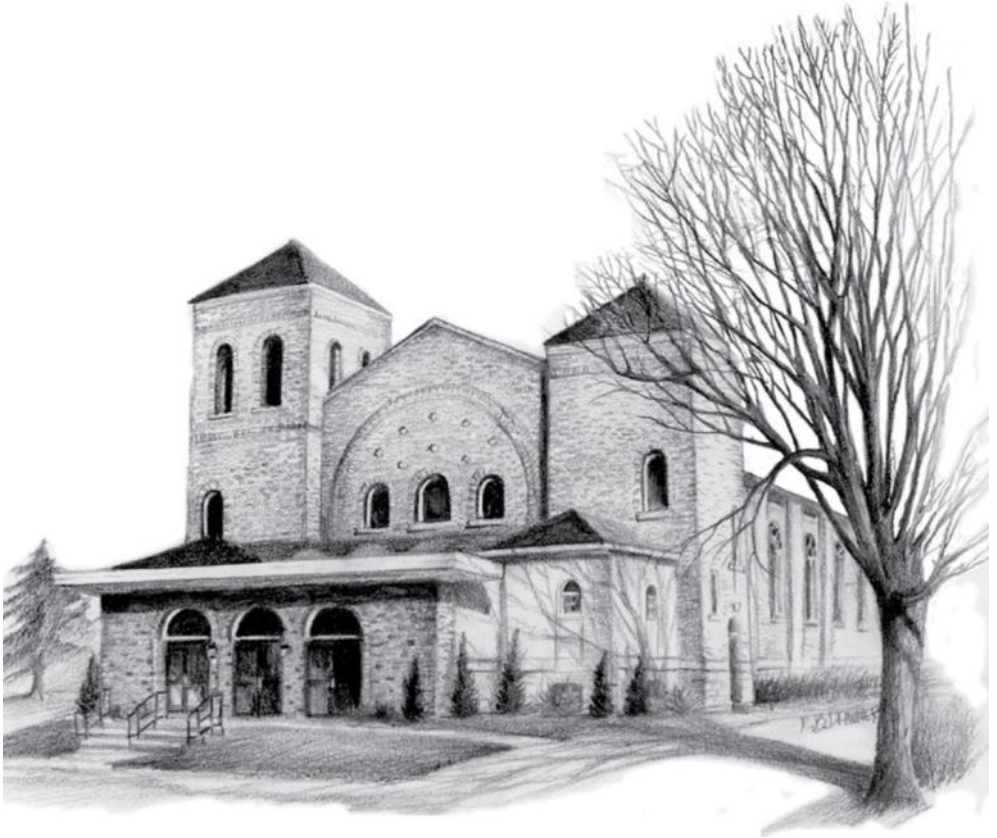




Houghton

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*

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 19, 2023
11:00 A.M.

Prelude: *Adoration* (Florence Price)

Choral Anthem: *God So Loved the World* (Stainer)

Welcome

Hymn of Praise 393: ***My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*** (tune of Solid Rock)

Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Missions

Children's Sermon: ***Open Your Eyes***

Songs of Adoration: ***Living Hope; A Thousand Hallelujahs***

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

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!***

Offertory: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* (arr. Dale Wood)

Sermon: ***Why Did You Strike Me?***

Pastor Wes Oden

Song: ***Goodness of God***

Benediction

Postlude: *Prelude in F major* (Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel)

Organists: Katya Nikolaeva-Howard & Carolyn Kindley

Acolyte: Kadee Hoffman & Joseph Hoffman

Scripture Reader: Pastor Jon Cole

Music Ministry Team:

Joanna Bates, vocals; Matt Cox, guitar & vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals;
Jill Jordan, violin; Rachel Onivogui, keyboard & vocals; Nico Seddio, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.

The season of Lent is a time for reflection and action as we ponder the death of Jesus. These 40 days lead us through the deserts and valleys of life and through the peaks and joys of life. On this Fourth Sunday in Lent, we remember the depths of God's love for us in Christ. May our worship help us to focus on our need and on his grace.

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, What Happens When the Tree Is Dry? (Luke 23:26-31). We will gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed.

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 in March.

ALL WOMEN: Come relax together with Breakfast and a Movie on Saturday, April 1, beginning at 9 am in the Community Room. 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.

HWC Kids

• Kids Connect: This week, kids hear about how Jesus healed a blind man. BIG IDEA: Jesus changes how we see things. BIBLE: John 9

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.

CONCERT AND HYMN SING Today (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.

STEWARDSHIP

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

MISSION MOMENT—Another short-term venture leaves soon for East Africa with our support and prayers. The Petrillos and Szymanskis are joining local TEN3 African project leaders gathering in Tanzania for training and fellowship. We pray for safe travels and a fruitful time of vision and planning for expanding outreach to children with Bible-based, computer assisted programs.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Vital tool for witness in surprising places around the world are Bible Societies and their often humble bookshops. They can be found where Christians are in a minority – e.g. Jordan, Cairo, Beirut, even Gaza. The light of the Gospel is shining and winning hearts. Pray for the committed and dedicated staff who often face obstacles and opposition.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for the Sanasith family at the death of Souly's younger brother, Sith, and for 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), 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 Wellsville Salvation Army Church.