



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-1st 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:



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 21, 2025
THE FOURTH 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: Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
(Isaiah 58:8)

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

†PRAYER FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

†HYMN OF PRAISE

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#208

†CORPORATE CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH

The Heidelberg Catechism, #35-36

Q. What do you confess when you say: "He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary?"

A. The eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God, took upon himself true human nature from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, through the working of the Holy Spirit. Thus, he is also the true seed of David, and like his brothers in every respect, yet without sin.

Q. What benefit do you receive from the holy conception and birth of Christ?

A. He is our Mediator, and with his innocence and perfect holiness covers, in the sight of God, my sin, in which I was conceived and born.

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.

And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, "Thus have you said: 'Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?' Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live;" (Ezekiel 33:10-11a)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

HYMN OF CONFESSION AND GRACE

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

#200

†WORDS OF GRACE

Minister: I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.
(Ezekiel 36:25-27)

**People: God's grace has forgiven us our sin, He has given us new hearts to believe the gospel, and He has given His Spirit to empower our obedience!
Praise be to God!**

†GREETING ONE ANOTHER

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

†HYMN OF CELEBRATION

"Joy to the World"

#195

SPECIAL MUSIC

HLPC Advent Ensemble: "Christmas Sanctus"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ruling Elder Gregg Jerome

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

Daniel 7:13-14 (p.745)

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Rev. Paul Bankson

"What Child is This?"

MEETING GOD AT HIS TABLE

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

COMMUNION HYMN

“Man of Sorrows! What a Name”

#246

(We will sing stanza 1-2 as we distribute the bread and stanzas 3-5 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. 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

†**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

**Please join us Christmas Eve at 5:30PM for our
Candlelight Service.**

No Youth Gathering tonight or Dec. 28th

Assisting in worship today:

Rev. Zach Hood

SERMON NOTES:

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Hymns: Public Domain

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Dec
21

No SOD

Dec
24

**Christmas Eve
Service**

5:30 PM
at the church

Dec
28

No SOD



WEEKLY EVENTS

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

For more info, email our office administrator Olivia at 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

ROOM	December 21	December 28	January 4
School of Discipleship	<i>No SOD</i>	<i>No SOD</i>	Kristin Epperson Tish Roberts
Walkers & 2/3's	Barb Jansen Courtney Martin Grace Jeter	Angie Slagh Christina & Shane Hall	Courtney & Peter Martin Jennifer Waters
Teach Me to Worship	Connie Bankson Amanda & Levi Pradarits	Cathy Alvord Jake Barker	Kim Waters Jessica Fuqua

Sunday Volunteer Schedule

GREETERS: Jeanette Bennet, Mary Catherine Cutrell

Next week: Neil & Mardi Barker

SAFETY TEAM: Will Booth

Next Week: Bob McCullough

SOUND TEAM: Josh Strasser, Tony Bermudez

Next Week: Dave Maddox

USHERS: Daniel Martin, Lee Ledger

Next Week: Kody Morrison, Peter Martin

MUSIC Heather Collins, Melody Howell, Scott Shelton,
Cathy Alvord

*Next Week: Grant Waters, Jackson Griffith, Elizabeth Weiss,
Cathy Alvord, Jan Fall*

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*

Dave Maddox

Cody Casey

Kirby Moore, *Emeritus*

Tony Bermudez

Shane Hall

Roger Hill

Ben Blevins

Daniel Martin

Joe Weiss

Gary Howell

Peter Martin

Will Booth

John Sweat

HLPC STAFF

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Caitlin Shelton & Christina Hall ♦ *Nursery Coordinators* ♦

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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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www.houstonlakepres.org

WiFi password HLPC-Members: *faithalone*



**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN
AMERICA**