Houghton
Wesleyan Church

Joyfully loving God,
wholeheartedly serving others

RANDY CRAKER, *Interim Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

DAVID HUIZENGA, *Assistant Pastor*

EMILY SPATEHOLTS, *Children's Ministry Director*

AMANDA COX, *Music and Worship Director*

JUDY CONGDON, *Organist and Choir Director*

PRAYER REQUESTS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY PRAYER CARDS (PEW) OR QR CODE (BACK)

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

11:00AM FEBRUARY 8, 2026

Prelude: *Prelude* .....Henry Coleman
Katrina Kaufman-VonBuren, organ

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 85)
Show us your unfailing love, Lord, and grant us your salvation.
We will listen to what God the Lord says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants – but let us not turn to folly.
Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other. Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven.
The Lord will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.
Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

*Hymn 25 ***God of Grace and God of Glory***

Life of the Church

Children's Sermon: ***Follow the Light***

*Songs of Adoration: ***Light of the World; Psalm 23***
(Offering will be received during the first song)

Prayer of Confession
Merciful Savior, at your cross we find the beginning of each of our stories: we are sinners in need of God's grace. We confess that in our self-focus, we neglect listening to your voice that brings mercy and healing. Enable us to overcome conformity to the culture around us, and to be transformed by your renewing spirit in us. Forgive us when we wallow in our guilt. Empower us to hear and respond to your call on our lives toward your good, pleasing, and perfect will. In the name of Christ, we determine to listen. Amen.

Time of Prayer

Prayer Response: ***I Will Wait for You***

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-2
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 479 ***Blest Be the Tie that Binds***

*Greeting One Another

*Song of Gathering: ***The Doxology***

Sermon: **Listening to God's Voice**
Rev. Joey Jennings

*Song ***Goodness of God***

*Benediction

*Postlude: *Finale* .....Janet Correll

---

*Please stand if able **Acolyte**: Audra Harrison. **Scripture Reader:** Denise Campbell

Musicians:
Emalyn Mucher, Kristen Sanasith, vocals; Matt Cox, guitar & vocals;
Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Jan Schilke, keyboard;
Jill Jordan, violin; Steve Olsen, bass; Simon Sardina, cajón

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. The Psalmist declares: Come, everyone! Clap your hands! Shout to God with joyful praise! He is the great King of all the earth (47:1-2). We join people throughout history and all over the world in worship of our great God today. As we open our hearts to his grace and truth, may God fill us with his presence that we might listen and be agents of his grace and truth to one another.

THIS MORNING we welcome our Western New York District Superintendent, Dr. Joey Jennings, to our pulpit. His wife Maribeth is part of the Danner Family.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING we gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., with the latter being streamed. Pastor Randy will invite us to Luke 15:11-24 for a look at "A Prodigal Father."

NEXT SUNDAY HERITAGE NIGHT: An important part of the transition journey is to have an engaging event called **Heritage Night**. We will gather at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday evening **February 15th, for a potluck**. We will then be guided on a journey of remembering and celebrating the value of the church to us as individuals and collectively to us as a worshipping community. *Please circle this date on your calendar* and prepare to enjoy an evening of fun, fellowship, and reflection. **Please plan to provide a large main dish and either a salad or dessert to share.** Childcare will be provided.

HWC KIDS

- THIS WEEK IN KIDS CONNECT, kids explore Jesus' teachings about being the salt and light of the world. BIG IDEA: Let's show others the way to God! BIBLE: Matthew 5:13–20; Colossians 3:12–17
- February Memory Verse: "Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior." — Psalm 25:5a (NIV)
- Kids Club: Saturday, February 21st, 9:30-11:00am, grades PreK-6th grade
- Reminder: no Preteen Hangout this month due to the Heritage Night!

STEWARDSHIP

Budget Needed: $615.114.18 **Monies Received:** $569,269.19

EASTER BAPTISM: If you are interested in being baptized on Easter Sunday morning, April 5, contact Pastor Randy (RandallCraker@gmail.com) about attending the baptism class.

YOUTH

- No Youth Group Tonight—Enjoy the Superbowl with Family and Friends
- Prayer Breakfast Feb 11, 7 a.m.
- Next Sunday No Youth Group—Potluck dinner at 5 p.m.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – At the end of 2025 the Communist government of China started enforcing a new set of rules controlling both approved and underground churches. In the Fall, arrests of pastors and members were made in as many as 10 major cities with some leaders still in detention. The focus is on unlawful use of internet and media to share the Gospel and it is expected that an even broader wave of suppression is ahead.

MISSION MOMENT--John and Sylvia Christensen, Wycliffe----God has been good to us. He spared our lives in the accident. He is healing our bodies, and even though there are challenges, he is sustaining and blessing us. This year my goal is to learn to keep things simple starting with fixing my eyes on Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith! Thank you for your friendship, prayers and financial support. Please continue to pray for complete healing for Naomi, John and Sylvia.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for the families and friends grieving over their loss of Paul Roth and Bruce Hess; for all with health concerns: Allen Yanda, Karen and Ken Gaerte and daughter Lori, Harold Blew, Kristen Massey, Nathan Danner, David Pullen, Jane Allen, Terry Ayers, James Bates, Scarlett Gildemeister, Linda Leax, Gary Wickard, Beth Pocock, Kim Pegula, Cameron Green, Dan and Sarah Gurley, Chelsea Ellis, Mark Mayhle, Jeshu, Kurtis, and Eliyah Perry, Reuben Samuels, and Emily Crikelair; for anguished refugees and displaced persons in the U.S. and across the world; for wisdom and peace to prevail in Ukraine, the Middle East, and other places of unrest and war; and for the Short Tract United Methodist Church, Short Tract, NY.

Sunday Morning Prayer and Praise