



# HOUSTON LAKE

*Presbyterian Church*

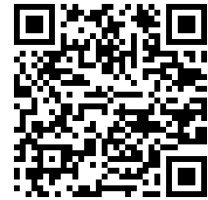
*Proclaiming and Living in the Light  
of the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

## *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-2<sup>nd</sup> 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].

# LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

DECEMBER 29, 2024

† -indicates congregation is to stand

## GATHERING

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### 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 believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with His Word, His invitation to us to gather in His name.*

Minister: We will extol You, our God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

People: Every day we will bless You and praise Your name forever and ever.

Minister: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.

People: One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.  
(from Psalm 145:1-4)

### †PRAYER FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

1. Who has held the oceans in his hands?  
Who has numbered every grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice;  
All creation rises to rejoice.

*Chorus:* Behold our God, seated on His throne;  
Come, let us adore Him.  
Behold our King, nothing can compare;  
Come let us adore Him.

2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?  
Who can question any of His words?  
Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds? *Chorus*

3. Who has felt the nails upon His hands?  
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man.  
God eternal, humbled to the grave;  
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign. *Chorus 2x*

†CORPORATE CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH

*The Apostles' Creed*

Trinity Hymnal p.845

## **REMEMBERING THE GOSPEL**

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### **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.*

“Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster.  
(Joel 2:12-13)

### **SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN**

### **HYMN OF CONFESSION AND GRACE**

“Be Thou My Vision”

#642

### **†WORDS OF GRACE**

Leader: You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God and there is none else. And my people shall never again be put to shame. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Joel 2:26-27, 32)

People: **God's gracious covenant promises are “yes” in Jesus Christ so that we are forgiven and justified before the Father! Praise be to God! Amen.**

## †GREETING ONE ANOTHER

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

## †HYMN OF CELEBRATION

“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!”

#600

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Paul Bankson

**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

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†SCRIPTURE READING

James 2:1-13

p.1011

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

Pastoral Intern Zach Hood

*“Favoritism: A Hindrance to the Gospel in 2025”*

## MEETING GOD AT HIS TABLE

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Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

#521

*(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**

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### **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. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

### **DEPARTING**

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#### **†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

Next week join us for School of Discipleship for all ages  
at 9:15AM.

## SERMON NOTES:

Song lyrics reprinted by permission. CCLI licenses #2633730 and #202900-/ +8233 (streaming).

**Hymns:** Public Domain

## **THIS WEEK AT HLPC:**

Sunday 9:45 am: Prayer  
10:30 am: Worship Service  
Wednesday Happy New Year!

### **Children's Ministry Volunteer Schedule**

*Teach Me to Worship Coordinator: Cathy Alvord*

*Nursery Coordinator: Tish Roberts, Laura Duvall*

<b>ROOM</b>	<b>December 29</b>	<b>January 5</b>	<b>January 12</b>
<b>School of Discipleship</b>	N/A	Grace Jeter Becca Bright	Tish Roberts Kristin Epperson
<b>Walkers &amp; 2/3's</b>	Angie Slagh Courtney Martin Amy Booth	Kristen & Will Daniels Holly Kirkpatrick	Willey Family
<b>Teach Me to Worship</b>	Cathy Alvord Hali Sampson	Shane & Christina Hall	Shane & Christina Hall Natalie Sweat

**GREETERS:** Joe & Tish Roberts

*Next week: Todd & Monica Kinnebrew*

**SAFETY TEAM:** Scott Shelton

*Next Week: Peter Martin*

**SOUND TEAM:** Tony Bermudez, Larry Wadsworth

*Next Week: Joshua Strasser, Larry Wadsworth*

**USHERS:** Cody Casey, Peter Martin

*Next Week: Joe Roberts, Ben Blevins*

## 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](mailto:pbankson@houstonlakepres.org)

**Zach Hood** ♦ *Pastoral Intern for Student Ministries* ♦

[zhood@houstonlakepres.org](mailto:zhood@houstonlakepres.org)

**Laney Doster** ♦ *Assistant Student Ministries Director*

**Kristin Epperson** ♦ *Office Administrator* ♦

[kepperson@houstonlakepres.org](mailto:kepperson@houstonlakepres.org)

**Elizabeth Weiss** ♦ *Music Director* ♦

[elizabethweiss0122@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethweiss0122@gmail.com)

**Cathy Alvord** ♦ *Children's Ministry Director* ♦

[calvord@houstonlakepres.org](mailto:calvord@houstonlakepres.org)

**Heather Collins** ♦ *Bookkeeper* ♦ [hcollins@houstonlakepres.org](mailto:hcollins@houstonlakepres.org)

**Tish Roberts & Laura Duvall** ♦ *Nursery Coordinators* ♦

[joeandtish@gmail.com](mailto:joeandtish@gmail.com), [kandlduvall@gmail.com](mailto: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)

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

101 O'Brien Drive

Kathleen, GA 31047

478.987.7503

[www.houstonlakepres.org](http://www.houstonlakepres.org)

WiFi password HLPC-Members: *faithalone*



**PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH IN  
AMERICA**