

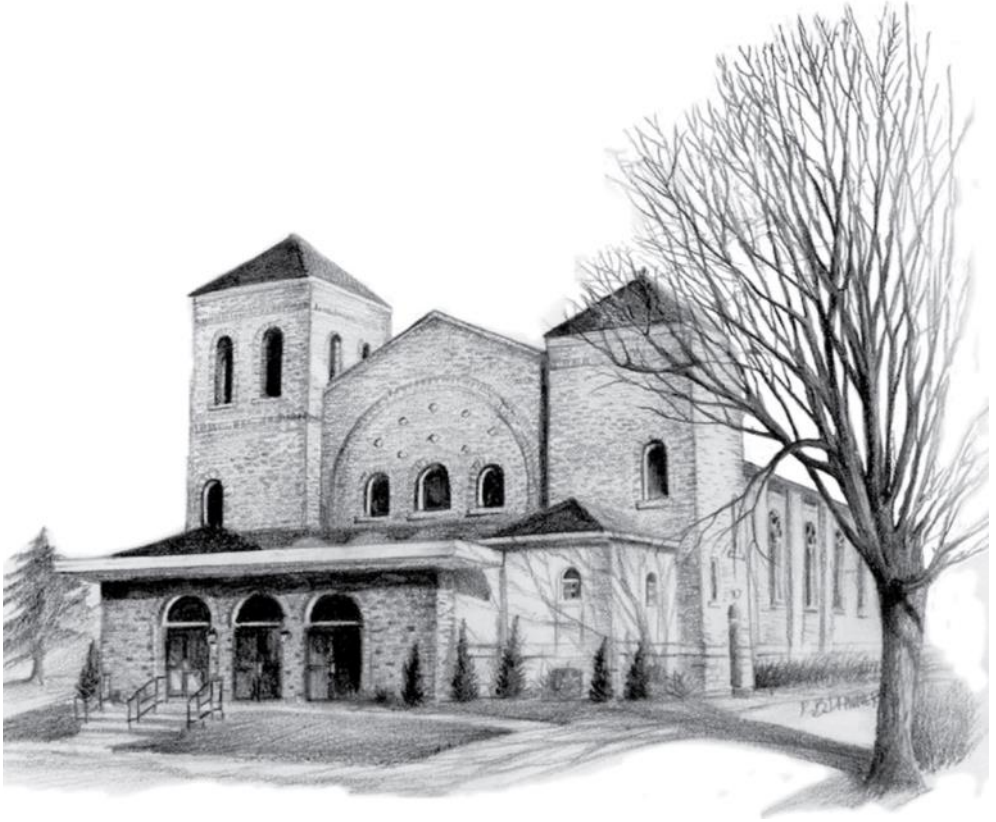


# Houghton

WESLEYAN CHURCH

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*Joyfully loving God,  
wholeheartedly serving others*



WESLEY ODEN, *Senior Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

DAVID HUIZENGA, *Assistant Pastor*

CINDY ODEN, *Assistant Pastor*

GRACE DEITRICK, *Assistant Pastor*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

JUDY CONGDON, *Organist and Choir Director*

# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

11:00 A.M.

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Prelude: Prelude on “If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee” Craig Phillips  
(text of hymn: #384 in red hymnal)

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise: **#46 Rejoice, the Lord is King**

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting One Another

Songs of Proclamation: ***Bless the Lord; Speak to the Mountains***

Children’s Sermon: ***He Knows What You Need***

College Ministry Update

Confession & Time of Prayer

*Almighty Father, forgive our sins. Forgive the sins that we remember, and the sins we have forgotten. Forgive our many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when we have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times we have been proud of our own achievements and those when we have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments we have made of others, and the leniency we have shown ourselves. Forgive the lies we have told to others, and the truths we have avoided. Forgive us the pain we have caused others and the indulgence we have shown ourselves. Father, have mercy on us and make us whole for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Response: ***Take Me As I Am***

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:12-32

Sermon: *When You Feel Overshadowed*

Song of Assurance: ***Same God***

Benediction

Postlude: *Cornerstone*

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Acolyte: Lilah Walton

Reader: Hope Willert

Musicians

Evie Cox (vocal), Susannah Denham (vocal), Heidi Huizenga (vocal),  
Christopher Moeller (guitar), Dan Zambrano (cajòn), David Huizenga (piano)

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** The prophet Isaiah declares to God's people: "Come, all who are thirsty, come to the waters ... Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near" (55:1,6, NIV). As we ponder the gracious invitation of God for His people, may God inspire us to take Him up on His offer, knowing that He who calls us loves us and wants to do above and beyond what we are able to ask or imagine.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING:** Pastor Wes explores the stories of people who are like us. Next week, the sermon focuses on Asaph, one of Israel's lead musicians: When You Feel that Worship Is Broken (1 Chronicles 15; Psalms 73-83). Next Sunday starts our fall/winter schedule of both services (8:30 and 11:00) indoors. Adult Discipleship Hour , Youth Sunday School and Kids Connect is at 9:45 a.m.

**CONNECTING:** If you are not currently receiving either a text or email for Pastor Wes's weekly letter, Pastor Wes's weekly video chat or other periodic updates (i.e., outdoor service weather updates) and would like to, please contact the church office ([office@hwchurch.org](mailto:office@hwchurch.org)/585-567-2264) and we will update your information.

### **YOUTH GROUP NEWS FOR TODAY**

9:45 a.m. This week we will be in Matthew  
6-8pm tonight - See you at YG!

### **HWC KIDS - -**

**Kids Connect:** It's the last week of our September series - "Lead the Way"! This week, kids see how God provided food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness. **BIG IDEA:** God will lead us to what we need. **BIBLE:** Exodus 15:22-25, 16:1-16; Isaiah 41:17-20

**Memory Verse:** We also have an exciting update to our Scripture memory challenge for the year. This year, each Kids Connect class has a specific color of pompom. When a student memorizes a verse, they get to add a pompom to a collective jar in the Primary Assembly room. When we fill the jar, we'll have a party (and your kids get to choose what it is!)! Kids should be bringing home a list of all of the verses for the year.

**Harvest Festival:** Save the date for our annual Harvest Festival - Saturday, October 21st from 10-1. Donations of candy or individual sized snacks (pretzels, goldfish, animal crackers, etc.) can be dropped off at the Church office or Emily's office

### **STEWARDSHIP**

**Budget Needed:** \$267,476.96 / **Budget Received:** \$242,425.93

**MISSION MOMENT** – Who is the youngest missionary HWC supports? She ministers in Bolton, England and this week Donna Zoller visited her ACORN AP work, a program for at-risk teens. As we thank God for Breanna, we pray that God would lead our youth and all of us in areas of service and witness to those in need at home and around the world.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** – Which is the first “Christian nation”? With roots all the way back to disciples Bartholomew and Thaddaeus in 301 CE Armenia officially declared itself a Christian country. After 70 years under communism (ending in 1991) and other trials today 94% would claim Christian affiliation. We pray that in spite of a complicated history, and being in the news again, vibrant Christian faith and witness of God’s people would flourish.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Pray for the family of Ken and Karen Gaerte (including Doug and Phyllis Gaerte and Emily and Michael Spateholts) at the death of their son-in-law, Joe Scarcella, on September 20, for the family of Dave O’Brien who died September 11 and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: James Bates, 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 Elijah Perry, Reuben Samuels, Emily Crikelair; for all dealing with tragedies and disasters; 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 Hillside Wesleyan Church, Olean (Pastor Dan Todd).