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# Early Worship Service

– Seventh Sunday after Epiphany –  
February 20, 2022 at 8:45am

Welcome

Songs of Adoration: *Ever Be; The Same Power*

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: Youth

Children's Sermon

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:14-30

“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup>The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. <sup>17</sup>So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. <sup>18</sup>But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’ <sup>21</sup>“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!’ <sup>22</sup>“The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’ <sup>23</sup>“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!’ <sup>24</sup>“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup>So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ <sup>26</sup>“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup>Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.’ <sup>28</sup>“So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. <sup>29</sup>For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. <sup>30</sup>And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

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

Sermon: The Risk of Generosity  
Pastor Wes Oden

Song: *Find Us Faithful*

Benediction

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Acolyte: Talon Bramer

Scripture Reader: Christian Esh

Music Ministry Team:  
Amanda Cox, Jady Mucher, Betsy Webb; vocals;  
Matt Cox, guitar & vocals; Dan Zambrano, cajón

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**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** Life in the midst of winter can be difficult. The cold and snow, the mundane of gray skies and the demands of life can overwhelm us. To our time, the Psalmist declares: “I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all the marvelous things you have done. I will be filled with joy because of you. I will sing praises to your name, O Most High” (9:1-2). We keep coming together each week to remember who God is and to open our eyes to his presence and grace in our lives and in our world. May our worship today be this for all of us.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** we welcome the Rev. Dr. Joey Jennings as our guest preacher. Houghton Wesleyan is part of a community of Wesleyan churches throughout Western New York. Dr. Jennings is the superintendent who oversees the 36 churches in this district. 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.

**KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL** continues today. If you can't join us in person at 9:45 you may access the digital materials any time. This week, kids learn that Jesus wants us to love our enemies. **THE BIG IDEA:** Our enemies help us learn to love. **THE BIBLE:** Luke 6:27-38; I John 4:7-21

**KIDS' CLUB:** God's great rescue continues as our topic for Kids' Club this Wednesday night at 6:30. We welcome children who have yet to come this year, so come on out! Please let [annmneill@hwchurch.org](mailto:annmneill@hwchurch.org) know so we can get enough craft supplies together for your kids. Bible trivia question: How long did the Israelites wait for Moses to come down from his meeting with God on Mt. Sinai?

**MISSION MOMENT** – Many missionaries are connected to students and ministries via the tools of technology – Steve and Margie Doty, John and Sylvia Christensen, Romy and Linda Caringal and Don Little are translating and training in far away places via internet. We pray for perseverance and success in fulfilling their call to serve Christ and others. (Obtain your new Global Missions Directory for details.)

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** – We need reminders that families and congregations suffer severe difficulties for the sake of Christ. There is specific news of a pastor in China who has been detained by police since December 26. We pray for authorities, for congregation, for family members – for God to change hearts, offer comfort, and get glory in this situation.

**STEWARDSHIP**      **Budget Needed:** \$593,888.48/ **Budget Received:** \$571,065.61

**Weekly events:**

- **Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study** meets from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. in the Good Shepherd Room
- **Wednesday Prayer Group** meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 105
- **Thursday Evenings Celebrate Recovery** meets from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Room

**Prayer Concerns:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Walter Schilke (Stephan's father), Karen Gaerte, Bill Getty, Don Yeddo (Paul Rowley's step-father), 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), Sarah Gurley, Grace Taylor, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah 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 affected by the coronavirus, for refugees, for peace amid threats of war; for the Wiscoy Baptist Church (Pastor Patrick Bennett).

Children's Sermon: “Love Your Enemies” - <https://youtu.be/4ZdUy9nCjFA>

# CHURCH STAFF

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

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

## Ever Be

### Verse 1

Your love is devoted  
like a ring of solid gold  
Like a vow that is tested  
like a covenant of old  
Your love is enduring  
through the winter rain  
And beyond the horizon  
with mercy for today

### Pre-Chorus

Faithful You have been  
and faithful You will be  
You pledge Yourself to me  
and it's why I sing

### Chorus

**Your praise will ever be on my lips  
Ever be on my lips  
Your praise will ever be on my lips  
Ever be on my lips  
(repeat)**

### Verse 2

You Father the orphan  
Your kindness makes us whole  
You shoulder our weakness  
And Your strength  
becomes our own  
You're making me like You  
Clothing me in white  
Bringing beauty from ashes  
For You will have Your bride

### Pre-Chorus

Free of all her guilt  
and rid of all her shame  
And known by her true name  
and it's why I sing

### Chorus

### Bridge

You will be praised  
You will be praised  
With angels and saints we sing  
worthy are You Lord  
You will be praised  
You will be praised  
With angels and saints we sing  
worthy are You Lord  
(repeat)

And it's why I sing

## The Same Power

### Verse 1

There is pow'r in His name  
For the stone was rolled away  
Mountains bow down before  
Jesus Christ our risen Lord  
Jesus Christ our risen Lord

### Chorus

**Mighty Savior lifted high  
King forever Jesus Christ  
Crowned in glory raised to life  
The same power lives in us**

### Verse 2

We will rise stand and sing  
Of our great and matchless King  
Seated high on the throne  
You shall reign forevermore  
You shall reign forevermore

### Chorus

### Bridge

The grave could not contain  
The power of His name  
Death You overcame  
Once and for all  
(repeat)

### Chorus

## Find Us Faithful

### Verse 1

We're pilgrims on the journey  
Of the narrow road  
And those who've gone before us  
Line the way  
Cheering on the faithful  
Encouraging the weary  
Their lives a stirring testament  
To God's sustaining grace

### Verse 2

Surrounded by so great  
A cloud of witnesses  
Let us run the race  
Not only for the prize  
But as those who've gone before us  
Let us leave to those behind us  
The heritage of faithfulness  
Passed on through godly lives

### Chorus

**Oh may all who come behind us  
Find us faithful  
May the fire of our devotion  
Light their way  
May the footprints that we leave  
Lead them to believe  
And the lives we live  
Inspire them to obey  
Oh may all who come behind us**

### Verse 3

After all our hopes and dreams  
Have come and gone  
And our children sift through all  
We've left behind  
May the clues that they discover  
And the mem'ries they uncover  
Become the light that leads them  
To the road we each must find

### Chorus