

IN THE

BEGINNING



HOUSTON
CHINESE CHURCH
鐵士頓中國教會

The Curse

Preacher: Jason Tarn

Sunday, February 27, 2022 | 9:15am-10:30am

 [FACEBOOK.COM/HOUSTONCHINESECHURCH](https://www.facebook.com/HOUSTONCHINESECHURCH)

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HOUSTON
CHINESE CHURCH
曉士頓中國教會

ENGLISH WORSHIP SERVICE

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Welcome & Call to Worship

Worship in Song

Offertory

Recitation of the Apostle's Creed

New Members Introduction:

Kirk An, Jenny Lin, Jonathon Lin, Ashley Reyes

Testimonies & Baptisms

Harry Liu, Christian Delos Reyes

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading, *Genesis 3:7-20*

Worship in the Word, Pastor Jason

"The Curse" - [Sermon Outline](#)

Worship in Song

Benediction & Doxology

Baptism

Baptism is the public declaration that a person has placed his or her faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and identifies with Jesus's death and resurrection as depicted by immersion in water.



ONLINE

Sermon notes and video recordings can be found here:

hcc.lv/SermonMeUp



UPCOMING SERMON SCHEDULE

In the Beginning: Paradise Lost

March 6 | *Genesis 3:29-4:2* | Henry Ow

In the Beginning: Brother's Keeper

March 13 | *Genesis 4:1-16* | Jason Tarn

In the Beginning: Cleansing Flood

March 20 | *Genesis 6:5-13; 7:17-18* | Jason Tarn

In the Beginning: Sign of the Covenant

March 27 | *Genesis 8:20-9:17* | Jason Tarn

ENGLISH ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us for Sunday School classes at 11:00am -12:15pm. Jesus calls us to be disciples, workers, and leaders. Our teaching ministry aims to produce believers who are committed to the call of Jesus.

Old Testament Survey (Part 1 of 6) | Rm 113

Systematic Theology Survey (Part 1 of 3) | Rm 115

Verse by Verse Bible: 1 Corinthians | Rm 411

Family Life: Experiencing God's Dream for Your Marriage | Rm 412/414

In the Beginning: A Series in Genesis 1-11

The Curse

Genesis 3:7-20

The events dominating the headlines this past week are a stark reminder that we live in a world marked by bloodshed, violence, and war. It's always been that way. Though, at times, we can be lulled into a false sense of peace and stability. The source of all this pain and suffering – whether on the world stage or in our own lives – is found in a singular event in ancient history that involved a couple, a snake, and a curse.

1. The curse of psychological shame

2. The curse of spiritual hostility

3. The curse of relational discord

4. The curse of vocational distress

FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION

○ FOSTER CARE

- TEMPORARY PLACEMENT OF A CHILD OUTSIDE OF HIS/HER FAMILY OF ORIGIN WITH THE GOAL OF REUNIFICATION
- INVOLUNTARY (CPS CUSTODY / CONSERVATORSHIP)
- VOLUNTARY (POSSIBLE CPS INVOLVEMENT BUT PARENTS MAINTAIN CUSTODY)
- BIRTH PARENTS HAVE VISITATION WITH THE CHILD TO MAINTAIN A BOND WHILE THE CHILD LIVES OUTSIDE OF THEIR HOME

○ ADOPTION

- PERMANENT PLACEMENT OF A CHILD OUTSIDE OF HIS/HER FAMILY OF ORIGIN
- PARENTAL RIGHTS OF BIRTH PARENTS ARE TERMINATED
- ADOPTIVE PARENTS HAVE ALL THE RIGHTS OF A LEGAL PARENT
- OPEN ADOPTION: A BROAD TERM TO DESCRIBE AN ADOPTION IN WHICH THE BIRTH FAMILY HAS SOME DEGREE OF CONTACT WITH THE ADOPTED CHILD OR ADOPTIVE FAMILY AFTER THE ADOPTION IS CONSUMMATED
- CLOSED ADOPTION: BIRTH FAMILY HAS NO CONTACT WITH THE ADOPTED CHILD OR FAMILY

PROVERBS 24:11-12 RESCUE THOSE BEING LED AWAY TO DEATH; HOLD BACK THOSE STAGGERING TOWARD SLAUGHTER. IF YOU SAY, "BUT WE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THIS," DOES NOT HE WHO WEIGHS THE HEART PERCEIVE IT? DOES NOT HE WHO GUARDS YOUR LIFE KNOW IT? WILL HE NOT REPAY EVERYONE ACCORDING TO WHAT THEY HAVE DONE?

