

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 17, 2021

10:00 STREAMING SERVICE

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Prelude: *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr* (Glory to God in the highest) .....Johann Gottfried Walther  
*Bread of the World* .....arr. Daniel Burton

Welcome

Call to Worship

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life."

***Jesus also said to the people, and He says to us even today, "You are the light of the world."***

"A Town build on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.  
Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

***"In the same way, let your light shine before others,  
that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."***

Opening Prayer

Hymn of Praise 80: ***Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim***

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon: Ann and Jillian McNeill

Songs of Adoration: ***Light of the World; Even So, Come; Kyrie Eleison***

Time of Prayer

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

New Testament Reading: Mark 1:16-20

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

Hymn 302: ***O Jesus, I Have Promised***

Sermon: **What Does it Mean to Be Called as a Disciple of Jesus?**

Pastor Wes Oden

Communion: ***Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken***

Benediction

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Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: Gwen Mercer

Music Ministry Team:

Andrew Silbert, guitar & vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** Worship is both a privilege and a responsibility. We rejoice that the Almighty God inhabits the praise and worship of his people. We also feel the weight of worship as an act of surrender to God and his kingdom purposes. As we worship today from wherever we are, may the privilege and responsibility of worship lead us to give glory to God in this time and in every time.

**HOLY COMMUNION:** We are receiving Holy Communion this morning. You will want to have bread and juice or water ready for this time in the service.

**TODAY IS SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY:** The Wesleyan Church supports the sanctity of life and those who choose to trust God despite difficulties. The third Sunday of every January is a time to take a stand for human life. The sanctity of life should motivate us to combat all forms of evil and injustice that are perpetuated against human life.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** we gather for online worship at 10:00. Pastor Wes will preach from Mark 1:16-29 pondering the idea of *The Authority of Jesus as the Good News of the Kingdom*.

**CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING:** We give thanks to God and to all who gave generously to our Christmas Eve offering. At this time, we have received over \$17,036.05! If you have not given and would like to, please mark a check "Christmas Eve Offering" or make this designation for your online gift.

**STEWARDSHIP Budget Needed:** \$504,479.36 / **Budget Received:** \$486,675.83

**STONE SOUP FUNDRAISER FOR VALLEY PRESCHOOL: Friday, January 29, 2021, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm.** This drive through event raises funds for VPS scholarships. If you are interested in reserving your meal, contact Casda Danner ([casdadanner@hwchurch.org](mailto:casdadanner@hwchurch.org)) or [use the order form](#).

**YOUTH GROUP NEWS:** Youth group will postpone for one more week. Look for us to restart with social distancing protocols in place on the 24th. Jr High 3-4pm and Sr High 5-6pm. Also look for links in your email to two events: Wednesday evening Zoom Check-in, 7pm - No program, just hangout! Zoom Sunday School - 9am Sunday morning - This week, January 17th, we start a series called, "The Littles" where we'll take a look at the smallest books in the Bible! Please [Email Pastor Jon](#) if you don't receive the Zoom links.

**COVID UPDATES ARE POSTED WEEKLY:** Even though we are not together, our pastors and church family are here for you. On the [COVID-19 section](#) of the church website, you will see three buttons: [Get Help](#), [Give Help](#) and [Let's Talk](#). This is an easy way to let us know how we might engage with you. Do not hesitate to use those, to call the church, or to call one of the pastors if any of those buttons reflect what you would like to communicate with us.

Subscribe to our [Houghton Wesleyan Church YouTube Channel](#) for weekly updates, sermons and testimonies.

**MISSION MOMENT -** We pray for the speakers and our Global Missions Committee as preparations are being finalized for our annual missions focus in one month. Dr. Myron Glick, of Jericho Road Ministries in Buffalo, and others will be with us February 14.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH -** The just released "2021 World Watch List" on the persecuted church reports 309 million Christians (up from 260 million a year ago) living under extremely high levels of persecution. Yet, resilient Christian witness continues to grow. We pray for Jesus to be lifted up by all Christians worldwide.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for Carol Stonemetz and her family at the death of her father, Charles Stanley, for Marge Watson and her family at the death of Leonard, for Daryl Stevenson and his family at the death of his sister, Marilyn VanNiel who died this week and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Kathy Moore, Gary Heil (Janet Stegen's brother), Amy Ortiz (Luke Ogden's sister), Nate Esh, Calvin Schierer, Sarah Gurley, Grace Taylor, Wendy Ott, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Karen Szymanski, Cindy Lastoria, Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Jeshu, Kurtis and Elijah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Hood (A.C. Taylor's cousin), Bill Getty, Nancy Cole, Eileen Spear, Evelyn Heil, Dan Gurley, 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 and for our response to the recent elections; for the Grace United Church, Wellsville (Pastor Dave Potts).

*For more information about church activities, visit our website: [www.hwchurch.org](http://www.hwchurch.org).*