



Houghton

WESLEYAN CHURCH

*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 Ministries*

ANN MCNEILL, *Director of Children's Ministries*

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Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 14, 2021

11:00 Streaming Service

Prelude: *Prelude and Fugue in D minor*, BWV 554 (J. S. Bach)

Welcome

Hymn of Praise 288: *Arise, My Soul, Arise*

Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Youth

Anthem: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (arr. Mark Hayes)

Jack Smith & Esther Tse, trumpet

Children's Sermon

Songs of Adoration:

Open Up the Heavens; Death Was Arrested; Is He Worthy?

Prayer of Confession

Oh Lord our God, who calls your disciples to shine your light in a dark world, with shame and contrition of heart do we acknowledge before you our many faults and weaknesses in being your church to this generation. Forgive us for the feebleness of our witness, the smallness of our charity, and the slackness of our zeal. Make us to be more worthy followers of Him who came that all might know abundant life in you, caring for the poor and oppressed, never seeing disease without seeking to heal it or any kind of human need without turning aside to help. Make us more like Christ as we embrace his words of assurance, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Amen. —adapted from A Diary of Private Prayer

Time of Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Psalm 17:1-15

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

Sermon: **The Myth that Makes Us Ungrateful**

Pastor Wes Oden

Closing Song: ***There's a Wideness/Good to Me***

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon

Scripture Reader: Ethan Carr

Music Ministry Team:

Collin Zehr, vocals; Alison Young Reusser, guitar & vocals;
Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Betsy Webb, keyboard & vocals; Dan Zambrano, cajón

Welcome to the Houghton Wesleyan Church. Our nation and world are dealing with difficult times. We engage in worship to remember that God is present in the struggles and that God is greater than the struggles. During our time of worship today, may God give us grace to feel him near, grace to hear him speak and grace to see him at work.

Next Sunday Morning: Pastor Wes concludes this series of sermons that focus on Myths that Make Us. Next week's sermon is from Luke 10, *The Myth that Makes Us Tired*. Please join us for outdoor worship 8:45 a.m. and for indoor/streaming blended worship at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages is at 9:45 a.m.

Children's Ministries:

- Kids activity bags, worship bulletins, and Bibles are available at the back of the sanctuary!
- There will be no nursery and no 11:00 children's church today due to low staffing and lack of demand.
- **Kids' Club** is a weekly Wednesday evening Bible Club for children in grades 1-6. We meet for fun from 6:15-7:30 in the Christian Education building. Kids enjoy singing, Bible learning, an activity, and a craft related to the night's lesson. Come to the welcome desk in the foyer to sign in. If your child isn't registered, [click on this link](#) to do so, recording in the Breeze platform their contact and safety information. Contact person is annmceill@hwchurch.org.
- **HWC Kids Sunday School:** Join us this week for the second portion of the "Plate It" Sunday School series as we read the story of Hannah and see what can happen when we "**Step Two: Talk To God!**" Join us in memorizing this month's Scripture - Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Wednesday Prayer Group - Room 105 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 18, 6:30 p.m. Joy to the World! *An Organ Meditation on the works of Isaac Watts.* We will be invited to worship together as we reflect on the life and works of Isaac Watts, hear scripture that inspired his hymn texts, hear organ and choral music based on his hymns. If you love singing hymns with organ, this service is for you.

Celebrate Recovery Meets Thursday Evening 7:00pm, Room 105

Stewardship Budget Needed: \$369,173.92
Budget Received: \$326,547.25

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

- **We can still pack our own shoeboxes** and drop them off at the church before noon on Saturday, November 19th. Whatever way you and your family choose to send the love of God through Christ to the world, you will be blessed. A donation of \$9 per box is critical to cover shipping costs. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse with a note in the memo line that the donation is for Operation Christmas Child. You may contact annmcneill@hwchurch.org with questions.
- **We have our very own OCC Build -a-Shoebox Page!** Won't you join our church & our area friends and neighbors to help us reach our 100 online box goal? Online boxes help to deliver shoebox gifts containing culturally sensitive toys and gifts to hard-to-reach areas of the world.

Mission Moment - Let us uphold WNYers, Chris and Melissa George in western Australia. They always ask for prayer for those they are discipling and the community they share Christ with. But we also pray for Chris' ongoing severe eye problems and for the whole family including Makayla (off to college next year), Dawson (with health concerns), and Brayden. (Look them up in your HWC Partner Directory.)

