



**Early Worship Service**  
**–Sixth Sunday of Easter –**  
**May 22, 2022 at 8:45am**



Welcome

Songs of Adoration: *Speak, O Lord; Goodness of God*

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.**

Children's Sermon: God Uses YOU

Scripture Reading: John 21:15-25

15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?"

He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. 18 Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." 19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!" 20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said,

"Lord, who is going to betray you?") 21 When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?"

22 Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."

23 Because of this, the rumor spread among the believers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?"

24 This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down.

We know that his testimony is true.

25 Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

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

Children ages Preschool to 1st Grade can go to Children's Church

Sermon: **What's Your Focus of Life and Death?**

Pastor Wes Oden

Song: *Give Me Jesus*

Benediction

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Acolyte: Junie Babbitt

Scripture Reader: Jesse Fink

Music Ministry Team:

Rachael McVeigh, vocals; Jack Smith, guitar & vocals;

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

The Children's Sermon, *God Uses YOU*,

available at <https://youtu.be/-jITY593Qxl> on Sunday morning after 8:00 a.m.

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** As we gather each week in our separate places for corporate worship, we are blessed to know that God promises to be with us wherever we are. Knowing that God's Spirit is at work today let us prepare to hear him and to receive from him abundant grace.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** our church youth group will lead us in worship. Join us for indoor worship at 8:45 and indoor/streaming worship at 11:00.

**ELECTION BALLOT:** Today is the last day for members to cast a ballot for our church leaders and to respond to the Community Financial Plan proposal. Paper ballots are available in the lower foyer of the sanctuary. You may also **vote online using this link.**

**COMMUNITY FINANCIAL PLAN:** The Elders have proposed the Community Financial Plan for approval. The vote on the CFP will be a part of the election ballot. You may access **the 2022-2023 CFP here.**

Highlights of the CFP:

- 4% salary increases for all staff members (Cost of Living is more than 7%)
- As an indication of our calling to serve Houghton College students, we are reestablishing the full-time position of Assistant Pastor for College and Discipleship Ministry. Some of this salary is included in the CFP, while the rest of it will be subsidized from a gift recently received.
- The CFP indicates no increase in giving from this current year's CFP.
- Though giving since the beginning of Covid has actually been slightly higher than pre-Covid, giving in the first few months of 2022 has been lower compared to the first months of 2021. So even though the bottom line of the 2022-2023 CFP indicates no increase in giving, the zero increase in the giving goal is actually a step of faith since it does not appear that we will reach our goal for this current year.

If you have questions or comments related to the 2022-2023 Community Financial Plan, please contact our Church Treasurer David Mercer ([mercerdg@frontier.com](mailto:mercerdg@frontier.com)) or Pastor Wes ([wesoden@hwchurch.org](mailto:wesoden@hwchurch.org)). The Elders are submitting for members approval the 2022-2023 Community Financial Plan. Copies are available today. You may also access the CFP on the church website.

**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE:** Thank you for your responses to the survey related to outdoor worship. Thank you to everyone who indicated a willingness to help with set up. We will be in touch with you as plans take shape. Based on your responses, here is the summer schedule for Sunday morning worship **beginning June 5:**

8:45 a.m. Outdoor Worship

11:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

**STEWARDSHIP**                      **Budget Needed: \$802,552.00 / Budget Received: \$754,087.83**

#### **HWC KIDS:**

- In Sunday School this week, kids hear about how Paul shared the good news of Jesus. **THE BIG IDEA:** God's message goes everywhere. **THE BIBLE:** Acts 16:9–15; Matthew 28:18–20. Join us online or in-person!
- Congratulations to our Valley Preschool graduates who graduated Wednesday morning! We had a wonderful year and were so blessed with fun, energetic, curious kids and devoted, loving teachers. Thank you for your prayers and financial support throughout the year. Applications for 2 - 5 year-olds for next year are available at the Church office or by emailing Casda Danner ([casdadanner@hwchurch.org](mailto:casdadanner@hwchurch.org)).
- Want to join our HWC Kids team? Check out the open positions posted in the CE building, claim your spot today, and get ready for an action-packed, faith-filled ministry. Email [kidsmin@hwchurch.org](mailto:kidsmin@hwchurch.org) for more details.

**MISSION MOMENT** – We focus our prayers for Sylvia Christensen during crucial early morning zoom during sensitive and critical consultant checking chapters in John's Gospel with partners in **S.E.Asia**. Pray for good internet connection, ongoing skills with partner translators and relationships in "majority" religion situation.

**SUFFERING CHURCH** – We pray for all churches in response to the horrific attack in Buffalo. WNY Supt., Dr. Joey Jennings, asks us to especially remember our Wesleyan City churches - Anchor Church, Pastor Steve Johnson; Grace Community Church, Pastor Barb Farrow; Mission of Christ, Pastor Yoshua Bashizi; resurgence City, Pastor Tim Porter, and ZionQuest Christian Fellowship, Pastor Kimberly Gladden.

**STAYING CONNECTED:** Pastor Wes continues sending out a weekly update on Tuesday and a video meditation on Thursday. Both can be accessed through email, text or the church website and Facebook pages. If you are not receiving these communications and would like to, please contact the church office ([office@hwchurch.org](mailto:office@hwchurch.org)) or 585-567-2264.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Mim Case, 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 Hunt Baptist Church (Pastor Jerry Feulmer).