



HOUSTON LAKE

Presbyterian Church

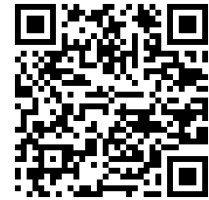
*Proclaiming and Living in the Light
of the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

Welcome to HLPC!

Houston Lake Presbyterian Church (PCA) is here for the glory of God to be a graciously redeemed worshiping body that proclaims and lives in the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ so that people, families, and communities in Houston County and beyond may know Christ in all His fullness.

Please set all mobile phones to silent mode.

Children of all ages are welcome in the worship service. A crying room is in the back of the sanctuary. Children ages 4 yrs-2nd grade are dismissed during the sermon for “Teach Me to Worship” in the church Fellowship Hall.



For **online giving** you may use this QR code:

The Lord's Supper is being served this morning.

HLPC welcomes all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, and who are baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, to participate in the Lord's Supper. Children who have been examined by the elders and admitted to the Lord's Table are able to partake of this Sacrament. If you are not a Christian, or you are not prepared to share in this sacrament, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. [Gluten free wafers are in the center bread cups].

Assisting in worship today:

Pastoral Intern Zach Hood

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP
DECEMBER 15, 2024
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

† -indicates congregation is to stand

GATHERING

PRELUDE

We enter the sanctuary and gather as God's people with the intent of worshiping the one, true, and living God. Let the music being played remind us of our purpose here this morning.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please fill out the connection card located in the seatbacks and drop it in the collection boxes located in the foyer at the end of the service.

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

†CALL TO WORSHIP - *The First Word*

*We continue our celebration of **Advent**- the season of preparation for the coming of God's Son. We are using an Advent Wreath to remind us that the light of the world has come! The wreath has five candles: four for each of the four Sundays of Advent and the fifth is the Christ candle, which we will light at our Christmas Eve Candlelight service.*

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

All: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Leader: And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. (Isaiah 42:16)

All: Come, Lord Jesus, our light and life.

†PRAYER FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

†HYMN OF PRAISE "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" #203

†CORPORATE CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH

"The Word Made Flesh," The Ligonier Statement on Christology

We confess the mystery and wonder of God made flesh and rejoice in our great salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

With the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Son created all things, sustains all things, and makes all things new.

Truly God, He became truly man, two natures in one person.

He was born of the Virgin Mary and lived among us. Crucified, dead, and buried, He rose on the third day, ascended to heaven, and will come again in glory and judgment.

For us, He kept the Law, atoned for sin, and satisfied God's wrath. He took our filthy rags and gave us His righteous robe.

He is our Prophet, Priest, and King, building His church, interceding for us, and reigning over all things.

Jesus Christ is Lord; we praise His holy Name forever.
Amen.

REMEMBERING THE GOSPEL

CALL TO CONFESS OUR SINS

Confession of sin is a way that we are refreshed in the gospel and are reminded that it is truly good news. Rather than wallowing in our sin, we deal with sin and guilt by confessing it and claiming God's promise of forgiveness in Christ.

Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. (Psalm 62:8)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

HYMN OF CONFESSION AND GRACE

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

#200

†WORDS OF GRACE

Leader: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

People: **God's love and mercy, shown to us in the person of His Son and poured out into our hearts by His Holy Spirit, assures us of our forgiveness!**

†GREETING ONE ANOTHER

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Romans 15:7)

†HYMN OF CELEBRATION

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

#224

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"
Men's Ensemble

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ruling Elder Chuck Ezell

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.

Children ages 4 to first grade who wish to attend "Teach Me to Worship" time are welcome to come to the front to pray with the Pastor.

HEARING GOD SPEAK

†SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-12

p.807

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Rev. Paul Bankson

"Come and Worship"

MEETING GOD AT HIS TABLE

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

COMMUNION HYMN "All to Jesus I Surrender"

#562

(We will sing stanzas 1 & 2 as we distribute the bread and stanzas 3 & 4 as we distribute the cup).

RESPONDING TO THE GOD OF GRACE

OFFERING

Our giving to God is a response to the gospel. We give as an act of worship and as an expression of our trust in God to meet all our needs. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

(Malachi 3:10)

DEPARTING

†BENEDICTION - *The Last Word*

God always has the last word in our worship, and for those who are in Christ Jesus these are always words of blessing. These words come from God, and not from the Pastor. As an expression of receiving this blessing we open our hands.

