

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 26, 2020
10:00 STREAMING SERVICE

Prelude: *Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist*, BWV 671 (J. S. Bach)

Welcome

Call to Worship

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?
My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”

***These things I remember as I pour out my soul:
how I used to go to the house of God under the protection
of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.***

Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 357: ***Be Thou My Vision***

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children’s Sermon
Kristen Sanasith

Songs of Adoration: ***Song of My Heart; As the Deer; You are My All in All***

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, there is not a gift we have received, a thing we own, or an ability we possess that has not come from You. Nevertheless, we confess that we often struggle to trust that You meet our needs. Forgive us for doubting Your provision. Remind us daily of the reality that You are our Provider and Sustainer and may we live our lives to proclaim this truth. Amen.

Time of Prayer

Please feel free sit, stand, or kneel as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father.

Scripture Reading: Psalm 63

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. ***All: Thanks be to God!***

Hymn of Preparation 356: ***Jesus, My Lord, My Life, My All***

Sermon: **Is God Our God?**
Pastor Wes Oden

Song of Response: *Give Me Jesus*

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: Jill Jordan

Music Ministry Team:

Kristin Sanasith & Sarah Sardina, vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals;
Chris Sardina, keyboard & vocals; Simon Sardina, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist encourages us to enter God's gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise (100:4). This morning we worship to rejoice in God's blessings and to ask for His help in our struggles. Wherever we are, God is with us! Let us open our lives to Him.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we gather for online worship at 10:00 a.m. The Rev. Dr. Michael Jordan will be preaching.

THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAM: JOIN US FOR A HYMN SING on Thursday, July 30, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Connect with Robly, our website, or our Facebook page.

REOPENING INFORMATION: In light of our decision to postpone reopening worship in the church building, we will continue to gather virtually at 10:00 each Sunday morning. We are working on gatherings (masks and social distancing) to enable us to be together. If you have ideas or suggestions, please contact the church office (585-567-2264).

A CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE OF SCRIPTURE, SILENCE AND MEDITATION on Monday, August 10, 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. *Limited reservations are available on the website, www.hwchurch.org.* When you arrive at the church, enter through the glass doors that face Route 19. Ushers will direct you to assigned seats in order to maintain social distancing.

SENIOR RECOGNITION: It was great to see our high school seniors last week. If you want to see an extended version of the presentation that includes some additional pictures and some videos from some of the kids, you can find that on the church Facebook page.

VALLEY PRESCHOOL: Though we can't know for sure what the fall looks like yet, the Valley Preschool team is starting to prepare for the 2020-2021 school year. Valley Preschool meets three mornings a week at the Church and is a great introduction for children to school with plenty of hands-on lessons and social interaction with peers. If you have or know of a 3-5 year old who might be interested in preschool, we invite you to fill out an application today; these are available on Facebook, the website, at the Church office or by contacting Casda Danner or Emily Spateholts.

STEWARDSHIP Received (June 1–Present): \$108,541.52

Budgeted (June 1-Present): \$110,354.86

[SUBSCRIBE HERE to our Youtube Channel](#) and you won't miss a Children's Sermon, Weekly Update, or Special Music.

MISSION MOMENT – The Rochester Youth Associations, a network of Houghton Wesleyan and three urban and ethnically diverse (Chinese, Hispanic, Black) congregations, challenge youth to live for Christ and share the Good News locally and globally. Thank God for the life-changing ministry of RYA over the decades and for His power as young Christians shine God's light in these troubled days locally, in the city, and globally.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – How do you prepare for increasing persecution where once there was only mild opposition?

Don Little and Ben Hegeman (Lilias Trotter Center) these weeks are holding online seminars with several hundred front-line Christian workers in West Africa who are facing growing opposition, resistance and even violence in that region. Past history, testimonials, and study of the Scripture give a foundation. Let us pray for the Holy Spirit's daily strength and guidance for our brothers and sisters.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Sharon McGarvey, Luis Plaza (Alejandra Koch's father), Marzella Harrison, Grace Taylor, Wendy Ott, Chelsea Ellis, Paulette Schierer, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Karen Szymanski, Cindy Lastoria, Leonard Watson, Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Ruby Schierer Williams, 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 all effected by the coronavirus—grieving, ill, healthcare professionals, the workforce at risk and leaders; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the leaders of our government; for the Friendship United Methodist Church (Pastor Rebecca Worth).