

# SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 25, 2018

*As the prelude begins, let us observe silence as we prayerfully anticipate this hour of corporate worship of Almighty God.*

Prelude: *Come, Thou Almighty King* (Hymn No. 55)..... Wm. T. Allen

## \*Call to Worship

Let us worship Christ, who has done great things!

***We rejoice in God, who made a way through the desert of this world.***

Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

***We are the people God formed through Christ; we worship Him, and we rejoice!***

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

***We praise God for the grace that has saved us. We rejoice!***

## \*Invocation

\*Hymn 273 ***And Can it Be?***

## \*Words of Greeting and Peace

Old Testament Reading: Daniel 6

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## \*Doxology

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Prayer of Confession

God our Lord and Creator, we acknowledge that we have sinned against you. Our actions have fallen short of Christ, our attitudes have not reflected Christ, our words have not communicated Christ. We have been more concerned with our own comfort than with our neighbor's pain. We too often use our resources to protect what we want rather than being burdened with compassion for what others need. In our fascination with self, we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Nevertheless, you have kept faith with us. We ask for your mercy upon us. Strip us of all that is unlike Christ and help us to live up to our calling through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer / **The Lord's Prayer**

*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.*

Song of Preparation: ***When I Survey the Wondrous Cross***

\*New Testament Reading: Matthew 27:11-26

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

\*Hymn 497 ***O Grant Us Light, that We May Know***

Sermon: **The Cross Casts a Shadow on Our Decisions**  
Pastor Wes Oden

\*Hymn 142 ***O Love Divine, By Christ Revealed***

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

\*Postlude: *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim* (Hymn No. 80).... Wm. T. Allen

\*Please stand if able

Organist: Jane Allen

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Shea

Acolyte: Abigail Reitnour

***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 C E Building.

**Children's Church:** Children ages 2-5 are dismissed during the song before the sermon for Children's Church: 2 and 3 year olds meet in room 116; 4-5 year olds in room 115 in the Christian Education Building.

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** The season of Lent is an historic time for reflection, repentance and surrender in the shadow of the cross as we prepare ourselves, individually and corporately, for the death and resurrection of Christ. As we reflect on our sin and on God's grace through Jesus Christ, let us contemplate our generous response to God in our lives.

**WEDNESDAY KID'S CLUBS** do not meet February 28 (Winter Break). We resume meeting March 7.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** is the Third Sunday in Lent. We will continue to ponder the shadow of the cross. Next Sunday's sermon focuses our attention on *The Cross Casts a Shadow on Our Limitations with God*. We gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40, and 11:00.

**MEMBERSHIP CLASS:** On Saturday, March 3 (9:00am – Noon), Pastor Wes is hosting a membership class for all who are interested in becoming members of Houghton Wesleyan and for all who are interested in knowing more about Houghton Wesleyan. The class will focus on our mission, our history, our theological distinctives and our vision for the future as a body of believers. If you are interested in attending, contact the church office by Friday, March 2.

**EASTER BAPTISM:** If you are interested in being baptized at the 7:45 a.m. Resurrection Service on Easter morning, April 1, please contact Pastor Wes. He will be hosting a preparatory class in mid-March.

**MISSION MOMENT** – Hephzibah Children’s Home in GA which has been supported by the Wesleyan Denomination and our church for many years is phasing out as an on-site home. We praise God for the many lives touched in 118 years of loving ministry. We pray for guidance for new directions in foster and special needs care.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** - All eyes have been on the Winter Olympics in Korea and some of the North/South drama. We continue to pray for de-escalation of division and conflict, but also must not forget that by most standards, Christians in N. Korea are among the most oppressed and persecuted in the world. We keep our Christian family there in our prayers. (See *Open Doors* Persecution Watchlist.)

**PASTOR WES’S BLOG:** Pastor Wes posts a new blog most Wednesdays. You may subscribe on the church website ([www.hwchurch.org](http://www.hwchurch.org)) in order to receive an email each week when the blog is posted.

**SUNDAY SERMONS ON THE INTERNET:** Access the Sunday sermon on the church website ([www.hwchurch.org](http://www.hwchurch.org)) or on iTunes ([www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com)). The services are available on iTunes by late Sunday afternoon and on our website by late Monday.

**LIVE STREAMING:** All of our worship services are live streamed through the church website and through streaming devices (AppleTV, Roku, etc.). If you use Roku, you will need to find the services on our new Roku app. Search for Houghton Wesleyan Church. Our new app will enable easier access.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for the family of Pastor Casper Farrow and all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Roselyn Danner, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen’s daughter-in-law), Tim Nichols, Bob Brown, Louise Prinsell, Hudson Hess, Nancy Cole, Brian Orbaker (Charlie and Connie Smith’s son-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter, 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 the leaders of our nation; and for Rushford United Methodist Church (Pastor Lawrence Russell).



*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*