

Outdoor Worship Service – August 23, 2020, 8:45am

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Songs of Adoration:
O Praise the Name
Holy Spirit, You are Welcome

Time of Prayer

Scripture Reading: Psalm 133
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. *All: Thanks be to God!*

Sermon: **Walking in Unity**
Pastor Wes Oden

Song of Response: *O How Good it Is*

Benediction

Andrew Silbert, guitar

O Praise The Name (Anástasis)

Verse 1

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree

Verse 2

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

Chorus

O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God

Verse 3

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King

Chorus

Verse 4

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

Chorus

Holy Spirit

Verse 1

There's nothing worth more
that will ever come close
No thing can compare
You're our living hope
Your Presence

Verse 2

I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves
Where my heart becomes free and my
shame is undone
In Your Presence Lord

Chorus

Holy Spirit You are welcome here
Come flood this place
and fill the atmosphere
Your glory God is what our hearts long for
To be overcome by Your Presence Lord

Bridge

Let us become more aware of Your Presence
Let us experience
the glory of Your goodness (Sing 3x)

Chorus

Oh How Good It Is

Verse 1

Oh how good it is
When the family of God
Dwells together in spirit
In faith and unity
Where the bonds of peace
Of acceptance and love
Are the fruit of His presence here among us

Chorus

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His word
Till the whole earth sees
The Redeemer has come
For He dwells in the presence of His people

Verse 2

Oh how good it is
On this journey we share
To rejoice with the happy
And weep with those who mourn
For the weak find strength
The afflicted find grace
When we offer the blessing of belonging

Chorus

Verse 3

Oh how good it is
To embrace His command
To prefer one another
Forgive as He forgives
When we live as one
We all share in the love
Of the Son with the Father and the Spirit

Chorus

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. Every Sunday is a time for remembering all that God has done and to celebrate the victory of Christ's resurrection. As we embark on a new academic year, we gather asking God's Spirit to work in us and to transform us by His grace.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING: Pastor Wes preaches from Psalm 146 in which we are called to *Rethink Worship*. We will gather for outdoor worship 8:45 and for online worship at 10:00. Currently state guidelines limit outdoor gatherings to 50 people but there is no limit to people who remain in a vehicle. Please make a reservation to come, either to sit in designated areas or in your vehicle.

VIRTUAL PRAYER VIGIL: Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Thursday, 6:30 p.m. Our nation and world needs prayer as pandemic cases rise. Our leaders need prayer for good decision-making. Please sign up now for at least 15 minutes to pray (<https://hwchurch.org/prayer/>).

THURSDAY EVENING GATHERING: This Thursday evening at 6:30, you are invited to an outdoor music event at the church. You will need to bring either a lawn chair or prepare to sit on the grass in socially distanced areas during the event. Bathroom facilities will be available if needed. You will need to enter the parking lot by the south driveway (normally an exit). As long as groups remain in their area during the event, masks will not be required. This program will be live streamed through Facebook live.

CHURCH LIBRARY: We are ready to reopen the church library. To use the library, you will need to follow a few guidelines: 1) masks must be worn in the building at all times; 2) use hand sanitizer (provided) before entering the library; 3) library doors will remain open and fans will be moving air in and out; 4) returned books will be cleaned and remain a few days before being placed on the shelves again; 5) only one family unit per hour will be permitted in the library; 6) in order to maintain the one family per hour requirement, please call the church office (585-567-2264) to reserve your hour.

VALLEY PRESCHOOL: We have been approved by the state and by the Elders to open VPS this fall with approved protocols and procedures. 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 (casdadanner@hwchurch.org) or Emily Spateholts (emilyspateholts@hwchurch.org).

STEWARDSHIP: Received (June 1- Present) \$163,699.27

Budgeted (June 1-Present) \$173,414.78

MISSION MOMENT - It's been a long time since we reported from Wes and Dana Brown serving in unique roles in Kenya, East Africa. Wes cofounded BANDA, a tech startup in Kenya that uses IT solutions to transform healthcare for some of the world's poorest patients in rural and urban Africa, and is especially helpful now during the pandemic. Dana continues ministry in higher education circles. The Houghton church and college trees continue to bear fruit for the Master. We pray for them.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – The last ten years of conflict have decimated the Christian church in Syria – 750,000 remain out over 2 million before the war. But we mustn't forget those that remain and faithfully shine the light of Christ's love, sharing the Good News and whatever material blessings they have with the shifting population. Let us pray for folks like Pastor George Moushi and his tiny congregation in Qamishi, northern Syria. He writes: "God did not leave us. God has turned ashes into beauty – a lot of people have come to Christ." (source, *Open Doors USA*)

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Sarah Gurley, 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, including Beirut, Lebanon; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the leaders of our government; for the logistics and safety of faculty, staff and students at Houghton College and Houghton Academy; for the Dalton Assembly of God (Pastor Patrick Thompson).

For more information about church activities, please visit our website: www.hwchurch.org or email us at info@hwchurch.org.