

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 27, 2023

8:30 OUTDOOR SERVICE

LISTEN AT 106.9 FM

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Most High God, Ancient of Days

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil. May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Brothers and sisters, pray for us. Greet all God's people with a holy kiss. I charge you before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers and sisters. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Goodness of God

Celebration of Ministry (Valley Preschool)

Time of Prayer

Response: ***Spirit of the Living God***

Announcements & Greeting One Another

Quartet: ***Great Gettin' Up Morning***

Sermon: *Waiting in Enemy Occupied Territory*

Build My Life

Benediction

Readers: Grace Deitrick, Betsy Webb

Musicians: Grace Deitrick (vocals), Betsy Webb (vocals), Ava Harrison (vocals), Dan Zambrano (cajòn), David Huizenga (keyboard)

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. In our worship today, we remember that God loves us, that he is for us, and that his desires for us are far greater than we could ever imagine. As we embark on a new academic year, we gather asking God's Spirit to work in us and to transform us by His grace.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING: Pastor Wes begins a series of sermons focusing on lesser-known biblical characters. Next week's sermon draws our attention to Leah, one of Jacob's wives, whose story is told in Genesis 29 and 30. Leah's story is about our yearning to be loved. Join us for outdoor worship 8:30 a.m. and for indoor/streaming worship at 11:00 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Please note that next Sunday our second service moves to 11:00a.m.

CONNECTING: If you are not currently receiving either a text or email for Pastor Wes's weekly letter and brief weekly video chat, please contact the church office ([567-2264](tel:567-2264)/office@hwchurch.org) and we will update your information.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

September 3 – September 24

8:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship

11:00 a.m. Indoor/Streaming Worship

SMALL GROUP LEADER ORIENTATION AUGUST 29, 7:00 P.M. IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM - A new school year is fast approaching, and with it comes new schedules, new commitments, perhaps new neighbors, and possibly... a new commitment to discipleship via a banding group or small group? Pray about it and take the leap! One focus that the adult discipleship team has for this year is expanding efforts to equip and support small group leaders. This kicks off with a gathering for leaders and potential leaders or those simply curious about what small group leadership would entail.

HWC KIDS - Kids Connect: This week, kids hear about the Israelites' lives in Egypt after Joseph died. **BIG IDEA:** We can obey God above anyone else. **BIBLE:** Genesis 50:22-Exodus 1; Psalm 138

- Memory Verse: "By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me." — Psalm 42:8a (NIV)
- Family Friday: Only one left for the summer. This week, join us at the Spateholts!
- There will be nursery and children's church today. Regular, full schedule for all HWC Kids begins on September 10
- We need YOU for our HWC Kids team! Join the fun and excitement of helping kids connect with God, connect with the Church, and connect with each other while learning to live like Jesus. Contact us today if you are willing to teach, assist, volunteer, be on our Kids Club (once a month) team, or more. Email kidsmin@hwchurch.org.
- Valley Preschool: Apply today for your spot in the fall! For more information or to apply visit <https://hwchurch.org/valley-preschool/> Contact Casda Danner at casdadanner@hwchurch.org.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER 3

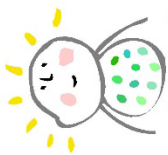
- **Youth Group Parents meeting in the Community Room! 9:45 am** Ask questions, get critical info, listen to the plan for the year, and sign an annual permission slip. Youth Group parents, this one is for you. (Also...donuts.)
- 6-8pm - Youth Group Kickoff! See you at YG!

STEWARDSHIP Budget Needed: \$200,607.72 / Budget Received: \$173,716.36

MISSION MOMENT – School should be starting, but Sahel Academy in Niamey (where Martin and Sheri Hegeman have served the last three years) has had to postpone reopening because of the recent coup and political and social uncertainty in Niger. Staff and students are scattered some in and some out of the country. Pray for the school's future, and especially for the students and family impacted. And join the prayers of the Hegemans currently on home assignment in USA.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Pakistan's three million Christians (2% of the population) face constant harassment, but this month in the central region around Jaranwala, 26 churches were burned in violent riots. Bibles, crosses, and buildings were desecrated and burned by angry mobs and many believers rushed into hiding in fear for their lives. Pray for authorities to quell this kind of violence and for Christians to stand strong in their faith.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, Mim Case, Grace Taylor, Karen Gaerte, 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 fires in Lahaina, Hawaii, the recent acts of violence; 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 the Lockport Wesleyan Church (Pastor Matt Rose).



