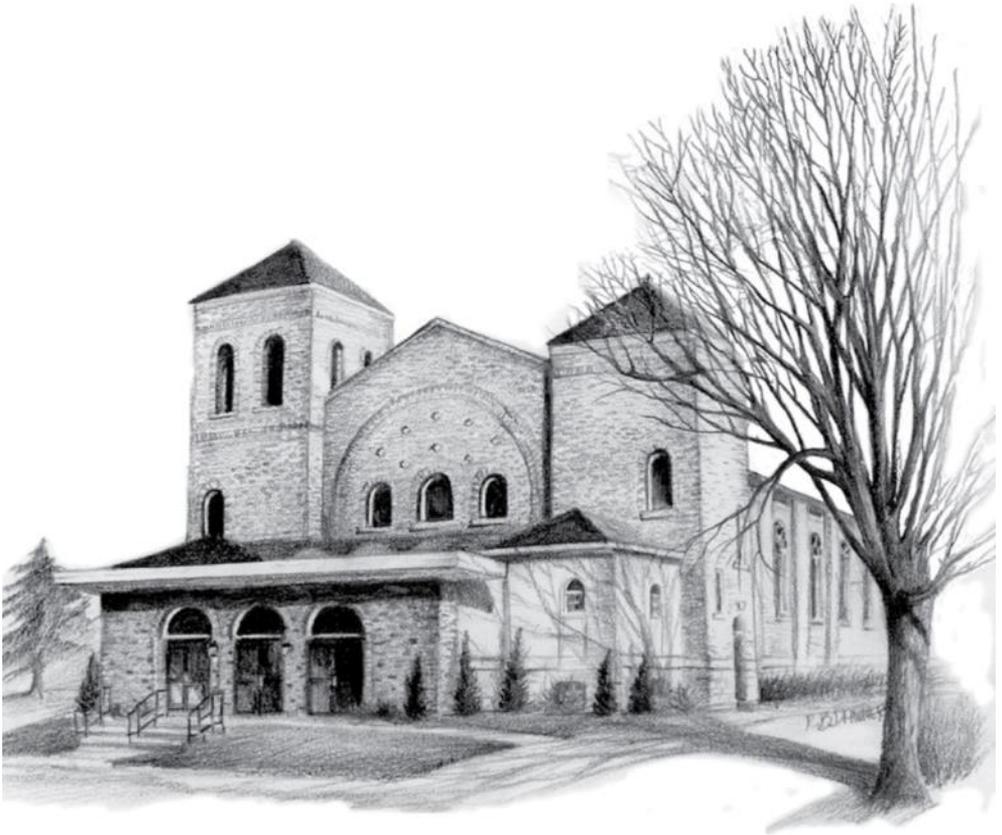




Houghton

WESLEYAN CHURCH

*Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly serving others*



WESLEY ODEN, *Senior Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

DAVID HUIZENGA, *Discipleship and College Pastor*

CINDY ODEN, *Assistant Pastor*

PAUL SHEA, *Volunteer Assistant Pastor*

AMANDA COX, *Music and Worship Director*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 12, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Prelude: Prelude on *RHOSYMEDRE* (R. Vaughan Williams)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven,
Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

***For we do not have a high priest
who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses,
but we have one who has been tempted in every way,
just as we are – yet he did not sin.***

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence,
***So that we may receive mercy and find grace
to help us in our time of need.***

Hymn of Praise 288: *Arise, My Soul, Arise*

Words of Greeting and Peace

Children's Sermon: *Beautiful Oops*

Songs of Adoration:

Beautiful; It is Well; Blessed Assurance/Reckless Love
(Offering will be received during the third song)

Time of Prayer

*Please feel free to sit, stand, kneel, or come to the altar
as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father.*

Scripture Reading: John 18:12-27

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

Hymn 150: *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

Sermon: **Why are You Asking Me this Question?**

Pastor Wes Oden

Song: *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

Benediction

Organist: Judy Congdon

Acolyte: Owen Chapman

Scripture Reader: Sam Roth

Music Ministry Team (Koinonia Team from Houghton University):

Nuri Park, guitar & vocals; Hannah Roeske, vocals; Matthew Arndt, piano;
Rachel Huchthausen, violin; Kayleigh Verspoor, bass; Gabriel Huizenga, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.

The season of Lent is an historic time for reflection, repentance and surrender in the shadow of the cross as we prepare ourselves, individually and corporately, for the death and resurrection of Christ. As we reflect on our sin and on God's grace through Jesus Christ, let us contemplate our response to Jesus our Redeemer.

KOINONIA: We are excited to welcome one of the Koinonia teams to lead some of our music today. *Koinonia*—a weekly worship time on Sunday evenings—is one of our college ministries. We appreciate all of the student leaders and musicians and Dr. Sharon Johnson who leads this ministry for us.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we continue our Lenten journey exploring the questions of Jesus in the final hours of his life. Next week, Pastor Wes will preach about his question, *Why Are You Beating Me?* (John 18:12-26). We will gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed.

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 month.

HWC Kids

- Kids Connect: This week, kids hear about the conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. BIG IDEA: Our past doesn't change God's love for us. BIBLE: John 4:5-42
- Kids Club: Game's On! It's March Madness! Join us on Saturday the 18th for a morning of games and a reminder that in the game of life, we're all winners because of Jesus!

EASTER LILIES: The Church welcomes your Easter lilies for Easter Sunday, April 9th. We have purchased several 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 7th. 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 a lily in memory or in honor of a loved one, please email (pattystalker@hwchurch.org) or call Patty (567-2264) with your information by Monday, April 3rd. Thank you.

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

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: \$642,041.60 / Budget Received: \$638,932.62

CONCERT AND HYMN SING March 19 (6:00 p.m.) at Eastern Hills Church with the Houghton University Choir, Kevin Dibble, Conductor, and The Buffalo Niagara Praise Orchestra, Gary Stith, Conductor.

MISSION MOMENT—Praise God for the privilege to support with prayer and finance seventeen of our students in short term mission outreach. The HU eight sharing in Discipleship Hour today have just returned from Czech Republic working with Kevin and Cindy Austin. Nine of our church youth head to Brazil, Nicaragua, and Zambia in May with university sports and music witness. Let us hold them all up in prayer for lasting results for the glory of God.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Prayers are vital for God to uphold churches, families, and pastors in embattled Ukraine. In places where mainly elderly and desperate families remain churches often serve as shelters, kitchens, resource centers and beacons of faith and hope. Some pastors valiantly stay to direct volunteers meeting multiple needs. Within earshot of shelling, Pastor James in Kherson says, “We are on God’s frontlines and ready to meet God at any moment.” We pray. (CT March 23)

ALL WOMEN: Come relax together with Breakfast and a Movie on Saturday, April 1, beginning at 9 am. We'll enjoy watching the love story of Catherine Marshall- the author of the novel *Christy* - and her husband Peter, who became the chaplain of the U. S. Senate. Watch for more details.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for the Danner family at the death of Susan Danner Scites’s husband and all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Jerry Brown, Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Mim Case, Grace Taylor, 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, Dan and Sarah Gurley, Chelsea Ellis, Keith Rugg (Kathy Moore’s father), Mark Mayhle (Doug’s brother), Jeshu, Kurtis and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Crikelair; for all dealing with tragedies and disasters particularly the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria; for refugees throughout the world; for protection, wisdom and peace in Ukraine; for a Chinese pastor who has been detained for more than a year; for First Trinity Lutheran Church (Pastor Eric Ash).