JAMES 1:27 RELIGION THAT GOD OUR FATHER ACCEPTS AS PURE AND FAULTLESS IS THIS: TO LOOK AFTER ORPHANS AND WIDOWS IN THEIR DISTRESS AND TO KEEP ONESELF FROM BEING POLLUTED BY THE WORLD.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

DIRECT CARE OF CHILDREN

- INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION (permanent)
- DOMESTIC ADOPTION (permanent)
 - Requires home screening and approval by a child placing agency or court-appointed social worker
 - Finalized by a judge after a minimum of six months supervision
- FOSTER CARE (temporary)
 - Requires home screening and a license by a child placing agency
- RESPITE CARE (3-14 days)
 - At minimum, fingerprint background check and TB test (most agencies have more requirements)

SUPPORT ROLES

- BABYSITTING
- MEALS AND OTHER PRACTICAL NEEDS
- FOSTER CLOSETS AND MINISTRIES
- EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

RESOURCES

- fostering-family.org
- lovinghoustonadoption.org
- Recommended Reading
 - *The Connected Child*
Karyn Purvis & David Cross
 - *Reframing Foster Care*
Jason Johnson
 - *Through Adopted Eyes*
Elena S. Hall

 *Loving Houston*
ADOPTION AGENCY

Serviceing foster care and adoptions

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Membership Class | TODAY! | Sunday School | Rm 416 (Trailer)

Ready to take the next step and officially join HCC? Membership classes will walk through becoming a member of HCC (Feb 20 & Feb 27). If you have already been baptized and want to become an HCC member, you only need to attend today + a make-up class. Contact englishadmin@hcchome.org to sign up or for more information on baptism/membership.

Loving Houston Adoption Agency Interest Meeting | TODAY! | Sunday School | Rm 210

Come join us during the Sunday School hour in Room 210 today to hear about adoption, foster care, and other ways to serve vulnerable children in our community.

Churchwide Prayer Meeting | Mar 2 | 7:30 - 8:30pm | Zoom: hcc.lv/jointprayer

Join us Wednesday evening for our monthly churchwide prayer meeting conducted over Zoom at 7:30pm, to join us as we pray for each other, our church, and the nations.

Retirement 101: Estate Planning | Sat, Mar 5 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm | Room 115

Come learn about estate planning with main speaker: Karen Ho, CFP. Register online at hcc.lv/registerretire101 or watch Zoom recordings of the previous sessions at hcc.lv/family

PTL: Rehabilitating the Classical Virtues in Narnia & Middle Earth | Sat, Mar 5 | 5pm

Our first Public Theology Lecture will be this Saturday in the sanctuary, featuring Dr. Louis Markos from HBU speaking. These lectures are open to everyone including your friends, colleagues, and neighbors. Children and youth are welcome to join; no childcare will be provided. After the lecture, we will have opportunities for fellowship (e.g. through a meal or other activities). For more details, visit hcc.lv/publictheologylectures

Women's Ministry Spring Event: "Mosaic of Grace" | Apr 2 | 1:30 - 3:00pm | Chapel

When we reflect on our lives, we see that we have experienced personal dividing lines that result in a progression of changes in our thinking, feeling, and living. Join us for a time of teaching, sharing, and fellowship, as we see how God uses our brokenness for His glory! Register online at hcc.lv/mosaicofgrace now through March 20, 2022. Questions? Please email womensministry@hcchome.org.

CHURCH NOTICES

IMPORTANT: Abandoned Item Removal (Spring Cleaning) | Feb 25 - Mar 4

Please note that all *unlabeled, unclaimed* items left in the church will be removed the week of 2/25-3/4. If you or your ministry has anything stored in the church building (whether in classrooms, cabinets, or storage rooms), please send someone to double check that your items are clearly labeled and identifiable as belonging to your ministry.

