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

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Benediction Response "Joy to the World" See Screen

**Postlude**

### *Calendar for the Week of December 1, 2024*

**Sunday**

9:15 am	Sunday School	
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:45 am	Children's Choir	Choir Room
12:00 pm	Youth Hand in Hand	Offsite
3:30 pm	Usher Training	Sanctuary
4:00 pm	Advent Play Rehearsal	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	Caroling, Dinner, and Tree Lighting	

**Monday**

12:00 pm	This Week at Pines to Dan	
1:00 pm	Congregational Fellowship Committee	C7
6:00 pm	Staff Committee	Zoom
7:00 pm	Tending to Grief meeting	Parlor
7:30 pm	AI 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
12:30 pm	Service of Wholeness and Healing	Sanctuary
5:45 pm	Pines Pealers	C12
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal	Choir Room
7:30 pm	Westside AA	C3

**Thursday**

8:00 pm	AA Group	C3
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**Friday**

5:30 am	Bible Study Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
6:30 am	Taco and a Prayer	Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm	Parent's Night Out	Fellowship Hall

**Saturday**

9:00 am	Angel Tree Project	Fellowship Hall
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**Sunday**

9:15 am	Sunday School	
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:45 am	Children's Choir	Choir Room
12:00 pm	Raise Up Families Christmas Party	Fellowship Hall

Next Newsletter articles due December 20.  
 Today's Duty Elder: Brad Hofstetter

**SERMON NOTES**

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

Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/PinesPresbyterianChurch](http://www.facebook.com/PinesPresbyterianChurch)

Instagram:  
[Instagram.com/PinesHouston](https://www.instagram.com/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  
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



PinesPresbyterianPreschool.com

Connie Pike  
Director, Preschool  
Alicia Flick  
Administrative Assistant

## Session

### 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 of 2027

Brad Hofstetter  
Patsy Jackson  
Ron Langston  
Beth Patterson  
Phil Wetz

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

**It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!** It's time to sign up for poinsettias to decorate our Sanctuary for Christmas. The cost is \$12.00. You can sign up outside Fellowship Hall through December 8. You can also email or call Linda Aldred or Melissa Gravett. Please designate "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" when you order.

**Notice of Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Trustees.** Notice is hereby given of a quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pines Presbyterian Church, Inc. ("Corporation"), called by a majority of the Trustees, to be held on December 10, 2024 at 2:00pm at Pines Presbyterian Church, 12751 Kimberley Lane, Houston, Texas 77024.

**Service of Wholeness and Healing,** Wednesday, December 4, 2024, 12:30 in the Pines Sanctuary. Lunch to follow at Café Express. Hard times and loss may darken the festive feelings that are expected during Advent. The Service of Wholeness and Healing, or "Blue Christmas Service," is designed to help you come out of the darkness as you honor memories of *what was* and use your faith to confront the fears of *what may be*. Come share space with others that are looking for God to hold them close and be near until the light returns. Bring a friend. All are welcome. Lunch to follow at Cafe Express. Contact Ann Guerra, Phil Wetz or the Pine's office for more information.

**Save the Date!** Plan to attend our Pines annual Christmas luncheon following the Christmas Cantata during morning worship on Sunday, December 15th!

**Spread Some Christmas Love!** Come join the Missions Committee today following worship, as we stuff 100 Christmas bags with candy and a toy. The bags will be given to homeless children served by Montrose Street Reach, one of our mission partners. Come to Fellowship Hall today and fill a bag with treats and goodies supplied by the Missions Committee. Questions - contact Kathy Ropshaw or any committee member. For more information on this ministry, go to [montrostreetreach.com](http://montrostreetreach.com)

**Youth BBQ Fundraiser** — Pickles BBQ, award winning competition team, is cooking BBQ ready to serve or reheat for later! Pick up 1-3pm on Sunday Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. Orders due by Dec 9<sup>th</sup>. Brisket \$25/ lb or Pork Ribs \$30 rack. Link to order in This week at Pines, or email [Kristin@pinespc.org](mailto:Kristin@pinespc.org)

**Something exciting is coming back next year**—"Fun and Food with Friends" (formerly known as "Date for Eight") will begin in February 2025. Sign ups will be right outside Fellowship Hall beginning in December. If you have any questions please reach out to Linda Aldred, Patsy Jackson, or Chris Wolfe.

**Family Advent Night** — Tonight at 5pm. Bring friends and family to our annual Advent kick-off. There will be caroling, crafting, games, and tree lighting.

**Communion today** will be celebrated by coming forward, down the center aisle, receiving a piece of gluten-friendly bread, and then returning to your seat. We ask that you hold the bread and juice until we can all partake as one unified church.