

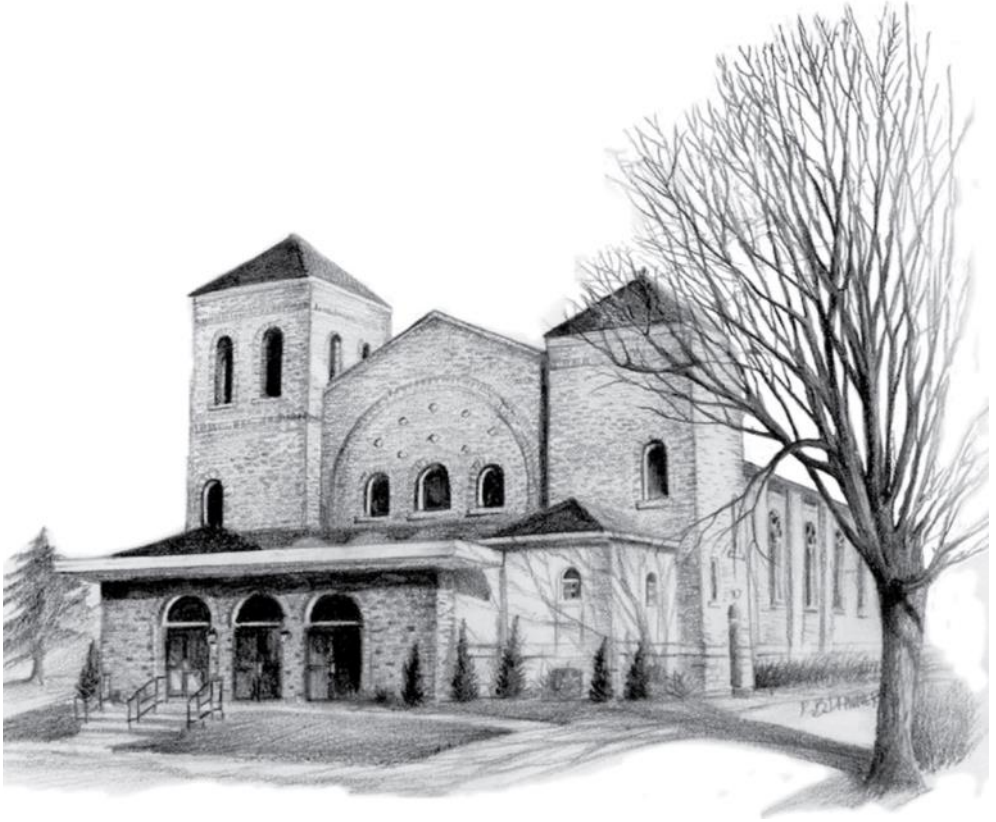


# Houghton

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*

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

11:00 A.M.

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Prelude: *Meditation*

Florence Price

Call to Worship & Invocation

Hymn: #98 *At the Name of Jesus*

Announcements & Greeting One Another

Prayer Vigil Video

Celebration of Ministry: RFKC (Nancy Murphy and Emily Spateholts)

Children's Sermon: *Courage From Signs*

***Most High God; Before the Throne of God Above***

(Offering received during this hymn)

***Beneath the Cross of Jesus*** (v.4)

Confession & Time of Prayer

*God whose ways are not our ways, we confess our persistence in pursuing the opposite of your righteousness. We puff ourselves up but push others down. We hoard our wealth but withhold provision for the needy. We rationalize indignant speech from our lips but fail to offer words of healing and peace. We welcome those that are like us and useful to us, but hold at arms length those we find unfamiliar and inconvenient—the very neighbors that Jesus would embrace. O Lord, forgive us! Please heal our ears to hear the good news you proclaim. Open our eyes to see what your eyes regard as beautiful. Heal our hearts to desire the things that bring you joy. Reorient our minds to discern not only what is true, but also what is best. In the name of Jesus Christ the Righteous, Amen.*