Persecuted Church – Churches have provided places of refuge to people fleeing violence in the military crackdown in Myanmar, but recently Christians in Chin State and elsewhere report extreme attacks that include shelling churches, detaining pastors and using churches as military bases. In September, 31 year old Baptist Pastor Cung Biak Hum was killed and mutilated when he tried to put out fires caused by military shelling. We care, we weep, we pray.

Prayer Concerns: for friends and family of Mary Boomhower and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Ted Norton, Don Yeddo (Paul Rowley's step-father), John Knapp (Eli's father), Howard Berry (Donnie Stockin's brother), Andy Mikolajczyk (Mary Lingenfelter's brother), Sith Sanasith (Souly's brother), Denise Zambrano, Cameron Green, Vangie Grant, Karen Gaerte, Lenore Paige, Gary Heil (Janet Stegen's brother), Amy Ortiz (Luke Ogden's sister), Sarah Gurley, Grace Taylor, Wendy Ott, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), 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, 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, for a safe end for the missionaries kidnapped in Haiti, for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees, for peace amid threats of war; for the Resurgence City Church, Buffalo (Pastor Elijah Shamenda).

STEWARDSHIP—A Life of Generosity

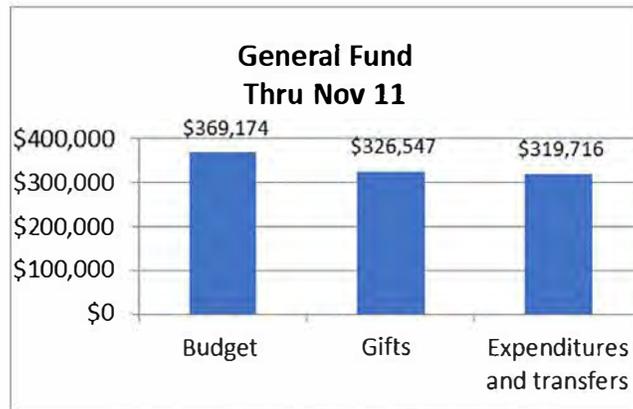
November is a time when our thoughts turn to giving thanks. How do we express our thankfulness? An appreciative note? . . . a token gift? . . . a kind word?

The Thanksgiving season is a time to reflect on God's grace to us as a body and as individuals. We have much to be thankful for. Every good thing is a gift from God. We can show gratitude to God by being openly obedient to the message of Christ. And, because of God's extravagant giving to us, we feel free to give to others. One way God uses us to bless others is through our giving to the church.

Among many other things, giving to Houghton Wesleyan Church helps young people know about God's love and promises through the children's and youth ministries; the Food Pantry provides nourishing food for families in need; the music ministry team helps us worship with relevant songs and beautiful music; the missions ministry provides ongoing support and encouragement for missionaries; and the technology crew keeps Sunday services, and other programs available through streaming for our church community and beyond.

Thank you for enabling all these things through your faithful support.

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:6-7.





THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE NOVEMBER 21

On Sunday, November 21, we will collect food for the Food Pantry at both services. To help us run the food pantry more efficiently and due to space limitations, please limit your donations to the items on the following list when shopping.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|
| -Pasta | -Spaghetti sauce* | -Macaroni & cheese |
| -Canned tuna | -Canned chicken | -Ramen noodles |
| -Baked beans | -Canned chili | -Canned beef stew |
| -Soup | -Boxed rice | -Boxed oatmeal packets |
| -Canned fruit* | -Canned vegetables | -Peanut butter* |
| -Cereal | -Jelly or jam* | -Jarred applesauce |
| -Syrup* | -Granola bars | -Boxed pancake mix |
| -Canned pasta (Spaghettios, Ravioli) | | -Boxed potato mixes |
| -Helpers (Hamburger, Tuna, Chicken) | | -Fruit juices/juice boxes |
| -Snacks (cookies, crackers, jello, pudding, fruit snacks) | | |

*An item with an asterisks donates a traditionally high need item.

**Due to health and safety concerns, we do not accept opened items or home-baked goods.

***We can also use your recycled plastic shopping bags if you would like to donate them.

NOTE: Monetary Donations (checks to Houghton Wesleyan Church with "FOOD PANTRY" on the Memo Line) provide fresh fruits and vegetables, bread, eggs, cheese, and milk, as well as emergency groceries for families in our community. The Food Pantry has a refrigerator and a freezer to store items. NOTE: Perishable Pantry Donations may be brought to the church office throughout the year. Thank you for your continued donations!