

**Outdoor Worship Service**  
**Second Sunday after Epiphany**  
**January 16, 2022 at 8:45am**

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Welcome

Songs of Adoration: *Open Up the Heavens; Death Was Arrested*

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.**

Celebration of Ministry: Royal Family Kids Camp

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" 22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. 23 "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. 25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. 26 "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' 27 The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. 28 "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. 29 "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' 30 "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. 32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' 34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

Sermon: **The Joy of Generous Forgiveness**

Priceless Parables: The Joy of Living Generously, II

Pastor Wes Oden

Song: *By Our Love*

Benediction

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Scripture Reader: Pastor Jon Cole

Music Ministry Team:

Amanda Cox, Bekah Scharf, Betsy Webb; vocals;  
Alison Young Reusser, guitar & vocals; AC Taylor, cajón

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 16

**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.

**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 will gather for worship outdoors at 8:45 a.m. (we will communicate if the weather causes us to move indoors) and indoors/streaming at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Wes will preach about *The Vocation of Generosity* from Luke 16.

**KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL** resumes today at 9:45. You may access the digital materials any time. This week in Sunday School, kids experience the story of Jesus changing the water into wine to learn that Jesus gives us a taste of God's power.

**STEWARDSHIP Budget Needed:** \$513,633.28/ **Budget Received:** \$489,061.41

**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 \$26,834.00! This will cover the cost of the Oxygen Generation Plant for the LaGonave Hospital in Haiti.

**MISSIONARY MOMENT:** Stacia, in Eastern Europe, serves with a dedicated and newly doubled team expanding their vision out to 5 new cities in the next five years. Stacia continues language acquisition and on-line seminary studies to minister more effectively. Let us uphold her and the others in these challenging early stages evangelism and church planting.

**THE PERSECUTED CHURCH:** Inter-religious intolerance happens in large and small scale. Some evangelical Christians were recently detained in Oaxaca Mexican state over refusal to participate in local cultural/religious celebrations. It's easy to imagine that all around the world Christians face small scale trials as well as major oppression. We pray for grassroots believers to have courage and bear the cross courageously and graciously.

**BANDING TOGETHER BOOKLETS AND GROUPS**—Groups are moving into the new year with renewed desire to study and apply the Word of God and pray for one another. New booklets are available and new groups may begin. Those seeking this kind of discipleship or other small-groups are encouraged to contact Pastor Paul ([paulshea@hwchurch.org](mailto:paulshea@hwchurch.org)).

**KIDS CLUB** resumes meeting January 19 at 6:30 p.m. Parents can enroll their children. Email [AnnMcNeill@hwchurch.org](mailto:AnnMcNeill@hwchurch.org) 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!

**VPS STONE SOUP DINNER:** Come pick up some warm soup for supper on a winter evening while supporting Valley Pre-school through this donation dinner.

Date – Friday, January 28, 2022

Time – 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Place – Houghton Wesleyan Church (north side of the C.E. Building under the outdoor “overhang”)

Food – Stone Soup (beef soup or vegetable soup)

Take-out or delivery!

To order ahead, please contact Casda Danner at [casdadanner@hwchurch.org](mailto:casdadanner@hwchurch.org) or order online at <https://tinyurl.com/vpsstonesoup>. Consider ordering extra to be put in the food pantry.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for the family and friends of Eila Shea who died last Sunday and for the family and friends of Wendy Ott who died this week (Visitation, Friday, 2-4pm and 6-8pm, Church Community Room; Service, Saturday, 11:00 a.m., Church Sanctuary) and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Patty Plaza (Alejandra Koch's sister), 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), Dan Gurley, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair; for all dealing with tragedies and disasters; for all effected by the coronavirus, for peace amid threats of war; for the Northern KonXions United Methodist Church, Caneadea (Pastor Craig Buelow).

**CHILDREN'S SERMON FOR TODAY IS “TASTE AND SEE” AT <https://youtu.be/0VNaqp6C4Y8>**

**STEWARDSHIP—A Life of Generosity**  
*“Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!”* (2 Corinthians 9:15)  
Kids Ministry Financial Update – January 2022

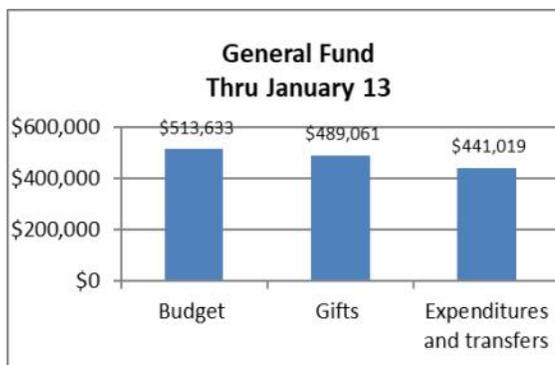
Throughout the pandemic, Kids Ministry has shifted focus from in-house programming to family- focused, home-based support. Though we are still welcoming kids ages 2 – 6th grade to attend in-person worship and Sunday School, much of what we have been doing has been reaching families where they are. Your financial support has made that possible.

