**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** is the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the historic church calendar. We gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40 and 11:00. We will light the Advent candle, hear the words of the prophet proclaiming the Messiah's coming, and ponder what His first and second coming means for us. During Advent, Pastor Wes will preach about the star that leads the Magi to Jesus. Next week's sermon asks, *What Does the Star Do?*

**MISSION MOMENT** – We welcome Jaclyn Algier back from teaching 2nd grade in an American school in N. Africa with our prayer and financial support. We join her in prayer as she continues in home ministry in our area for the next half year. Sign up for her newsletter in the foyer.

**THE PERSECUTED CHURCH:** We pray for the many places with political demonstrations and upheaval on various continents. In these days of unrest, we ask God to give Christians strong character, godly influence and witness for Christ in our needy world.

**STEWARDSHIP**
Received (June 1—Present): $ 359,937.38
Budgeted (June 1—Present): $ 386,688.25

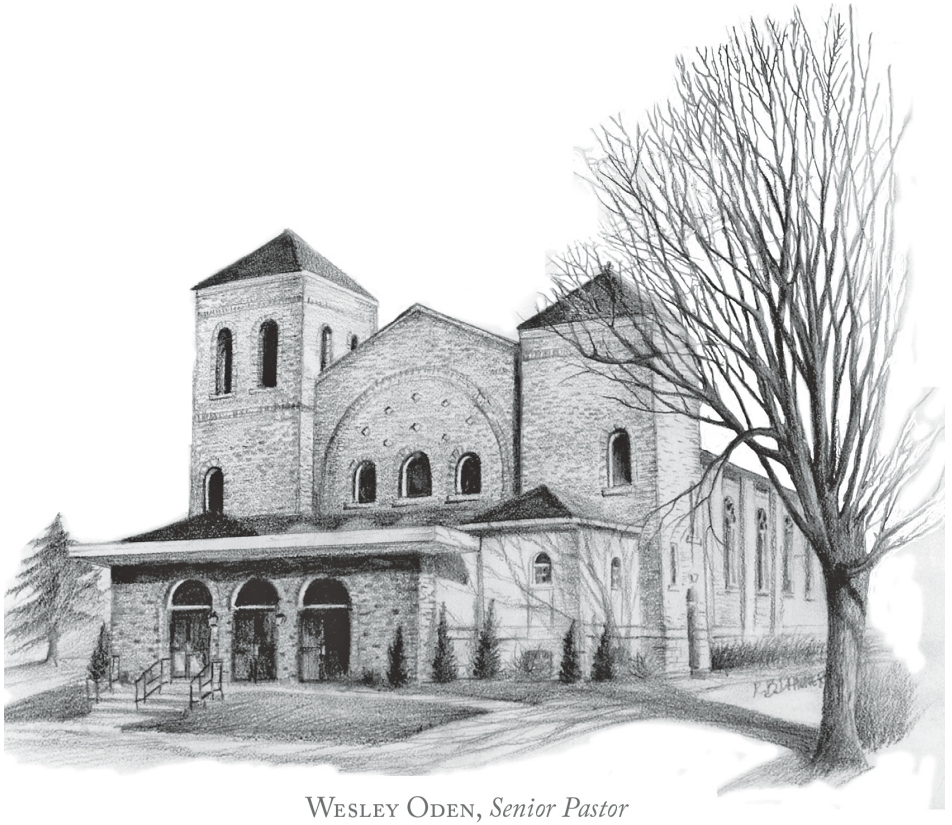
**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Diane Emmons, Chris Stewart, Karen Szymanski, Phyllis Osgood, Cindy Lastoria, Leonard Watson, Jerry Isaman (Joe Breton's step-father), Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Paulette Schierer, Ruby Schierer Williams, Elly Plaza (Alejandra 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, Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey's brother), 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 Christ Chapel Wesleyan Church, Silver Creek (Pastor Mike Leamon).

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE FOR THE HOLIDAYS**
**December 1, 8 & 15** Worship Services: 8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
**Dec. 15: 5:00 p.m**. Carol Sing/Cookie Reception (Bring your instruments)
**December 22, 29 & January 5**: Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
**January 12** Worship Services: 8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Small Groups resume meeting

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES DECEMBER 24**
5:00 p.m. Includes a special time for children
7:00 p.m. Candles, carols, and the reading of the Christmas story

# Houghton
## Wesleyan Church

*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*

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

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP NOVEMBER 24, 2019

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

Prelude: Prelude on *Kremser* ("We Gather Together") Craig Phillips

*Call to Worship

God makes the sun to rise and set;
He causes the summer and winter to come and go.
***He is faithful from generation to generation.***
God helps plants grow and flowers bloom;
He gives us food to eat, places to live, people to love us.
***He is faithful from generation to generation.***
God is always with us, always guiding us, keeping His promises to us.
***He is faithful from generation to generation.***
Let us praise and give thanks to our faithful God!
***Alleluia, Amen!***

*Invocation

*Hymn 9 ***Now Thank We All Our God***

*Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Jaclyn Algier

Anthem: *For the Beauty of the Earth* ……..John Rutter

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 29:1-14
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
***All:*** ***Thanks be to God!***

***Doxology***

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *You Keep Your Promises* ……JJ Heller

Prayer of Confession

**O God, giver of all that makes life good: we gather to give you our thanks, even as we confess that we have often failed to live our thankfulness. We have a tendency to take for granted what we have; we have a tendency to grumble about what we lack. We have squandered your bounty, with little thought of those who will come after us. We are more troubled by the few who have more than by the many who have less. Forgive us, O God. In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving; teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life; and open our ears that we may hear your words of assurance and pardon that "though our sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow." Through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

—from UMC Book of Worship

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: ***Give Thanks***

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
***All:*** ***Thanks be to God!***

*Hymn 86 ***My Jesus, I Love Thee***

Sermon: **Living Between Now and Not Yet**
Pastor Paul Shea

*Hymn 65 ***This is My Father's World***

*Benediction

*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

* Postlude: Chorale-Improvisation on "Now Thank We All" Sigfried Karg-Elert

*Please stand if able
Organist: Judy Congdon
Worship Leader: Emily Allen
Acolyte: Abigail Reitnour

**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 the Nursery (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 spirit of thanksgiving is not limited to one day a year; it is an imperative for every day. Because of all that God has done for us, we have every reason to give thanks. Even when life brings difficulty and pain, we know that God is good, and we give thanks. So today, let us continue to give thanks.

**DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY ALL WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED FOR THIS WEEK. THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY AND FRIDAY.**

**TONIGHT AT 5:00 p.m**. Prayer Vigil Closing Celebration. Those interested can meet ahead at the Wesley Chapel steps at 4:30 p.m. for a Praise and Prayer Walk to the church. All are invited to join at the church sanctuary for a time of testimony, song, and thanksgiving to God.

**Tonight:** *Koinonia*, 7 pm Wesley Chapel; Small Groups final get together.