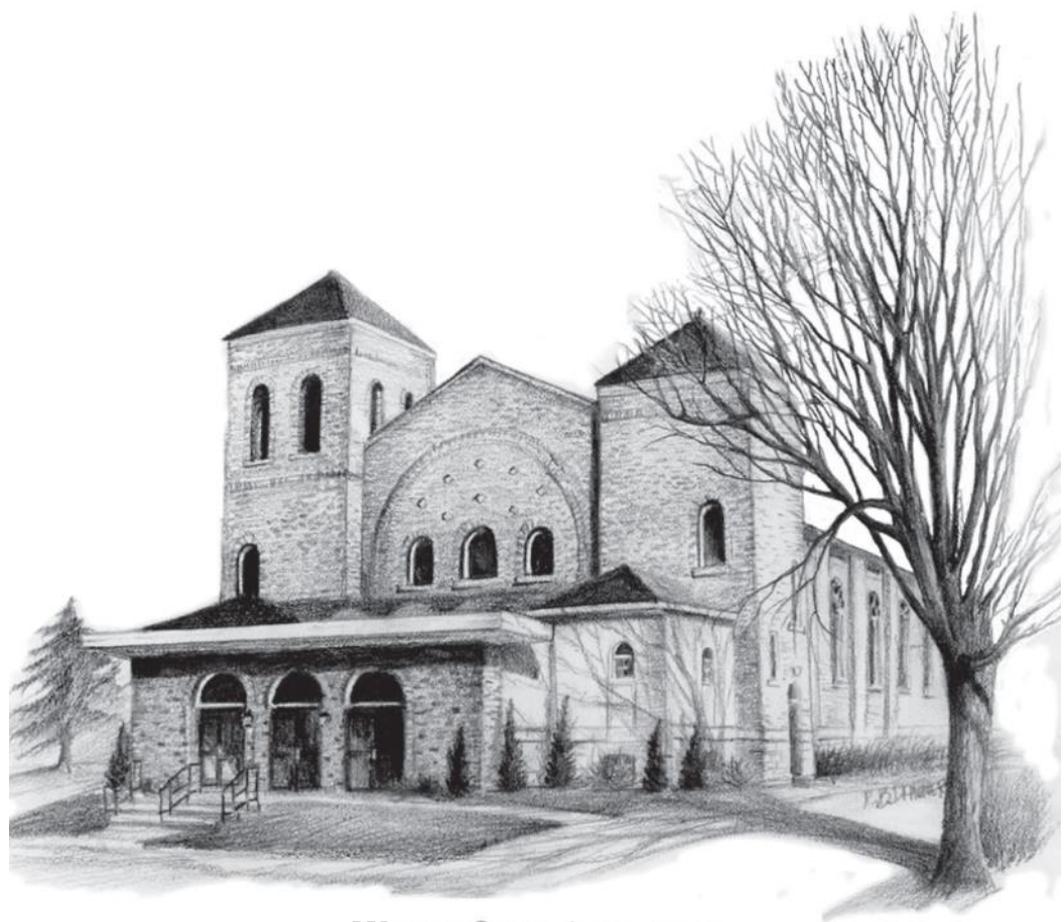




Houghton

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*

P.O. Box 127, HOUGHTON, NY 14744-0127 • (585) 567-2264 • WWW.HWCHURCH.ORG

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 27, 2022

11:00 SERVICE

Prelude: *Hymn Preludes* arr. David Cherwien
Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless
Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Welcome

Hymn of Praise 273: *And Can it Be?*

Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Banding Groups

Children's Sermon: *Celebrate!*

Songs of Adoration: *Death Was Arrested; Way Maker; Goodness of God*

Prayer of Confession

God our Lord and Creator, we acknowledge that we have sinned against you. Our actions have fallen short of Christ, our attitudes have not reflected Christ, our words have not communicated Christ. We have neglected the gifts of your Word and of prayer. We have chosen our desires instead of your commands. We have walked our own way rather than the way of Christ. In our fascination with self, we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Nevertheless, you have kept faith with us. We ask for your mercy upon us. Strip us of all that is unlike Christ and help us to live up to our calling through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time of Prayer

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

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:17-21

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

Hymn 309: *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

Sermon: **The Judgment of the Cross**

Pastor Wes Oden

Song: *Surrender All*

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon Acolyte: Violet Bates Scripture Reader: Pastor Jon Cole

Music Ministry Team:

Nayellis Perez, vocals; Matt Cox, guitar & vocals;

Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Betsy Webb, keyboard & vocals; Hannah Lindo, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The season of Lent provides us with an opportunity to think more fully on the cross. Because we are tempted to move away from the cross, may our worship today help us to see the cross in all of its fullness so that we might see ourselves in its light. And in this revelation, surrender ourselves to Christ who dies for the whole world.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. We will gather outdoors at 8:45 and indoors/streaming at 11:00. Pastor Wes will preach about *The Triumph of the Cross* from Colossians 2 and Ephesians 2.

