

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

Prelude: *Hymn Improvisation on "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*  
.....Michael Burkhardt

\*Call to Worship (Psalm 46)

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

***Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.***

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

***God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.***

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

***The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.***

Come and see what the LORD has done,  
the desolations he has brought on the earth.

***He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.***

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

***The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.***

\*Invocation

\*Hymn 377      ***A Mighty Fortress is Our God***

\*Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Prayer Vigil

Old Testament Reading: Esther 3-4

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

***All: Thanks be to God!***

\*Doxology

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Hymn Prelude on "How Great Thou Art"* .....Michael Burkhardt

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty and merciful God, we know that when we offend another, we offend you. We are aware that we have often allowed the shadow of apathy to cloud our souls, hiding the light from our un-seeking eyes. We have said unpleasant and hurtful things to our brothers and sisters when they failed to live up to our expectations. Grant that we might know your love burning within us, the love that you have shown to us even when we failed you. Fan the embers of that love into flames of grace, truth, peace, and reconciliation. Lead us into new life through your Son Jesus Christ, who died for the sins of all. 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 Response: ***I Know Whom I Have Believed***

\*New Testament Reading: Mark 14:32-42

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

***All: Thanks be to God!***

\*Hymn 374      ***O For a Faith that Will Not Shrink***

Sermon:      ***Is Prayer Enough?***

Pastor Wes Oden

\*Hymn 393      ***My Hope is Built on Nothing Less***

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

\*Postlude: *Prelude in C major* .....J.S. Bach

\*Please stand if able

Worship Leader: Olivia Flint

Organist: Judy Congdon

Acolyte: Indigo Knapp

**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:** Preschool Children ages 2-5 are dismissed during the song before the sermon: they meet in room 116 in the Christian Education Building

There are **KID'S BAGS AND BIBLES** available in the bookshelf on the left side of the foyer next to the Men's restroom.

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** The prophet Isaiah declares to God's people: "Come, all who are thirsty, come to the waters... Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near" (55:1,6, NIV). As we ponder the gracious invitation of God for His people to come before Him, may God inspire us to take Him up on His offer, knowing that He who calls us loves us and wants to do above and beyond even what we are able to ask or imagine.

**TONIGHT:** *Koinonia*, 7 pm Wesley Chapel; Small Groups continue.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS** next Sunday morning. Please remember to set your clocks back one hour next Saturday night.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING:** Pastor Wes's sermon directs our attention to the tension of *Is Forgiveness Enough?* (John 8:1-11). We gather for worship services at 8:20, 9:40 and 11:00.

**PRAYER VIGIL NEED:** please bring any old t-shirts, jeans, pieces of fabric, or yarn to the church office to be used in the prayer room during the prayer vigil this fall. Thank you.

**PRAYER WALK:** In conjunction with the HWC prayer vigil, we invite you meet on the Houghton College Wesley Chapel Steps at 4:00pm Sunday, 11/3 to take part in a 30-minute prayer walk through the Houghton Community, ending at HWC and its opening Prayer Vigil service at 4:30.

**NEXT SUNDAY EVENING:** Prayer Vigil Opening (4:30) / Small groups meet.

**THIS SATURDAY: OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PACKING PARTY:** We will meet in the Community Room from 10:00 to 11:30. Drop off items in boxes located in the CE Foyer, church foyer and around the church. Questions? Contact Jessica Romance at [jessica.r.mullen@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.r.mullen@gmail.com).

**PRAYER GROUP** – Wednesday, 6:30 -7:30 pm. in Room 9 below the sanctuary.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** does not meet this week.

**STEWARDSHIP** Received (June 1—Present): \$ 296,601.46  
Budgeted (June 1—Present): \$ 324,818.13

**MISSION MOMENT** - Our missionaries, Kris and Cory Thede, request urgent prayer for peaceful solutions for the people of Haiti. They seek God's wisdom to discern His will for their role in agricultural, medical, and evangelism work in north Haiti while supplies are so short and work so hampered.

