



# 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-1<sup>st</sup> grade are welcome to go to “Teach Me to Worship” in the church Fellowship Hall.

For **online giving**, scan here:



**First time here?** Get the HLPC Church Center app:



**LORD'S DAY WORSHIP**  
**DECEMBER 7, 2025**  
***THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT***

† -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 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 now the Lord says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." (Isaiah 49:6)

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

### **†PRAYER FOR GOD'S PRESENCE**

**†HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Angels We have Heard on High”

#214

**†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.**

## **RECEIVING OUR NEWEST COMMUNICANT MEMBERS**

The following have professed their faith before the Elders of the church and now stand before our church family to do so again and to be admitted to the Lord's Table:

Grayson Acres\*

Merrick Acres

Sawyer Acres

Claire Bermudez

Matthew Jeter

Michael Jeter

Elizabeth Martin

Levi Pradarits

\*- will be receiving the covenant sign of baptism.

## **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.*

Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us! Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations? Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? (Psalm 85:4-6)

### **SILENT CONFESSON OF SIN**

### **HYMN OF CONFESSON AND GRACE**

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

#194

## †WORDS OF GRACE

Minister: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, (Psalm 103:2-4)

**People: We praise God for His grace and mercy toward us in Jesus Christ, His Son, that is applied to us by the Holy Spirit!**

## †GREETING ONE ANOTHER

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

## †HYMN OF CELEBRATION

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

#207

## SPECIAL MUSIC

HLPC Advent Ensemble: “Noel Intrada”

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Ruling Elder Kevin Epperson  
**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

1 John 2:1-6 (p.1021)

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

## SERMON

Rev. Paul Bankson

*I John: That You May Know  
"Our Advocate"*

## 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. Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the LORD.*  
(1 Chronicles 29:9)

## 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

## SERMON NOTES:

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**Hymns:** Public Domain

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Dec  
**7**

**HLPC  
Christmas  
Concert**

At 6:30PM.  
Reception to Follow

Dec  
**9**

**HLPC WIC  
Progressive  
Dinner**

Starts at 5PM  
More info on the bulletin boards!

Dec  
**13**

**Youth  
Christmas  
Party**

6PM at the Jessup's

Dec  
**14**

**Last Youth  
Group**

Dec  
**17**

**Youth  
Christmas  
Lights**

More info to come!

## WEEKLY EVENTS

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	HLPC Youth
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>	Men's Study w Jim Clark @ Woodlands
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7:30 AM</b>	Men's Study via Zoom

For more info, email our office administrator Olivia at [ohood@houstonlakepres.org](mailto:ohood@houstonlakepres.org) OR fill out a connection card.

## Children's Ministry Volunteer Schedule

*Teach Me to Worship Coordinator: Cathy Alvord*

*Nursery Coordinators: Caitlin Shelton, Christina Hall*

<b>ROOM</b>	<b>December 7</b>	<b>December 14</b>	<b>December 21</b>
<b>School of Discipleship</b>	Becca Bright Leah Robinson	Michele Watts Olivia Hood	<i>No SOD</i>
<b>Walkers &amp; 2/3's</b>	Shane & Christina Hall Kristen Daniels	Devon Willey Neysa Ezell	Barb Jansen Courtney Martin Grace Jeter
<b>Teach Me to Worship</b>	Jessica Bermudez Leah Bermudez	Jennifer & Kim Waters	Connie Bankson Amanda & Levi Pradarits

### Sunday Volunteer Schedule

**GREETERS:** Rebekah & Charlie Griffis

*Next week: Jim & Lyn Micko*

**SAFETY TEAM:** Scott Shelton

*Next Week: Roger Hill*

**SOUND TEAM:** Jed Jessup, Larry Wadsworth

*Next Week: Dave Carnes, Dave Maddox*

**USHERS:** Peter Martin, Justin Bristol

*Next Week: John Sweat, Kody Morrison*

**MUSIC:** Heather Collins, Melody Howell, Ben Blevins,  
Bonnie Martin

*Next Week: Bonnie Martin, Grant Waters, Jessica Bermudez,  
Jenny Ledger*

## HLPC SESSION

Paul Bankson: Moderator

Michael Collins: Youth Ministry

Keith Duvall: Administration

Kevin Epperson: Worship

Chuck Ezell: LIFE Groups

Erik Fuqua: Clerk of Session/Men's Ministry

Zach Hood: Associate Pastor

Gregg Jerome: Youth Ministry

Todd Kinnebrew: Women in the Church/Missions

Tieman Slagh: Children's Ministry

## HLPC DIACONATE

Jed Jessup, *Chairman*

Kirby Moore, *Emeritus*

Roger Hill

Joe Weiss

Will Booth

Dave Maddox

Tony Bermudez

Ben Blevins

Gary Howell

John Sweat

Cody Casey

Shane Hall

Daniel Martin

Peter Martin

## HLPC STAFF

**Dr. Paul L. Bankson** ♦ *Senior Pastor* ♦ [pbankson@houstonlakepres.org](mailto:pbankson@houstonlakepres.org)

**Rev. Zach Hood** ♦ *Associate Pastor* ♦ [zhood@houstonlakepres.org](mailto:zhood@houstonlakepres.org)

**Olivia Hood** ♦ *Office Administrator* ♦ [ohood@houstonlakepres.org](mailto:ohood@houstonlakepres.org)

**Elizabeth Weiss** ♦ *Music Director* ♦ [elizabethweiss0112@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethweiss0112@gmail.com)

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

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

**Jim Clark** ♦ *Prime Timers Chaplain* ♦ [jim.shepherd.clark@gmail.com](mailto:jim.shepherd.clark@gmail.com)

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

**Caitlin Shelton & Christina Hall** ♦ *Nursery Coordinators* ♦

[caitlinshelton07@gmail.com](mailto:caitlinshelton07@gmail.com)    [cmhall0615@gmail.com](mailto:cmhall0615@gmail.com)

## MISSIONS & MINISTRIES WE SUPPORT

- ◆ **Will Allan**- Salford (Manchester), UK; United Kingdom Partnership
- ◆ **Bob & Andrea Burnham** - Odessa, Ukraine (MTW)
- ◆ **Covenant Care Services** - Christian Adoption Agency serving the State of Georgia.
- ◆ **Nathan & Lea Gibbs**- church planting in US Military community in Germany
- ◆ **Gospel Reformation Network**- promoting health and vitality in the PCA
- ◆ **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
- ◆ **Samaritan's Purse - Operation Christmas Child**
- ◆ **Mike & Eli Sabin** - Trans World Radio Global (MTW)
- ◆ **Seminario Reformado Latinoamericano (SRL)** - Reformed Seminary serving Latin America, Noe & Mimi Acosta
- ◆ **Harvey & Carol Spears** - in Orlando, FL with Cru
- ◆ **Dan Terry**- Birmingham, UK; United Kingdom Partnership
- ◆ **Trail Life Troop 4316**
- ◆ **Ben & Shanna Wright**- Wycliffe Bible Translators

### **Houston Lake Presbyterian Church (PCA)**

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Kathleen, GA 31047

478.987.7503

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

WiFi password HLPC-Members: *faithalone*



**PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH IN  
AMERICA**