

Outdoor Worship Service
– Second Sunday After Christmas –
January 2, 2022 at 8:45am

Welcome

Songs of Adoration: *Living Hope; As the Deer; Speak, O Lord*

Time of Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:12-21

12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

15 All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you.

16 Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

17 Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. 18 For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

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

Sermon: **Press On for the Prize with Joy!**
Pastor Paul Shea

Song: *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

Benediction

Scripture Reader: Jill Jordan

Music Ministry Team:
Joanna Bates, Jeff Babbitt; vocals; Dan Wartinger, guitar & vocals

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The season of Christmas continues through today. As we worship Emmanuel, God with us, may our hearts be continually ready to receive him, surrender to him and follow him.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we will gather for worship outdoors at 8:45 a.m. and indoors/streaming at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Wes will preach about *The Return on Our Investment* from Matthew 13:34-35.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED for the holidays on January 3.

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER GROUP meets at 6:30 p.m. in Room 105

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING: We give thanks to God and to all who gave generously to our Christmas Eve offering. As of this time, we have received over \$22,000. If you have not given and would like to, please send your gift to the church or use the online giving option.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY resumes January 5.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY resumes meeting January 6.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is paused until January 16.

STEWARDSHIP Budget Needed: \$465,480.16 / **Budget Received:** \$418,407.31

MISSIONARY MOMENT: Martin and Sheri Hegeman report that Sahel Academy in Niamey, Niger is relocating from rented buildings to new property this month. We pray for complete funding and all the adjustments and work pending. Thankfully God provided SIMair travel as a way for Martin's family to join Ben and Christine in neighboring Benin for much need rest and family time together.

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH: 2021 taught us that everyday worldwide 13 Christians are killed for their faith, 12 churches are attacked, and 12 Christians are unjustly arrested or imprisoned, and another 5 abducted. Extremist attacks mushroomed throughout Sub-Saharan Africa from Nigeria and Cameroon to Burkino Faso, Mali and Beyond. We pray for God to protect and encourage His people in 2022. (See *Christianitytoday.com*)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- No Children's Church or Sunday School this week. Children's Church resumes on January 9 and Sunday School resumes on January 16th. See you then!
- A new year, new month, and new series: A Day at the Museum. Here's what GROW has to say: Museums have the unique ability to transform learning! Instead of merely reading words on a page, we can experience them through all of our senses! A Day at the Museum is a series all about helping kids interact with the stories of Jesus and connecting them to God. Jesus' life and early ministry helps all of us experience (see, hear . . . even taste!) and follow God in new, tangible, and real ways. This week, kids experience the story of John the Baptist preparing the way for Jesus and learn that we can see God through Jesus.
- Wednesday Kids' Club resumes meeting January 19 at 6:30 p.m.. Parents who would like to enroll their children are asked to email Ann McNeill so preparation can begin for the children who will attend. We will continue to explore the pivotal events in the Bible through the Jesus Storybook Bible, rejoicing in the great rescue that Our Savior accomplished for us!

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Wendy Ott, Karen Gaerte, Bill Getty, Don Yeddo (Paul Rowley's step-father), Howard Berry (Donnie Stockin's brother), Andy Mikolajczyk (Mary Lingenfelter's brother), Sith Sanasith (Souly's brother), Denise Zambrano, Cameron Green, Vangie Grant, Lenore Paige, Gary Heil (Janet Stegen's brother), Amy Ortiz (Luke Ogden's sister), Sarah Gurley, Grace Taylor, 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), 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 Lynne Perry recovering from a recent house fire and for all dealing with tragedies and disasters; for all effected by the coronavirus, for a safe end for the missionaries kidnapped in Haiti, for refugees, for peace amid threats of war; for the Northern KonXions United Methodist Church, Fillmore (Pastor Craig Buelow).

CHURCH STAFF

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Living Hope

How great the chasm
that lay between us
How high the mountain
I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness
Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom
such boundless grace
The God of ages
stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

**Hallelujah praise the One
who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost
its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope**

Then came the morning
that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
(Repeat)
Jesus Yours is the victory

Chorus

As the Deer

As the deer panteth for the water
so my soul longeth after You
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship You

**You alone are my strength, my shield
To you alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship You.**

You're my friend
and You are my brother
Even though You are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything

Chorus

I want You
more than gold or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye

Chorus

Speak, O Lord

Speak O Lord as we come to You
To receive the food
of Your holy word
Take Your truth plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us
in Your likeness
That the light of Christ
might be seen today
In our acts of love
and our deeds of faith
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord full obedience
Holy reverence true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise;
Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of power that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak O Lord and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights
of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged
from the dawn of time
That will echo down
through eternity
And by grace we'll stand
on Your promises
And by faith we'll walk
as You walk with us
Speak O Lord
till Your church is built
And the earth is filled
with Your glory

Jesus The Very Thought of Thee

Jesus the very thought of Thee
With sweetness fills the breast
But sweeter far Thy face to see
And in Thy presence rest

Nor voice can sing
nor heart can frame
Nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound
than Thy blest name
O Savior of mankind

O Hope of every contrite heart
O Joy of all the meek
To those who fall
how kind Thou art
How good to those who seek

But what to those who find, ah this
nor tongue nor pen can show
The love of Jesus what it is
None but His loved ones know

Jesus our only joy be Thou
As Thou our prize wilt be
Jesus be Thou our Glory now
And thru eternity