EASTER BAPTISM: If you are interested in being baptized on Easter Sunday morning, contact Pastor Wes (office@hwchurch.org).

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: If you are interested in becoming a member of HWC or in knowing more about membership at HWC, contact Pastor Wes (office@hwchurch.org). He will be hosting a membership class this week.

KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL continues today. This week, kids hear the exciting story of the parable of the lost son. Join us in-person from 9:45-10:45am or virtually (materials sent out on Friday mornings). **THE BIG IDEA:** God celebrates us. **THE BIBLE:** Luke 15:11b-32; II Corinthians 5:17-19.

KIDS' CLUB: meets at 6:30 this Wednesday night as we take a few weeks to learn about King David. The treats and the helmet craft will be lots of fun! If you haven't attended yet but would like to come on Wednesday, please let annmcneill@hwchurch.org know so that we can prepare a craft kit for you! Kids in 1st-6th grade are invited. See you there!

HWC KIDS EVENTS;

- ◆ Easter Egg Scramble: join us the week of April 3rd - 9th for an Easter Egg Hunt! Bring your family to the Church and walk around the outside of the building. You'll find 12 big Easter eggs hidden in the windows and doors of the Church building, each with a word or phrase on it. Collect the words and unscramble them to find an Easter promise. Turn in your completed "egg scramble" in the box at the Welcome Desk in the CE building foyer (with your name on it) and an Easter treat will be headed your way!
- ◆ HWC Kids, on Saturday, April 9th from 10 -11am preschool through 6th grade, are invited to celebrate the Easter season with us Explore the miracle of Easter through story, art, craft, and food! Events will start at the outdoor stage, weather permitting. Pick up Palms for the Palm Sunday Procession!
- ◆ **Palm Sunday Procession April 10 at both services:** All children are invited to participate in the procession of the palms at the begin each service (8:45 and 11:00 a.m.)

YOUTH GROUP, SUNDAY 6-8 PM: *Never Give Up on God* – John 16:33 - Goal of small group – To encourage students to find hope in what's true about God and choose to stay committed to following Jesus even when life gets tough.

THE CHURCH WELCOMES YOUR EASTER LILIES FOR EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17. We have purchased a number of lilies which you may purchase for \$15.00 each or you may bring your own lily to drop off at the church office by Good Friday, April 15th. If you would like to purchase one or more lilies, you may use the online giving option, mail a check to the church office (indicate Easter lilies), or drop-off payment at the church office. If you wish to purchase in memory or in honor of a loved one, please email Patty (pattystalker@hwchurch.org) or call Patty (567-2264) with your information by Monday, April 11. Thank you.

Short Term Mission Applications - Application forms for assistance to fund short term ministries this summer or beyond are due April 15. The form may be found on the church's website at <https://hwchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/horttermMissionApplicationGeneral.pdf> or picked up at the church office and returned to Pastor Paul Shea by the 15th.

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$674,143.68 / **Budget Received:** \$646,242.64

MISSION MOMENT – Our Global Partner workers in Europe and Eastern Europe serve amongst people who've lived through the trauma of conflict, and are now receiving those displaced by war. We pray for wisdom, love and compassion as our workers and others embody the love of Christ today to so many hurting people.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – How are we supposed to act toward those who oppose Christians? Jesus says to love enemies and pray for those who persecute. (Matt. 5:44) So we must not only pray for our fellow believers under attack, but pray for God to change the hearts and minds of the oppressors around the globe.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for Herb Williams and his family at the death of his brother, Bert, for Kathie Guyler and her family at the death of her husband, Tom and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Grace Taylor, Ann Irving (Ann McNeill's mother), Jennifer Brown, 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, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore's father), Mark Mayhle (Doug's brother), Jeshu, Kurtis and Elijah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Dan Gurley, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair; for all dealing with tragedies and disasters; for all affected by the coronavirus, for refugees throughout the world, for protection, wisdom and peace for the people and leaders of Ukraine; for a Chinese pastor who has been detained by the police since December 26; for the Oramel Community Church (Pastor Ken Stanton).