†SINGING OF THE DOXOLOGY

Hymn #731

SERMON NOTES:

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Hymns: Public Domain

THIS WEEK AT HLPC:

Sunday 8:45 am: Prayer
 9:15 am: School of Discipleship
 10:30 am: Worship Service
 6:30 pm: Choir Christmas Concert & Reception
Thursday 12:00 pm: Prime Timer Christmas Fellowship

Children's Ministry Volunteer Schedule

Teach Me to Worship Coordinator: Cathy Alvord

Nursery Coordinator: Tish Roberts, Laura Duvall

ROOM	December 15	December 22	December 29
School of Discipleship	Devon Willey Joanna Kotlarski	N/A	N/A
Walkers & 2/3's	Jennifer & Sean Waters Marisol Soto	Sherry & Matt Walker Jessica Fuqua	Angie Slagh Courtney Martin Amy Booth
Teach Me to Worship	Sarah & Anna Shelton Connie Bankson	Cathy Alvord Jake Barker	Cathy Alvord Hali Sampson

GREETERS: Mary Catherine Cutrell, Edith Norniella

Next week: Kirby & Kelly Moore

SAFETY TEAM: Matt Walker

Next Week: Will Booth

SOUND TEAM: Jed Jessup, David Carnes

Next Week: Joshua Strasser, Dave Maddox

USHERS: Lee Ledger, John Kotlarski

Next Week: Kody Morrison, Daniel Martin

HLPC SESSION

Paul Bankson: Moderator

Michael Collins: Youth Ministry

Keith Duvall: Clerk of Session/ Administration

Kevin Epperson: Worship

Chuck Ezell: LIFE Groups

Erik Fuqua: Men's Ministry

Gregg Jerome: Youth Ministry

Todd Kinnebrew: Women in the Church/ Missions

Tieman Slagh: Children's Ministry

Sean Waters: Shepherding

HLPC DEACONS

Kirby Moore, *Chairman*

Dave Maddox

Tony Bermudez

Bob McCullough

Joe Weiss

Roger Hill

Jed Jessup

HLPC STAFF

Paul L. Bankson ♦ *Pastor* ♦ pbankson@houstonlakepres.org

Zach Hood ♦ *Pastoral Intern for Student Ministries* ♦

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Cathy Alvord ♦ *Children's Ministry Director* ♦

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Heather Collins ♦ *Bookkeeper* ♦ hcollins@houstonlakepres.org

Tish Roberts & Laura Duvall ♦ *Nursery Coordinators* ♦

joeandtish@gmail.com, kandlduvall@gmail.com

Women's Ministries

Women in the Church Coordinator: Holly Kirkpatrick
hollyandhenry@gmail.com

"Take Them a Meal" Coordinator: Rachel Wadsworth
ugagirl85@gmail.com

- Women of the Word Study, Wednesday, 6:30 pm
- Women of the Word Study, Thursday, 9:30-11am

Men's Ministries

Men's Ministries Coordinator: Erik Fuqua etfuqua@gmail.com

- Men's Monthly Fellowship; join us for breakfast in January
- Men's MidWeek Study (Wednesday) Contact Paul Bankson for information [on break until January 2025]
- Bible Study Friday morning: 7:30 am via Zoom. Contact Paul Bankson for information.

Fellowship Groups

Prime Timers - (55+) Fellowship & Meal Monthly

Coordinator: Mary Catherine Cutrell maryccutrell@gmail.com

Solas (Single Ladies Of all Ages) Second Sunday of the month

LIFE Groups (Call church office for info)

Bankson	2 nd & 4 th Sunday	6:00 pm
Ezell/Martin	One Sunday a month	12:00 pm
Fuqua	One Sunday a month	12:00pm
Kinnebew/Moore	2 nd Sunday	5:30 pm
Waters/Bermudez	One Sunday a month	12:00 pm
Hall/Weiss (Young Families)	One Saturday a month	
Blevins/Bankson Young Adults	1 st , 3 rd , & 5 th Tuesdays	

Trail Life Troop 4316 Will Booth william.booth82@gmail.com

MISSIONS & MINISTRIES WE SUPPORT

- ◆ **Bob & Andrea Burnham** – Odessa, Ukraine (MTW)
- ◆ **Jeff & Robyn Candell** – Church planting in British Columbia (MNA)
- ◆ **Covenant Care Services** – Christian Adoption Agency serving the State of Georgia.
- ◆ **Tim & Anna Grider** – RUF @ Columbus State University
- ◆ **Marlin & Caroline Harris** – RUF @ Mercer University
- ◆ **Matt & Emma Hegler** – Japan (MTW)
- ◆ **Russell & Amanda Jeffares** – church planting in Ireland with Serge
- ◆ **Nathanael & Anna Kristen Miller** – RUF @ Georgia Southern
- ◆ **Clay & Hannah Jones** – El Salvador (MTW)
- ◆ **Samaritan's Purse** – Operation Christmas Child
- ◆ **Mike & Eli Sabin** – Trans World Radio in Guam (MTW)
- ◆ **Seminario Reformado Latinoamericano (SRL)** – Reformed Seminary serving Latin America, Noe & Mimi Acosta
- ◆ **Harvey & Carol Spears** – in Orlando, FL with Cru
- ◆ **Strong Tower Fellowship** – Macon, GA
- ◆ **Trail Life Troop 4316**
- ◆ **Ben & Shanna Wright** – Wycliffe Bible Translators

Houston Lake Presbyterian Church (PCA)

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www.houstonlakepres.org

WiFi password HLPC-Members: *faithalone*



**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN
AMERICA**