

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP

MARCH 8, 2020

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

Prelude: Hymntune Prelude on *LAND OF REST*Robert Lind
*I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.*

*Call to Worship

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,

For our God is a consuming fire!

*Invocation

*Hymn 103 ***I Will Sing the Wondrous Story***

*Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Seder Service

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 3: 1-5

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 "Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee"* ...Robert Powell
(Hymn text: see #251)

Prayer of Confession

Powerful and Forgiving Lord, by enduring the pain of the cross, You have shown us the price love must pay for taking sin seriously. The nails. The crown. The humiliation, mockery and shame You went through delivered us from the stronghold of sin and enabled us to live in the freedom only You can give. Unfortunately, in our contentment we forsake the transforming work of the cross. In our disobedience, we reject the redeeming and forgiving power of the cross. Forgive us, Lord, for the ways in which we do not take our sin as seriously as You do—for what it costs us daily is nothing in comparison to what You have already paid. Help us to reflect on the mercies of Your cross, and as we do, give us the strength and grace to take up our own and to follow. In confessing our sins, let us hear your words of assurance: *In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. 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: ***There is a Redeemer***

*New Testament Reading: John 18:1-14

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 142 ***O Love Divine, by Christ Revealed***

Sermon: **When We Have Power**

Pastor Wes Oden

*Hymn 510 ***When I Survey the Wondrous Cross***

*Benediction

*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

*Postlude: *How Firm a Foundation*arr. David Cherwien

*Please stand if able

Organist: Judy Congdon

Worship Leader: Sara Massey

Acolyte: Zoey Clem

The rose on the pulpit is in honor of the birth of Marian Jean Prins Moeller on February 7, 2020 to Kim and Christopher.

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 (Christian Ed 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 season of Lent is designed by the ancient church fathers as a means of reminding Christ's disciples that the passion, suffering and death of Christ are central to our faith. Though this is a solemn season in which we contemplate our sin, it is also a season to give thanks that Jesus goes to the cross to be our Redeemer and the Redeemer of all people and to call us to be agents of his redemption for others.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING is the Third Sunday in Lent. Pastor Wes continues to lead us into thoughts about the last hour interactions of Jesus. Next week we will ponder Jesus' interaction with Caiaphas (Matthew 26:57-66) *When We Have It Figured Out*. We gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40, and 11:00.

NEXT SUNDAY! College Ministry sponsored potluck on March 15th after the 11:00 service. All are invited!

KIDS' CLUB: To children who do not regularly attend Kids' Club on Wednesday nights - Join us on March 25th at 6 p.m. for the Buddy Keith Memorial Races. To race a sailboat (Pre-K - 2nd) or a veggie car (3rd-6th graders) please email annmcneill@hwchurch.org by March 11th so she may order kits.

EASTER BAPTISM: If you are interested in being baptized at the 7:45 a.m. Resurrection Service on Easter morning, April 12, please contact Pastor Wes. He will be hosting a preparatory class in the next couple weeks.

SHORT TERM MISSION APPLICATIONS: People seeking financial assistance for late Spring or Summer short term missions ministry must apply to the **Mission Committee by March 20**. Application Forms are available at the church office (585-567-2264) or online at <https://hwchurch.org/global-outreach/>

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 9 below the sanctuary. All are welcome to join us.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY IN HOUGHTON meets on Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Room. Celebrate Recovery is a safe place to share hurts, habits and hang-ups.

STEWARDSHIP Received (June 1—Present): \$ 601,250.26
 Budgeted (June 1—Present): \$ 618,701.20