Much of our budget has been used to do new, exciting, and FUN things over the past two years! We’ve had the ability to provide “The One Year Praying Through the Bible for Your Kids” (Nancy Guthrie) books for every HWC family and give back-to-school-blessings to every school aged HWC kid. We’ve delivered family activity packets for Easter and Advent to help families connect with each other and their faith. We’ve hosted drive-through events and, most recently, a beautiful display of nativities with a evangelistic and invitational handout for participants. We continue to celebrate important milestones in our HWC kid’s lives such as births, dedications, baptisms, and birthdays.

The switch to a new, digitally based curriculum through GROW has enabled us to print lessons as needed for in-person instruction but to also send full lesson materials via email to all of our families every week. This investment has allowed us to support parents as they minister in their own homes.

Valley Preschool continues to serve our Church and community with amazing faith and play-based instruction. This year, we were able to open up our program to 2-year-olds as well! Every family in the program continues to receive tuition reduction through your gifts to the Church and your support of the annual Stone Soup dinner. We even had the opportunity to upgrade the tables in the VPS classrooms this year to something more kid-friendly and adaptable. Your contributions continue to financially support our regular ministries as well:

- New material for the library
- Supplies for Sunday morning and Wednesday evening kids’ programming
- Health and safety products for all of our classrooms
- Operation Christmas Child supplies
- Support for Royal Family Kids’ Camp
- Cradle Roll gifts and mailings for families with new babies
- Appreciation gifts for our wonderful team members
- Subscription to our database that enables safety check-in, mass emails and texts, birthday reminders, etc.
- Special resources for families facing crisis, grief, etc.
- Upgrades to our classrooms such as flooring and painting



Thank you for giving to the Church and blessing us with the ability to continue connecting and growing with our HWC Kids and Families! We are so thankful that we get to serve them; we couldn’t do it without each of you and your gifts and prayers. Blessings to you!

## CHURCH STAFF

**Wes Oden, Senior Pastor 567-2024 [wesoden@hwchurch.org](mailto:wesoden@hwchurch.org)**

**Jon Cole, Youth Pastor 307-9950 [joncole@hwchurch.org](mailto:joncole@hwchurch.org)**

**Cindy Oden, Assistant Pastor 567-2024 [cindyoden@hwchurch.org](mailto:cindyoden@hwchurch.org)**

**Paul Shea Assistant Pastor 567-4597 [paulshea@hwchurch.org](mailto:paulshea@hwchurch.org)**

**Amanda Cox, Music & Worship Director [amandacox@hwchurch.org](mailto:amandacox@hwchurch.org)**

**Emily Spateholts, Children’s Ministry 808-8925 [emilyspateholts@hwchurch.org](mailto:emilyspateholts@hwchurch.org)**

**Ann McNeill, Children’s Ministry 716-801-3425 [annmneill@hwchurch.org](mailto:annmneill@hwchurch.org)**

**Church Office, M-F, 8 AM-Noon & 1-4 PM, 567-2264 [office@hwchurch.org](mailto:office@hwchurch.org)**

### **Open up the Heavens**

We've waited for this day  
We're gathered in Your Name  
Calling out to You  
Your glory like a fire awakening desire  
Will burn our hearts with truth

You're the reason we're here  
You're the reason we're singing

**Open up the heavens  
we want to see You  
Open up the floodgates  
a mighty river  
Flowing from Your heart  
Filling every part of our praise**

Your presence in this place  
Your glory on our face  
We're looking to the sky  
Descending like a cloud  
You're standing with us now  
Lord unveil our eyes

You're the reason we're here  
You're the reason we're singing

#### ***Chorus***

Show us show us Your glory  
Show us show us Your power  
Show us show us Your glory Lord

#### ***Chorus***

### **Death Was Arrested**

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin  
Lost without hope  
with no place to begin  
Your love made a way  
to let mercy come in  
When death was arrested  
and my life began

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains  
My orphan heart was given a name  
My mourning grew quiet  
my feet rose to dance  
When death was arrested  
and my life began

**Oh Your grace so free  
washes over me  
You have made me new  
now life begins with You  
It's Your endless love  
pouring down on us  
You have made us new  
now life begins with You**

Released from my chains  
I'm a pris'ner no more  
My shame was a ransom  
He faithfully bore  
He cancelled my debt  
and He called me His friend  
When death was arrested  
and my life began

#### ***Chorus***

Our Savior displayed  
on a criminal's cross  
Darkness rejoiced  
as though Heaven had lost  
But then Jesus arose  
with our freedom in hand  
That's when death was arrested  
and my life began

#### ***Chorus***

Oh we're free, free, forever we're free  
Come join the song of all the redeemed  
Yes we're free, free, forever amen  
When death was arrested  
and my life began

### **By Our Love**

#### **Verse 1**

Brothers let us come together  
Walking in the Spirit  
There's much to be done  
We will come reaching  
Out from our comforts  
And they will know us  
by our love

#### **Verse 2**

Sisters we were  
made for kindness  
We can pierce the darkness  
As He shines through us  
We will come reaching  
With a song of healing  
And they will know us  
by our love

#### ***Chorus***

**The time is now  
Come church arise  
Love with His hands  
See with His eyes  
Bind it around you  
Let it never leave you  
And they will know us  
by our love**

#### **Verse 3**

Children you are hope for justice  
Stand firm in the Truth now  
Set your hearts above  
You will be reaching  
Long after we're gone  
And they will know you  
by your love

#### ***Chorus***