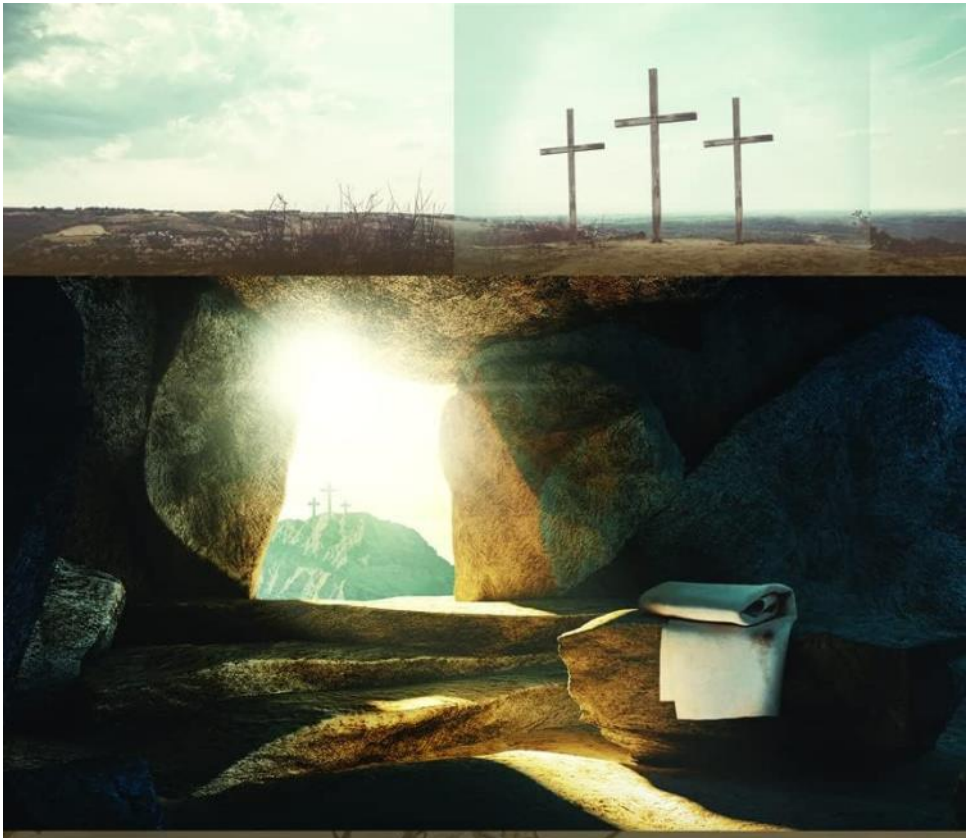

"DO NOT BE AFRAID,
FOR I KNOW THAT YOU
ARE LOOKING FOR JESUS,
WHO WAS CRUCIFIED.
HE IS NOT HERE;

he has risen,
just as he said."

MATTHEW 28:5-6 (NIV®)

HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH
EASTER SUNDAY
10:00AM MARCH 31, 2024

Prelude: *Alleluias* ……..……Robert Lau

Choral Introit: "Since by Man Came Death" from *Messiah* ….G.F. Handel

Welcome & Call to Worship ……..Pastor Jon Cole
Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here; the Lord is risen!
He is risen indeed!
Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?
Death has been swallowed up in victory!
Christ is risen indeed!
Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."
Thanks be to God! He gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
The Lord is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Amen!

*Songs of Adoration: ***Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*** (Hymn 173)
Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed

*Affirmation of our Christian Faith: **The Apostles' Creed** Pastor Jon Cole

Life of the Church

Celebration of this Morning's Baptism (Video)

Children's Sermon: *Transformed* Emily Spateholts

*Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:1-10 Pastor Cindy Oden
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Pastoral Prayer / **The Lord's Prayer** (debts/debtors)

Reading: *Through the Eyes of Mary Magdalene* ……Deborah Fero Young
Grace Deitrick, reader

*Songs of Joy: ***Living Hope; In Christ Alone***
Offering will be taken during the first song.

*Scripture Reading: Mark 16:1-8 Elizabeth Jacoby
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Greeting One Another

Sermon: ***The Fear of the Resurrection***
Pastor Wesley Oden

*Hymn 172: ***Christ the Lord is Risen Today!***

*Benediction

*Postlude: *Toccata from Symphony Op 42, No. 5* Charles-Marie Widor
It is our Easter tradition to sit following the benediction and enjoy this particular postlude. If you need to leave, however, please feel free to do so

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*Please stand if able **Organist:** Judy Congdon **Acolyte**: Junie Babbitt

Music Ministry Team:
Joanna Bates & Mike Jordan, vocals; Alison Young Reusser, guitar & vocals; Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Dianna Clem, flute; David Clem, viola; Dan Zambrano, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. On this highest of holy days, the church gathers to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the grave. This is a day of victory and a day of hope. May our worship today reflect faith in our God who conquers sin and death.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we continue in the Season of Easter. Pastor Wes will preach *A Matter of Life and Death—What Is Heaven?* Join us for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The 11:00 service will be streamed. Kids Connect, Youth Sunday School and Adult Discipleship resume at 9:45.

MISSION AND CHURCH WORLDWIDE – We remember in prayer the Body of Christ worldwide on this most wonderful Day of days, our Lord's resurrection from the dead. Some brothers and sisters suffer under severe oppression; some worship in unique styles and in diverse languages; many serve God and witness with loving care. All are One, and share the Blessed Hope of Christ's return in victory.

"LET THE SON SHINE!" Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12)and His light has shown in our hearts (2 Cor 4:6). So we too must shine His light (Matt. 5:16). Plan ahead for Missions Weekend, Saturday and Sunday April 20-21.

NURSERY NEWS! Beginning April 7, the nursery will be available to families who attend the 11:00 service, in addition to 8:30 AM and Discipleship Hour. Thanks to all our volunteers who made this possible!

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: $718,844.33 / **Budget Received:** $704,916.40

LOUISE PRINSELL VISITATION will be held at the Kopler-Williams Funeral Home, Fillmore on Friday, April 5 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm. A **FUNERAL SERVICE** will be held at the Houghton Wesleyan Church on Saturday, April 6, will begin at 1:00 pm, followed by the burial at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Houghton.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Jane Roeske, Jack and Linda Leax, Jim Arthur, Beth Pocock, Kyle Boon, Linda Roth, Paul Roth, 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, 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 two years; for Angelica Baptist Church (Pastor Bret Longwell).

For more information about church activities, to read Pastor Wes's weekly letter, or to watch Pastor Wes's weekly video, to receive periodic updates, visit our website: www.hwchurch.org.