## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 21, 2018

8:20 Morning Worship

9:40 Morning Worship

Welcome

Worship through Song

Ministry Spotlight: Faith Promise

Pre-Service Worship

Ministry Spotlight: Faith Promise

Worship through Song

Offering

Time of Prayer

Time of Prayer

Scripture Reading: Mark 9: 30-37

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Song

What Were You Discussing on the Road?
Pastor Wes Oden

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Songs (Offertory)

Song

Scripture Reader: Emily Spateholts Acolyte: Alexander Burgett

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Scripture Reader: Matt Webb Scripture Read Acolyte: Adalyn Wartinger Acolyte: A

Please feel free to use the altar as your place of prayer as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father. If kneeling is difficult for you, please use the red chairs or stand by the altar rail.

Music Ministry Team:

Michaella Aliperti, Jess Romance, vocals; Andrew Silbert, guitar & vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Jan Schilke, keyboard; Cassie Harrison, violin; Dan Wartinger, bass; Dustin Woodard, drums

Children's Worship bulletins are available in the church foyer for ages 3-12.

**NURSERY:** We provide a fully staffed nursery for infants up to two years of age. The Nursery is located on the first floor of the Christian Education Building and is available during services.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**: Children ages 2-5 are dismissed during the song before the sermon for Children's Church for both services: they meet in room 116 in the Christian Education Building.

**JUNIOR CHURCH** (Kinder-3rd Grade) is dismissed during the 8:20 service during the song before the sermon.

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** Worship is both a privilege and a responsibility. It is a privilege because we have the opportunity to come together and encounter the Almighty God; it is a responsibility in that we are called to enter worship with all of our being, thinking about our lives and thinking about others who are in worship with us. Let us rejoice in this opportunity to worship God together and pray that our encounter with God this day will lead us to be His people every day.

**TODAY WKFM** MEETS during the Sunday School Hour (9:40-10:40) for grades 1-5 to learn about Puerto Rico. Margarita Cooley and Phil Stockin will be presenting.

TONIGHT Small groups continue. A group meets at the church at 5:30.

**KiD's CLUB** continues on Wednesday, at 6 pm. You can find the Kid's Club schedule for the spring on the church website and our HW Kid's Facebook page.

**STONE SOUP DONATION DINNER TO BENEFIT VALLEY PRESCHOOL** this Friday, January 26, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Beef or vegetable soup, breads & dessert. Readings of *Stone Soup* at 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. Take out available.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** we gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40, and 11:00. Next week's sermon (Mark 8) ponders Jesus' question: *Can You See Anything Now?* 

HISTORICAL BOOKS: At the celebration of Houghton Wesleyan's sesquicentennial in 2002, we published a history book of our church. Since much has changed and transpired over the past 15 years, we have updated and published a revised edition of the 2002 edition. This 24-page book provides a brief overview of our denomination and a longer history of the Houghton congregation. If you have been around for a while, you will connect with many of the articles and pictures. If you are relatively new to the church, this book will familiarize you with the colorful history of this town and this church. The books are available in the church office or in the sanctuary foyer. The books are free, but donations would help to defray the printing costs.

**ALL WOMEN** Join us for our Winter Gathering: "Finding the Gifts in the Messiness of Your Life" on Saturday, February 3 from 9 am to 11 am in the Community Room. Spend the morning together with other women, enjoying breakfast, worship time, and inspiring moments, hearing how God brings us gifts, even in the challenging times of our lives. No need to sign up, just come and enjoy the morning with us. Child-care provided.

Mission Moment – After earning medical degrees in the Philippines, the Caringals, who visit us next month, have served in mission for 30 years in places like Zambia, Nepal, and with Global Partner oversight for 11 Asian countries. They also have Public Health degrees from Yale and Boston Universities. It's our privilege to support them with our Faith Promise Funds as they return to Asia in 2018.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** - Many Christians under threat of persecution are impacted by the current refugee and immigration policy debates. We pray for our leaders and civil servants to have God's wisdom as they deal with these and other complex issues. And we pray that believers from many countries would hold fast to their faith and trust God as they face an uncertain future.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Tim Nichols, Bob Brown, Jayne Swanson, Louise Prinsell, Hudson Hess, Nancy Cole, Brian Orbaker (Charlie and Connie Smith's son-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter, Ellis Brotzman, Chuck Barrett (Wendy Ott's brother), Sheryl O'Brien, Ben King, Doris Essepian, Eila Shea, Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey's brother), Bill Getty, Ella Woolsey, Mike Raybuck, Bev Rhett, Micah Christensen, Linda Roth, Emily Crikelair; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for healing and unity in our nation; and for Higgins Wesleyan Church (Pastor Bruce Smith).

For more information about church activities, and to read Pastor Wes's weekly blog, visit our website: <a href="https://www.hwchurch.org">www.hwchurch.org</a>.



Joyfully loving God, wholeheartedly serving others



Wesley Oden, Senior Pastor
Jon Cole, Youth Pastor
Cindy Oden, Assistant Pastor
Paul Shea, Assistant Pastor
Amanda Cox, Music and Worship Director
Laurie Smalley, Children's Ministry Director

P.O. Box 127, Houghton, NY 14744-0127 + (585) 567-2264 + www.hwchurch.org

## WELCOME BACK POTLUCK LUNCH JANUARY 28 – NOON in Community Room



It's a privilege to have students as part of our church!

- We need students to sign up.
- We need folks to bring food to serve.

Please sign up and drop tear-off in the offering plate or in the box in the foyer today.

## **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

(Students, remove and turn in) YES, I/We plan to eat lunch here on the 28th.
Name(s):
(Remove and turn in)
YES, I/We plan to welcome students and will bring a
Main Dish and Salad or Dessert.
Name
Indicate [Salad] or [Dessert] with main dish.

## **Today is Sanctity of Human Life Sunday**

Every year in the United States alone, more than one million babies are aborted. Statistics show that 50 % of U.S. women who obtain abortions are younger than age 25, and at current rates, nearly one-third of American women will have an abortion. Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, January 21, 2018, is a day to celebrate and focus on choosing life. The Wesleyan Church supports the sanctity of life and those who choose to trust God despite difficulties. January 21, 2018,



marks Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, an event observed the third Sunday of every January. Wesleyans are encouraged to observe this day on which many take a stand for human life. Because all human beings are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) and are "fearfully and wonderfully made," (Psalm 139:14) abortion grieves his heart. God, the Creator of the universe, deeply values human life and it says so in his Word:

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.