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

Scripture Reading: Romans 16:1-16

Sermon: *When You Are Called to Lead*

***Let it Be Said of Us***

Benediction

Postlude: *Processional on "With Glad Exuberant Carolings"* J. Congdon

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**Acolyte:** Zoey Clem

**Reader:** Wesley Stevick

**Musicians:**

Mike Cox (vocal), Heidi Huizenga (vocal),

Alison Young-Reusser (vocal & guitar), Dan Zambrano (cajón),

Sharon & Tim McGarvey (horns), Jill Jordan (violin), David Huizenga (piano)

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** In a world of brokenness, we engage in worship to remember that God is present in the struggles and that God is greater than the struggles. During our time of worship today, may God give us grace to feel him near, grace to hear him speak and grace to see him at work.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING:** Pastor Wes explores another of the stories of people who are like us. Next week's sermon focuses our attention on Demas who Paul mentions in Philemon, Colossians and 2 Timothy: *When You Lose Your Way*. Next Sunday we gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed. Adult Discipleship Hour, Youth Sunday School and Kids Connect is at 9:45 a.m.

**PRAYER VIGIL EVENT:** This is the final week of our three-week, 24-hour a day prayer vigil. You can sign up this morning in the sanctuary foyer or anytime online ([hwchurch.org](http://hwchurch.org)) for an hour or more. Please contact the church office if you do not have internet access or are unsure about signing up online. The prayer room has been designed in a variety of ways to help us experience this theme. If you're streaming from a distance, you could participate in the Prayer Vigil by sending us a note and we will include you on the Prayer Reservation List. We also encourage you to visit the **PRAYER VIGIL EXPERIENCE** page on our website with all prayer materials and prayer room pictures.



**NEXT SUNDAY EVENING at 5pm** we will gather to pray, sing and share about this year's prayer vigil.

**ROYAL FAMILY KIDS CAMP (RFKC):** For 30 years, Houghton Wesleyan Church has sponsored RFKC, a life changing week of camp for children who have experienced abuse, neglect and abandonment. This morning we hear from Nancy Murphy, Camp Director, and Emily Spateholts, Church Liaison, about camp and opportunities to serve and gift the camp with needed items for the coming year. For more information about camp, contact us at [houghton.rfkc@gmail.com](mailto:houghton.rfkc@gmail.com) or visit our website: <https://www.houghtonrfkc.com/>.

**HWC KIDS CONNECT:** This week, kids learn about when Joshua was put in charge of the Israelites. **BIG IDEA:** Courage comes from knowing God's words. **BIBLE:** Joshua 1; 24:14–25; Psalm 78:1–7

**November Memory Verse:** "Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful." — Hebrews 10:23 (NIV)

**November Kids Club:** "Share Your Story Challenge" - Saturday, November 18th from 9:30-11am for PreK-6th grade. Join us for a fun chance to hear, discover, and tell (on video!) our stories of God in our lives.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** Boxes due no later than Wednesday, November 15th to the Church so they can be delivered to the larger collection point. Thanks!

## **STEWARDSHIP**

**Budget Needed:** \$384,498.13 / **Budget Received:** \$356,121.15

**MISSION MOMENT**—Which of our missionaries are farthest away? Good candidates are Chris and Melissa George, missionaries from Higgins and Wellsville all the way down under western Australia. Many years of steady friendship building and church planting have given them a platform to impact many lives in Landsdale, near Perth. We pray for kids clubs, youth programs, sports and Christmas outreach, and weekly ministry in lives and worship services.

**PERSECUTED CHURCH** – The small Wesleyan Church in the village of Dandi, Gujarat, India has faced a long campaign of false arrest, harassment, even 1000 Hindu nationalists protesting conversions. The target seems to be the 80 young people who have attended the church. Pastor Daniel Dandiwala reports by this summer a quarter of these youth have “reverted” to Hinduism under pressure. We pray for our sister church in India. (CT Magazine November 2023).

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Kyle Boon, Linda Roth, Paul Roth, Matthew Pierson (Kim Prins-Moeller’s brother-in-law), James Bates, Vesta Mullen, Terry Ayers, Scarlett Gildemeister, Kim Pegula, 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 including the recent storms; for refugees throughout the world; for protection, wisdom and peace in Ukraine and in Israel, Gaza and the entire Middle East; for a Chinese pastor who has been detained by the police for more than a year; for Revive Church, East Aurora (Pastor Kevin Beers).