Nursery Volunteer Sign-up

School Year Months: October 1--April 30

Children are never too young to begin experiencing the love of God and sensing that they are a part of the body of Christ. The nursery ministry is an effort to care for the physical needs of children and to provide a place where children are appreciated as part of Christ's body.

Please complete the following survey if you are able to help in the nursery. We will gladly use you as a volunteer if:

- 1) you are willing to go through an application/screening process;*
- 2) you are willing to attend required training meetings; and*
- 3) you attend HWC regularly.*

Thank you for your part in this ministry of love for Christ and the little ones. He has entrusted to us. The completed survey can be sent intracampus to the church office or put in the offering plate as soon as possible. Thanks.

There must be two adult (18 or older) volunteers for each service. You may be a third volunteer if you are 14-17 years old. You may accompany your parent(s) if you are under 14. Please indicate your age if you are under 18.

Please completely fill out the information below:

1. Name _____ 18 or older _____ Age if under 18 _____
2. Address/CPO Box # _____
Phone number _____
Email address _____
3. During the school months (October 1-April 30) I would be willing to work:
 - _____ every week _____ 8:30 service
 - _____ every other week _____ 9:45 Discipleship Hour
 - _____ once each month _____ 11:00 service
 - _____ other _____
4. Dates I will **not** be available from October 1--April 30 (college and academy students will not be scheduled during class breaks):

Perhaps you are not sure of your schedule. Please don't hesitate to sign up anyway. It is easy to switch with someone else should you find that you are unavailable when you are scheduled.

Church Staff

- Wes Oden, Senior Pastor 567-2264 wesoden@hwchurch.org
 Cindy Oden, Assistant Pastor 567-2024 cindyoden@hwchurch.org
 David Huizenga, Music & Worship Director 365-5863 davidhuizenga@hwchurch.org
 Jon Cole, Youth Pastor 307-9950 joncole@hwchurch.org
 Emily Spateholts, Children's Ministry 808-8925 emilyspateholts@hwchurch.org
 Grace Deitrick, Pastoral Resident gracedeitrick@hwchurch.org
 Judy Congdon, Organist and Choir Director judycongdon@hwchurch.org
 Church Office, M-F, 8 AM-Noon & 1-4PM 567-2264 office@hwchurch.org

QR code to the Children's Sermon is available after 8:00 a.m. on Sunday morning



Most High God

King of our praise
King of our praise
We praise your name
And we lift you up
King of our praise
King of our praise
We praise your name
And we lift you up [repeat]

Jehovah you are the Most High
Jehovah you are the Most High God
Jehovah you are the Most High
Jehovah you are the Most High God
[repeat]

Ancient of Days

Though the nations rage,
kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King
reigning over all
So I will not fear for this truth remains:
That my God is, the Ancient of Days

CHORUS:

None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain
and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though the dread of night
overwhelms my soul
He is here with me, I am not alone
O His love is sure,
and He knows my name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

[CHORUS]

Though I may not see
what the future brings
I will watch and wait
for the Saviour King
Then my joy complete,
standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

[CHORUS]

Goodness of God

I love You, Lord
For Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

CHORUS:

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good

With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In the darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

[CHORUS]

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me [repeat]

[CHORUS]

I will sing of the goodness of God

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me

Build My Life

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, we live for You

Jesus, the Name above every other name
Jesus, the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You, we live for You

CHORUS:

Holy, there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

[repeat all]

BRIDGE:

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken
And I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken [repeat]

[CHORUS, BRIDGE]