ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 21, 2025

CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

713-526-1188
www.cpchouston.org

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Prelude

Joy to the World by Robert Lau

Welcome

To all who are weary and need rest;
To all who mourn and long for comfort;
To all who feel worthless and wonder if God cares;
To all who fail and desire strength;
To all who sin and need a Savior;
To all who hunger and thirst for righteousness;
And to whoever will come–
This church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Call to Worship
Luke 2:13–14

Leader: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

Let us join our voices in praising God together!

Hymn of Praise
Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains

Chorus
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song

Chorus

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

Chorus

Invocation

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.

Advent Scripture Reading
John 1:9–18

Scripture
Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(11:00)
Children's Choir
Glory

The shepherds watching their flocks by night
And lo the angel came down
For unto us in the city of David
A Savior a King has come

Singing glory glory
Come worship the King of glory
Glory glory
I bring to you good tidings good news
For Jesus our Savior is born

And suddenly there was a multitude
Of angels singing to God
Peace on earth good will to men
Alle alleluia

Singing glory glory
Come worship the King of Glory
Glory glory
I bring to you good tidings good news
For Jesus our Savior is born

Joy to the world
Alleluia we worship the King
Joy to the world
Alleluia alleluia
We worship we worship the King

Sing a new song for God is with us
All of the nations will rise
Hope has come to all creation
Lift up your voices on high

Singing glory glory
Come worship the King of Glory
Glory glory
I bring to you good tidings good news
For Jesus our Savior is born

Hymn
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of the virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all he brings
Ris'n with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by
Born that men no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Call to Confession
1 John 1:8–9

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Public Confession
Adapted from the *Book of Common Worship*, 1946

Leader: Let us confess our sins together.

All: **Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the pattern of this world and the desires of our hearts. We have broken your holy laws. We have left undone those things that we ought to have done, and we have done those things that we ought not to have done. There is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills and rest to our souls, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort
2 Corinthians 5:17

Leader: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Hear and receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn
Joy to The World

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

No more let sin and sorrow grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love
And wonders of his love
And wonders wonders of his love

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes & Offerings

Musical Offering
Love's Pure Light

Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night holy night
Son of God love's pure light

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Sermon

"Simeon's Song"
Luke 2:21–35
Rev. Richard Harris

Closing Song
O Come All Ye Faithful

O come all ye faithful joyful and triumphant
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him
Born the King of angels

Chorus
O come let us adore him
O come let us adore him
O come let us adore him
Christ the Lord

God of God Light of Light
Lo he abhors not the Virgin's womb
Very God begotten not created

Chorus

Sing choirs of angels sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above
Glory to God in the highest

Chorus

Yea Lord we greet thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father late in flesh appearing

Chorus

Benediction

Postlude
All music used by permission: CCLI#33408

Toccata by Bach

Announcements

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Please join us for worship this Christmas Eve: Family Candlelight Nativity Service at 4:30 pm and Communion Candlelight Lessons & Carols at 6:00 pm. Find all Christmas events and services at cpchouston.org/Christmas.

Church Office Closure

The church office will be closed December 24, 25, & 26 and January 1.

Schedule Change December 28

Please join us for worship next Sunday, December 28, at 10 am in the Sanctuary. Sunday School classes will not meet.

All-Church Prayer January 4

All adults are encouraged to come to our All-Church Prayer Gathering on Sunday, January 4, at 10:00 am in the Chapel. Pastor Harris will briefly teach on the topic of prayer before leading us in a time of prayer for 2026. Middle school and high school students will join their parents for this time of prayer. Children's Ministry will meet as usual.

Every Person Prayer

In keeping with James 5:13–17, we have set a goal for every member of CPC to be anonymously prayed for by another member every day in 2026. No meetings, programs, or reporting to anyone is required; simply sign up to pray. You can find the sign-up link using the QR code on the back of your bulletin. Cards with names will be available for pickup on January 4.

Officer Nominations

The Officer Nominating Committee is hard at work. If you have recommendations for elder, deacon, or diaconal ministry team members, please email Chairman Tommy Ikard by January 15.

Join a City Group

City Groups at Christ Presbyterian Church provide a great way for people to enjoy fellowship, build strong friendships, and encourage one another through prayer and Bible study. Learn more and join a City Group at cpchouston.org/city-groups.

Marriage Conference January 23 & 24

Mark your calendar for our Marriage Conference scheduled for the evening of Friday, January 23, and the morning of Saturday, January 24. Guest speakers Chad and Emily Van Dixhoorn will help us think through biblical truths about marriage to help singles and couples be more thoughtful and prayerful. Learn more & register: cpchouston.org/marriage

Men's Retreat February 6 & 7

Men, plan to join us for our 2026 Men's Retreat February 6-7 at Camp Blessing. Our speaker will be Ligon Duncan, Chancellor/CEO of Reformed Theological Seminary. The cost is $145. Scholarships are available. Learn more and register online at cpchouston.org/men.

Announcements

Winter Journeys February 14

Ladies, save the date for Winter Journeys, one of our most loved women's ministry events at CPC! Join us Saturday, February 14, 10 am to 12 pm. We will begin our morning with fellowship and a brunch before hearing from our speakers about their journeys.

Year-End Stock Donations

Tax advantages may be realized by donating appreciated stock you have owned for more than one year. CPC will sell and use the proceeds for its programs. Please contact Claudio Cordeiro at 713-255-7207 for information or to notify us of your stock transfer. For contribution credit this calendar year, we must receive the gift by December 31. If mailing a check, it must be postmarked on or before December 31.

Operating Fund Contributions

ANNUAL BUDGET	$3,300,000
YTD GIVING AS OF 12/17/25	$2,826,954
REMAINING TO REACH BUDGET	$473,046

"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." *2 Corinthians 9:6*

Give online at cpchouston.org/Give.

Sermon Notes

December 21, 2025 | “Simeon’s Song”

Luke 2:21–35 | Rev. Richard Harris

Church Ministry Staff & Ruling Elders

MINISTRY STAFF

Richard Harris, Senior Pastor

Steve Bellis, Executive Director

Gina Grieb
Student Ministry Coordinator

Alicia Harris
Women's Ministry and Special Events Coordinator

Angela Ikard
Director of Children's Ministry

BJ McDougal
Director of Music and Worship

David Newland
Interim Director of Young Adults Ministry

Kristin Page
Associate Director of Children's Ministry

Kyler Parkman
Director of Student Ministry

Axel Sotelo
Assistant Pastor of Community Outreach

ON CALL DECEMBER 21

Elder on Call
Travis Graham

Diaconal Member on Call
Gayle Scott

RULING ELDERS

Craig Brown, Chairman, Worship Committee

Travis Graham, Clerk

Eric Hambly, Vice-Chairman, Finance Committee

Tom Harrison, Chairman, Finance Committee

Marshall Henderson, Chairman, Children's Ministry

Tommy Ikard, Chairman, Student Ministry

Clif Kageler, Personnel Committee

Paul Oliphant, Chairman, Missions Committee

Keith Pendergrass, Vice-Chairman, Missions Committee

Shawn Shoop, Personnel Committee

Cor Van Dyk, Chairman, Personnel Committee

O'Banion Williams, Chairman, Adult Education

CHURCH OFFICE

Christ Presbyterian Church
8300 Katy Freeway
Houston, TX 77024

Office Hours
The church office will be closed Dec. 24-26 and January 1.
Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Contact
w: www.cpchouston.org
t: 713-526-1188

Scan here for recent announcements and
to submit an electronic Connect Card or prayer requests.