Weekly Lunch Survey + Lunch Resumes 3/6 | hcc.lv/lunch

Lunch service will resume on March 6th, with food catered in from a restaurant. To buy lunch you have to fill out this survey (hcc.lv/lunch) by Wednesday each week and purchase meal tickets on Sunday at the Welcome Desk in the lobby from 12-1pm; please note that prices are now \$4.50 for adult meals and \$2.50 for kid's meals. You have to **both** fill out the survey **and** buy lunch tickets. Lunch is served on a first come, first serve basis. *Old meal tickets can be traded in for new ones at their dollar value.*

Zoom Meeting Policy

The church has a limited number of accounts available to host meetings. Please send an email request for *each* Zoom meeting you plan to host; the admin team will reserve your meeting time on our calendar. Recordings will be available for one week only.

UPDATE: Sunday Children's Ministry temporary plan

Nursery | *First Come First Serve* | 9:15am - 12:15pm | Ages 0-2

Outdoor Preschool | *Playground* | 11:30am - 12:00pm | Ages 3-PreK

Kid's Church | *Room 208* | 11:00am - 12:15pm | K-5th Grade

Starting later in March, children's ministry COVID protocols will be updated. Please check hcc.lv/hcc-kids-reopening for the latest information on Children's Ministry.

**Parents should stay and supervise their children for Outdoor Preschool.*

HOUSTON CHINESE CHURCH FACTS & FIGURES

LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE AND FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 20, 2022

HCC WORSHIP

PEARLAND WORSHIP

266	55	137	48	54	} 21+70	17	668
ENGLISH	CANTONESE	MANDARIN	YOUTH	CHILDREN		ENG + MAND	

 HCC SUNDAY SCHOOL

PEARLAND SS

*PEARLAND YOUTH ARE COUNTED IN ENGLISH SERVICE



81	45	74
ENGLISH	CANTONESE	MANDARIN

26
ADULT

FEB 20, 2022	OFFERING	YTD RECEIVED	THIS YEAR'S YTD (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS	LAST YEAR'S YTD (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS
GENERAL FUND	\$12,373.79	\$253,790.81	(\$54,718.46)	(\$121,557.98)
HCC BUILDING	\$500.00	\$5,800.00		
PEARLAND BUILDING	-	\$3,548.57		



Job Opportunities: *Staff Needed*

We are looking for several people to join our staff including: IT Coordinator, Nursery Coordinator, Nursery Caregiver, and Pearland Youth Ministry Director/Intern. Contact us at hccoffice@hcchome.org or find out more information at hcc.lv/HCCJobs

Staff Itinerary:

Frank Tan, vacation: 2/27



Baptism & New Members

TODAY we will witness the baptisms of **Christian Delos Reyes** and **Harry Liu**. The following brothers and sisters will also be introduced as members of our church: **Kirk An, Jenny Lin, Jonathon Lin, and Ashley Reyes**. Please welcome them into our HCC family.



HCC Positive COVID-19 Test Self-Reporting

If you have tested positive for COVID, please fill out the "HCC Positive COVID-19 Test Self-Reporting" form at hcc.lv/covidreport to help with contact-tracing efforts.



PRAYER

Join us as we pray for our long term workers in this month's Global Outreach Spotlight: hcc.lv/GoPrayFeb



COVID PROTOCOL **Yellow Zone**

Masks are now optional for vaccinated individuals, but still required for those who are unvaccinated and 2 years and older. Eating/drinking is allowed.

ABOUT US

COVID Church Facilities Update

HCC welcomes everyone to our indoor worship and activities. Check: hcc.lv/COVIDnews for the most updated protocols. For more info contact us at: hccoffice@hcchome.org

New or Visiting HCC?

If you are a newcomer or visitor we would love to connect you with our church community! Take a moment to fill out our Visitor's Welcome form: hcc.lv/welcome OR stop by the welcome desk in the lobby. We will contact you with on ways to connect with our community!

Sign Up for Our Newsletter | hcc.lv/news

Subscribe to our weekly newsletters with announcements, opportunities, and updates.



Please submit English bulletin announcements and inserts to Elise Tan at englishadmin@hcchome.org by Wednesday noon for approval. Any announcements received after Wednesday at noon will be put in next week's bulletin.