



HOUSTON
CHINESE CHURCH
曉士頓中國教會

God is ... Near

Preacher: Jason Tarn

Sunday, December 24, 2023 | 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
Advent Candle Lighting: LOVE
Worship in Song
Confession of Sin
Assurance of Pardon
Offertory
Nicene Creed
Pastoral Prayer
Scripture Reading, *John 1:14-18*
Worship in the Word, Pastor Jason Tarn
"God is ... Near" - [Sermon Outline](#)
Worship in Song
Benediction and Doxology

Advent

The Advent Season reminds us of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ and to anticipate His return to establish His kingdom on earth.

UPCOMING SERMON SCHEDULE

Every Sunday at 9:15 AM

God Is ... Love

Dec 31 | 1 John 4:7-12 | Fred Tow

A Church on Mission

Jan 7 | Acts 1:1-11 | Jason Tarn

One New Man in Christ

Jan 14 | Ephesians 2:11-22 | Jason Tarn

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

Jan 21 | Psalm 139:13-18 | Henry Ow



ONLINE

Sermon notes and video recordings can be found here:

hcc.lv/sermons



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.

3 Big Questions | Rm 113 | *No Class Today*

Systematic Theology Survey (Part 2 of 3) | Rm 115 | *No Class Today*

Old Testament Survey (Part 2 of 6) | Trailer 411

New Testament Survey (Part 2 of 3) | Trailer 412/414



God Is: Meditations on the Attributes of God

God is ... Near

John 1:14-18

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. He is transcendent over all creation. He sits enthroned in the heavens above. And yet during this season we celebrate his nearness. He is immanent among all creation. He lays enraptured in a manger below. This juxtaposition accentuates the love and mercy of our Savior God – who made himself nothing so he could give everything to all who would believe.

1. He is the Transcendent Word

2. He is the Immanent Word

3. He is the Revealed Word

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Christmas Eve Service - Hymn Sing Night | Today, Dec 24th | 5:30pm | Sanctuary Church, let us gather together to worship the newborn King together! *Childcare will be provided for 3 years old and under.

Churchwide New Year's Prayer | Monday, Jan 1st, 2024 | 9am-10:30am | MF Building
Join us on New Year's Day for our first prayer gathering of 2024. This will be held in the new MF building. Light refreshments will be served afterwards. There will be childcare provided for ages 3 and under and we will have a kids prayer meeting.

Ethnos Send-Off | Sunday, Jan 7th | 2pm-4pm | Chapel
Join us in sending out the Ethnos Church planting team! This will be a time of prayer and encouragement for the team before the launch of their first Sunday worship gathering.

CHURCH NOTICES

Pastoral and Administrative Personnel Changes

Worship Director **Tim Lai** has finished his seminary training, and the Church Council has approved his appointment as a Chinese Minister. Pastor **Steve Hsia** has completed his one-year term as interim pastor of the Pearland campus. Sister **Amanda Lai** will end her service as a Chinese administrative assistant. **Frank Fang** has finished his one-year residency and is seeking God's guidance in his future ministry. **Jon Huang** has concluded his church planting residency and will officially launch Ethnos Church in January. We are grateful for their faithful service. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

Deadline for Submitting 2023 Vouchers

All 2023 reimbursements must be submitted with signed vouchers and invoices by the first Sunday in January (Jan 7th, 2024).

Membership Meeting Vote Results for 2024 Budget

In the General Membership Meeting held on Dec 17, 2023, out of the 321 in attendance, 313 valid ballots were received: 288 voted FOR, 2 voted AGAINST and 23 chose to abstain.

Serve on Short-Term Missions! | June 29-July 6, 2024 | Baja California, Mexico

Want to serve God while living at an orphanage? We are looking for families with youth aged (6th grade +) children to join us! There are spots open for single/married adults too. If you are a Spanish speaker, we NEED you on our team! Please contact Phil/Jennifer Chii phil.jennifer@gmail.com for more information. **Applications will close by 1/7/2024.**

2024 HCC Calendars Available

Pick up a free calendar in the church lobby; please take only one per household.

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Dec 25th-26th and Jan 1st-2nd, 2024.

2023 Tax-Deductible Gift Deadline

To be counted as a charitable contribution for this year 2023, please note the following:

- 1) Paper Checks and Cash** - If dropping in the offering boxes, must be physically received by 1pm on Dec 31 (which is a Sunday this year). **If mailed**, must be postmarked by Dec 31. Writing "12/31/2023" on the check itself will not make a difference if the mailed envelope with the check is not postmarked by Dec 31. It is highly recommended if sending by mail, to mail before Dec 24 to ensure it will be postmarked by Dec 31.
- 2) Paypal Giving Fund Online Donations** - Must be made by Dec 31.
- 3) Stock Gift Transfers** - Must be **received** by HCC's brokerage account by Dec 31, to count as a 2023 contribution (contact treasurer@hcchome.org for more information, if needed).

HCC FAMILIES

No Nursery & AWANA on 12/29 & 1/5

Awana will not be meeting on Friday, 12/29 and 1/5. There will also be no childcare for Nursery age kids on 12/29 and 1/5. Fellowships and small groups should plan accordingly.

HOUSTON CHINESE CHURCH FACTS & FIGURES

LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE AND FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR DEC 17, 2023

HCC WORSHIP

PEARLAND WORSHIP

306

78

219

60

108

25+47

14

857

ENGLISH

CANTONESE

MANDARIN

YOUTH

CHILDREN

ENG + MAND

CHILDREN

TOTAL



HCC SUNDAY SCHOOL

PEARLAND SUNDAY SCHOOL

72

59

73

9

25

14

9



ENGLISH

CANTONESE

MANDARIN

ENGLISH

MANDARIN

YOUTH

CHILDREN

DEC 17, 2023	OFFERINGS	YTD RECEIVED	YTD (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS	
			THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR
HCC GENERAL	\$22,278.89	\$1,889,535.90	(\$338,194.66)	(\$174,393.69)
PCC GENERAL	\$486.00	\$173,403.05		
HCC BUILDING	\$70.00	\$312,736.46		
HCC PLEDGE PAYMENTS	\$50,934.58	\$5,654,763.00		
PCC BUILDING	-	\$46,517.60		
RESTRICTED COMM SERVICE GRANTS	-	\$17,000.00		
ETHNOS CHURCH PLANT	-	\$97,507.28		

STAFF ITINERARY

Jason Tarn: Vacation, 12/27-29
Mary Lee: Vacation, 12/20-30
Tim Lai: Vacation, 12/26-28

Linh Phan: Vacation, 12/27-29
Dina Koh: Vacation, 12/27-28
Thomas Wang: Vacation, 12/27-29

LUNCH PREPARATION

Newcomers can pick up a free lunch coupon & voucher to book stall at the Welcome Desk!
No Lunch Service Today 12/24 and next Sunday, 12/31 (holiday weekend)

PRAYER

Join us as we pray for our long term workers in this month's Global Outreach Spotlight:
hcc.lv/GoPrayDec23

SCAN HERE FOR HCC PAYPAL GIVING FUND



PPGF GIVING CODES

Without a giving code, your donation will default to the General Fund. Use these numbers in the cents amount to designate a fund (e.g. \$250.25 for a pledge fulfillment).

- "25" - Fulfilling your Building Project pledge
- "22" - Designate to the HCC Building Fund
- "19" - Designate to the Pearland Building Fund
- "24" - Designate to the Ethnos Church Plant

ABOUT US

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 our welcome desk in the lobby for a gift. We will contact you with ways to connect with our community!

Sign up for Our Newsletter | hcc.lv/news

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