



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

Growing Inward

Prelude

Gathering for Worship

Introit "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" Chancel Choir

***Call to Worship** Morriss Partee

One Voice: Rejoice! God's promises are ever near.

All Voices: We wait for Christ's birth with patience.

One Voice: Rejoice! God's strength is with us.

All Voices: We rest in the power of God's mighty love.

One Voice: Rejoice! We gather in the joy of our salvation.

All Voices: In this love, we gather to worship and pray.

***Hymn** "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" See Screen

Lighting of the Advent Candle Johanneman Family

Prayer After Candle Lighting

Loving God, we open ourselves to you,
trusting that this is how you made us:
you created us for joy-filled hearts and lives.

Show us the creative power of hope.

Teach us the peace that comes from justice.

Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained,
but must be shared.

Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,
That we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

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

TODAY
December 11, 2022
IN WORSHIP

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: Morriss Partee

Flowers: The Advent wreath is in memory of Becky O'Connor. The Narthex flowers are given by John and Kari Work in celebration of Chris Works' birthday.

The Baby Rose today is in honor of Celia Grace Johnson, granddaughter of Phil and Linda Johnson, daughter of Molly and Drew Johnson.

*All who are able may stand

A congregation of the



Prayer of Confession

Upside-down God,

you announce your coming with exciting news:
the hungry will eat their fill,
the oppressed will dance
in newfound freedom;
you proclaim your mission with hard news:
the well-fed will go hungry,
the powerful will lose their status.

We find ourselves squirming
as we acknowledge our participation
in structures that oppress and marginalize.

Help us accept and proclaim
the coming of your Son
as truly good news.

Give us the courage
to set aside our privilege,
and help bring about this upside-down world,
where everyone can sing together for joy.

Silent Confession

Confessional Response “O Little Town of Bethlehem” See Screen

Assurance of Grace

One Voice: The desert shall rejoice and blossom.
Waters shall break forth in the wilderness.

All Voices: **The burning sand shall become a pool.**

One Voice: The God who can transform the dry lands
can also transform the desert of our lives.

All Voices: **Abundant forgiveness is ours from the God who turns
sorrow and sighing into joy and gladness.**

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

James 5:7-10

Anthem

“He Is Born”
Dave and Jean Perry

Chancel Choir

Second Reading

Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon

“Anticipation”

Rev. Andy Gans

*Hymn

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

See Screen

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, 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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SERMON NOTES

Saying What We Believe — 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

**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**

**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.**

Song of Preparation "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" See Screen

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

***Hymn** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" See Screen

***Charge and Benediction**

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

Postlude

Newsletter articles due to Cindy by December 23.

This Week at Pines due to Dan on Mondays by noon.

Bulletin requests due to Laurie on Tuesdays by 10am.

Today's Duty Elder: Shirley Bollich

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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, 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 Champ
Connie Sipp
Phil Wetz

Class of 2025

Susan Babineck
Sharon Dotson
Linda Johnson
Walter Penberthy
Chris Wolfe

OPPORTUNITIES

To Grow

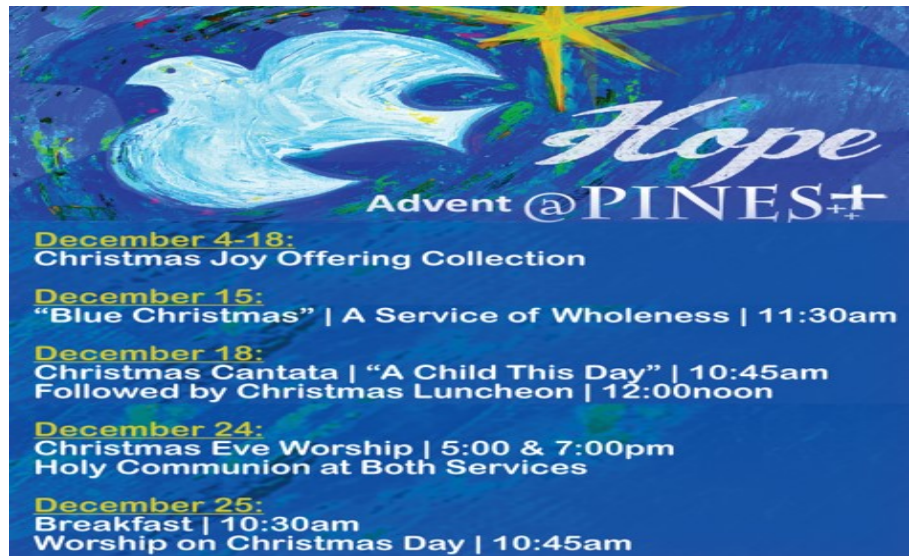
UPWARD, INWARD AND OUTWARD

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.

Second Sunday Lunch: Join us **TODAY** after the congregational meeting for Second Sunday Lunch at Café Express in Town Center.

Congregational Meeting Today following worship for the purpose of electing elders to the class of 2026. Nominations are: Tim Timmons, Donna Partee, Linda Aldred, Emily Gairo, and Shirley Bollich.



Calendar for the Week of December 11, 2022

Monday

12:00 pm	This Week articles due to Dan Schafer	
12:00 pm	Worship Committee Mtg	C3
1:00 pm	Stephen Leaders meeting	C7
5:30 pm	Christian Ed Committee meeting	C10
6:00 pm	Property Committee meeting	C7

Tuesday

7:00 am	Men's Bible Study	Zoom
9:00 am	Bulletin articles due to Laurie	
11:30 am	Clara Gay Circle	C3
2:30 pm	Weekly Prayer Team	Prayer Room
5:30 pm	Christian Ed Committee meeting	C10
6:30 pm	Mission Committee meeting	C3
7:00 pm	Miriam Circle	C8

Wednesday

5:45 pm	Pines Pealers	C12
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Thursday

11:30 am	Blue Christmas Worship Service	Sanctuary
2:00 pm	Lectionary Bible Study	Zoom

Friday

Sunday

9:00 am	Nursery open	
9:15 am	Sunday School for all	
10:15 am	Coffee Fellowship	Fellowship Hallway
10:45 am	Cantata Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Caring Ministry	C7
12:00 pm	Christmas Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Pines Youth	Youth Rooms