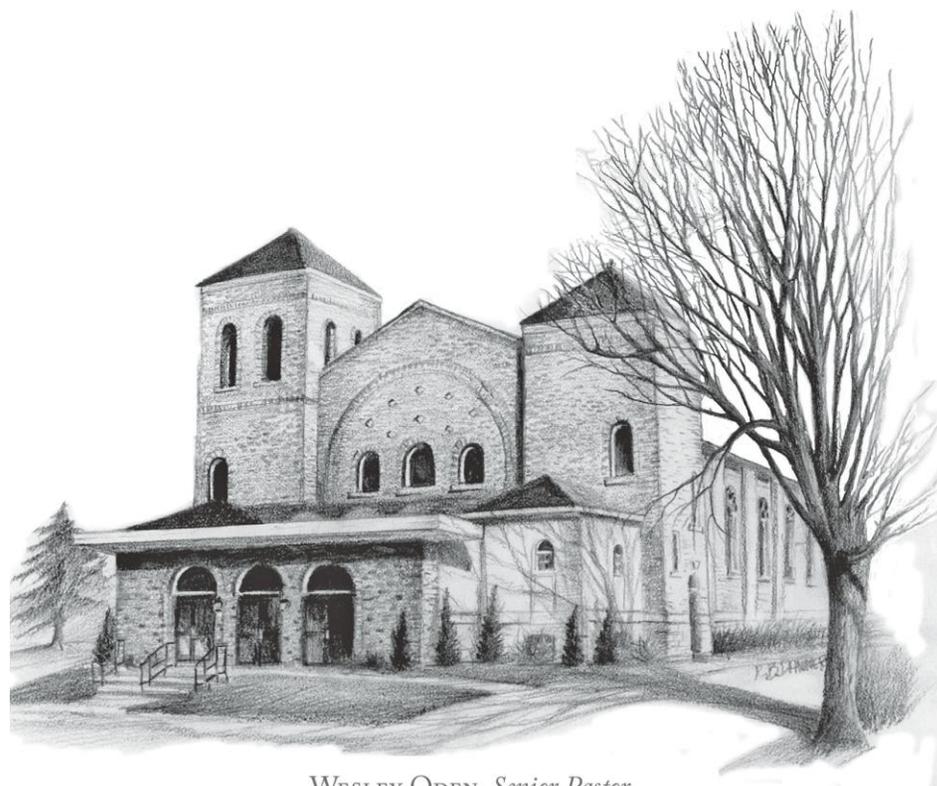
MISSION MOMENT – We pray for Southern Tier YFC's emerging Club Ministry at Whitesville Middle School. Congrats to and prayers for YFC staffer, Joy Dygert and husband, welcoming their 2-month-old daughter Casey-Jayne.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – *Open Doors* publishes the "2020 World Watch List" giving a full picture of the 50 nations where Christians suffer the greatest opposition. We blanket our brothers and sisters with prayer this week.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Robin Pawling, Karen Szymanski, Cindy Lastoria, Leonard Watson, Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Paulette Schierer, Ruby Schierer Williams, Elly Plaza (Alejandra Koch's sister), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, 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, 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 Rushford Baptist Church (Pastor Michael Welch).



*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

SEDER SERVICE

-IN ORDER THAT YOU SHOULD REMEMBER-



Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020

4:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Houghton Wesleyan Church Community Room

The Seder is the traditional Jewish service to celebrate the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt. During the course of the service, we will recite Scriptures and traditions that proclaim God's liberating power.

We invite you to join us for this multigenerational event, as we take part in this historical, vivid, and beautiful expression of God's action for His people seen through the Seder.

Please sign up by Sunday, March 15, if you plan to attend.
Space is limited.

*Children's Activity Packets will be available at the tables.

Please tear off and place in offering or baskets in the foyers.

NAME _____

ATTENDING _____

SERVICE (check one) _____ 4:00 p.m. _____ 7:00 p.m.

DIET CONCERNS _____

PHONE or EMAIL _____



STEWARDSHIP – A Life of Generosity

An annual task of our church leadership is to create a financial plan proposal for the Elders to consider and eventually for the congregation to approve. The process started in January and will conclude after the congregation votes in mid-May.

We believe our financial plan is one indicator of our priorities as a church. How we spend the money we receive speaks to what is important to us and what we hope to be as the people of God in Houghton.

The Elders and pastors work with various groups of people to make a financial plan that will enable each church ministry to accomplish its work. By the end of March, the Stewardship Committee begins putting all these proposals together to create a financial plan that will provide necessary funds while being realistic about anticipated giving.

The tension of expanding ministries within the confines of our expected income is not an easy task. The Committee will spend hours seeking God's wisdom how to strategically distribute funds in a way that honors our mission of drawing people into a life-long transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.

There is no doubt that we all would love to see continued expansion of all of our programs and outreach. We would love to do more for the work of God's kingdom around the world. We would love to do more to help people in Allegany County who are struggling with the ups and downs of life. We would love to provide more resources for our children and youth to know and accept the grace of God in their lives. Often we are able to provide for numerous growing opportunities. Sometimes we are not. More often than not, what holds us back is available funds.



As ministries are making financial plan proposals, as the Stewardship Committee and Elders are creating the financial plan for our church, it would be a wonderful time to think about our personal spiritual health as it relates to finances. Give thanks for what God is already enabling you to do and ask God if it is time to trust him even more.