

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 20, 2020
10:00 STREAMING SERVICE

Prelude: *Christe, aller Welt Trost*, BWV 670 (J. S. Bach)

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 1: *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon: Emily Spateholts
Object lesson adapted from creativebiblestudy.com

Songs of Adoration: *Love Come Down; Champion*

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, you are perfect in love, power, holiness, compassion, and truth...we are not. Forgive us for being more concerned with taking love than with giving love. Forgive us for being unmoved with apathy toward people in need rather than being moved by compassion like Jesus. Forgive us for believing that holiness is defined by behaviors we check off a list than with openness to being filled and led by your Spirit. And forgive us for giving others the impression that we are more like you than we are. In your grace and mercy, hear our prayers and give us fullness of life that can be found only in you and let us hear once again the promise of your word: *If you confess your sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive your sins. Amen.*

Time of Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Numbers 20:1-13

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

Hymn of Preparation 423: *May the Mind of Christ, My Savior*

Sermon: **That's Just a Suggestion, Right?**
Joy in the Journey Sermon Series
Pastor Wes Oden

Song of Response: ***Surrender All***

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: David Clem

Music Ministry Team:

Matt Cox, guitar & vocals; Hannah Roeske, vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals;
Betsy Webb, keyboard & vocals; Simon Sardina, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist proclaims: “The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength... Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity” (93:1-2). We worship today to affirm the Psalmist’s proclamation—with our words and with our lives. As we worship God the Father Almighty, may His Spirit fill us with the joy of worship that we might go forth to live in the presence of His power and love.

THURSDAY EVENING, 6:30PM: We are streaming a Hymn Sing featuring people from our church.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we invite you to join us in the church sanctuary for streaming worship at 10:00 and outdoor worship at 11:15. Next Sunday Pastor Wes leads us to think about *The Sign Everybody Needs* and our response, *I Don't Need to Stop* from Mark 2:23-28.

WORSHIP RESERVATIONS: Reservations are needed for both indoor and outdoor worship, which may be done on the church website or by calling the church office (585-567-2264). Overflow space for the indoor service is also available in the church gym. The sanctuary indoor service registration has two options: A group of 1-2 people and a group of 3-5 people. If your group is larger than the equivalent of 5 adults, then you will need to reserve two spaces. Please note that everyone age 3 and older is required to wear a mask while in the building.

SERMON SERIES FOLLOW-UP: A Discussion Guide on each Sunday's text and sermon is available on the HWC webpage. Folks are encouraged to find a partner and several, set a regular time, and apply the Scripture to your lives in the week and days ahead. Pastor Paul is happy to learn about any new groups that form. paulshea@hwchurch.org

CHURCH LIBRARY IS OPEN: 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 to reserve your hour.

STEWARDSHIP Budget Need: \$236,474.70 Budget Received: \$211,233.81

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: 11 weeks to go and we are 199 Operation Christmas Child boxes away from our church goal of 200 online gifts. So far we have 0/50 boxes taken for home packing for a total of 1/250 completed. Your loving contribution really matters! Says a girl from Buffalo who grew up in a refugee camp, "We always looked forward to those shoeboxes 'cause that was the only present we would receive for Christmas because our families couldn't afford one." Start blessing lives now by going [HERE](#). Using this link will help our church reach the 200 box goal. We can do it!

MISSION MOMENT – Urgent prayer needed for Sahel Academy in Niamey, Niger. The entire campus is under 8 feet of water as large sections of the capital city are flooded by the Niger River. Martin and Sheri Hegeman are on the verge of departing to work at the school. Pray for final hurdles and preps and for the unusual flood and Covid 19 circumstances awaiting them.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – The Russian parliament is considering banning foreigners from participating in religious activity and forbidding Russians from studying theology abroad. It is an effort to “preventing influence of foreign extremists.” Pray for all Christian believers and organizations and that possible harmful laws are thwarted. (CT October 2020)

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 Elijah 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 all of our area public schools as well as Houghton College and Houghton Academy; for the United Church of Friendship (Pastor Kirk Kirsh).

For more information about church activities, to read Pastor Wes's weekly letter or to watch his mid-week video on the COVID-19 page, visit our website: www.hwchurch.org.