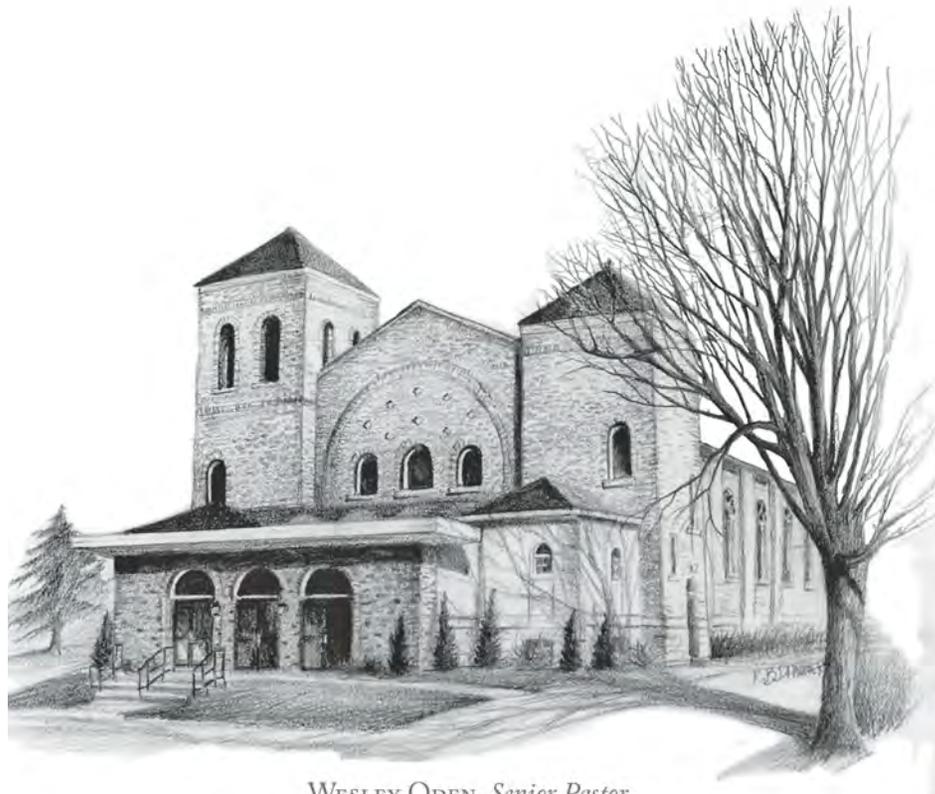
**PERSECUTED CHURCH** – We pray for all those suffering in war zones. For Christians in Northern Syria we ask God to protect from any resurgence of ISIS' reign of terror, and for strength in midst of war weariness for so long. We pray for all groups sending aid to newly displaced peoples -- *Open Doors USA*.

**LIVE STREAMING** All our worship services are live streamed through the church website, through streaming devices (Apple TV, Roku, etc.) and on Facebook. Services are also archived for later viewing.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Cindy Lastoria, Leonard Watson, Annajean McClarin (Janet Stegen's aunt), Jerry Isaman (Joe Breton's step-father), Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey's brother), Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Paulette Schierer, Ruby Schierer Williams, Elly Plaza (Alejandra Koch's sister), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Debbie Alderman Wilson, The Marsh Family, Jon Retz, Emily Hood (A.C. Taylor's cousin), Bob Brown, Bill Getty, Nancy Cole, Eileen Spear, Evelyn Heil, Dan Gurley, Bethie Liddick, Bev Rhett, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair, Mike Raybuck, Eila Shea, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen's daughter-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the leaders of our government; for Joy Community Church, Machias, (Pastor Judy Gallegos).



*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*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Director of Children's Ministry*

ANN MCNEILL, *Director of Children's Ministry*

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