

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 26, 2017

As the prelude begins, let us observe silence as we prayerfully anticipate this hour of corporate worship of Almighty God.

Prelude: *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee* .....arr. Jon Spong  
*Prelude on RHOSYMEDRE* .....Ralph Vaughan Williams

\*Call to Worship (from Psalm 95)

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

*Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.*

For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.

*In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong  
to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.*

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

*For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,  
the flock under his care.*

\*Invocation

\*Hymn 26 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

\*Words of Greeting and Peace

Old Testament Reading: Malachi (selected verses)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God!*

\*Doxology

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* .....J. S. Bach

Prayer of Confession

**O God, your being is love and all your works toward us are mercy. Forgive us when we stray from our confession of faith into thinking that you are like the gods of this world, who demand destructive sacrifices in exchange for your favor. Cleanse us from the injustice that goes hand in hand with idolatry. Illuminate our minds with knowledge of who You are, acknowledging you as the Source, the Giver, whose attitude toward us is one abounding in unflinching generosity and steadfast love. In the name of Jesus Christ, who trusted you through death to new life, Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer / **The Lord's Prayer**

*Please feel free to use the altar as your place of prayer  
as we bow in humility before our loving heavenly Father.*

*If kneeling is difficult for you, please use the red chairs or stand by the altar rail.*

Our Response to Prayer: *Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

New Testament Reading: Romans 12:1-13

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God!*

\*Hymn 101 *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

Sermon: **The God Who is Worthy of Worship**  
Pastor Wes Oden

\*Hymn 1 *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

\*Postlude: *Rigaudon* .....Andre Campra

\*Please stand if able

Organist: Judy Congdon

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Shea

Acolyte: Evie Cox & Ellie Brubaker

*Children's Worship bulletins are available in the church foyer for ages 3-12.*

**Nursery:** We provide a fully staffed nursery for infants up to two years of age. The Nursery is located on the first floor of the Christian Education Building.

**Children's Church:** Children ages 2-5 are dismissed during the song before the sermon for Children's Church in room 116 in the Christian Education Building.

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** We come today to give thanks to God for all that he has done for us, promised us and is doing for us. May our worship be a genuine expression of our hearts so that we will not only express ourselves to God but also open ourselves to God as he speaks to us.

**KID'S CLUB MEETS FROM 6:00 TO 7:15 EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING.** Kids 1st through 6th grade are welcome! Please talk to Pastor Laurie for details.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** is the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the historic church calendar. We gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40 and 11:00. We will light the Advent candle, hear the words of the prophet proclaiming the Messiah's coming, and ponder what His first and second coming means for us. Pastor Wes' sermon will focus on the carol, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*.

**HELP TO DECK THE HALLS AND SANCTUARY FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS** - If you are interested in helping to decorate the church for the holidays, please join us on Saturday, December 2, at 10 A.M. Coffee and Christmas cookies provided! Just show up or contact Elsa Kettinger (315-515-9818) with questions.

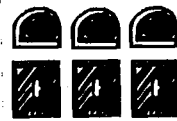
**PERSECUTED CHURCH** - In many repressive countries Christianity exists but instructions and resources in the faith for children are highly limited or disallowed. Pray for some, such as Bao, who secretly distributes Bibles and other materials for children in limited access Southeast Asian countries.

**MISSION MOMENT** – We offer thanks for our Missionary Family around the globe. As the Christmas season approaches we again want to remember that many face separation from loved ones, or need extra funds and protection for anticipated travels. The month ahead also offers new opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus. May God bring fruit from the seeds sown.

**HOLIDAY SERVICES**

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| Sunday, December 3  | 8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. –<br>Worship Services<br><br>5:00 p.m. – Worship Service: James<br>McLean, Intern Preaching      |
| Sunday, December 10 | 8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. –<br>Worship Services<br>5:00 p.m. – Worship Service: Andrew<br>Sherman, Intern Preaching        |
| Sunday, December 17 | 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service<br>5:00 p.m. – Carol Sing/Cookie<br>Reception (Bring your instruments)                                  |
| Sunday, December 24 | 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service<br>5:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Candlelight<br>Service<br>7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Candlelight<br>Service |
| Sunday, December 31 | 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service<br>No Evening Activities  |
| Sunday, January 7   | 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service   |
| Sunday, January 14  | 8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. –<br>Worship Services<br>Small Groups  |

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Tim Nichols, Bob Brown, Jayne Swanson, Louise Prinsell, Laura Habecker, Hudson Hess, Nancy Cole, Brian Orbaker (Charlie and Connie Smith's son-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter, Ellis Brotzman, Chuck Barrett (Wendy Ott's brother), Sheryl O'Brien, Ben King, Doris Essepian, Eila Shea, Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey's brother), Bill Getty, Warren and Ella Woolsey, Mike Raybuck, Bev Rhett, Micah Christensen, Linda Roth, Dick Gould, Emily Crikelair; for the injured and grieving from recent shootings and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for healing and unity in our nation; and for Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church, Williamsville (Pastor Pat Jones).



**Houghton**  
WESLEYAN CHURCH

*Joyfully loving God,  
wholeheartedly serving others*



WESLEY ODEN, *Senior Pastor*

JON COLE, *Youth Pastor*

CINDY ODEN, *Assistant Pastor*

PAUL SHEA, *Assistant Pastor*

AMANDA COX, *Music and Worship Director*

Laurie Smalley, *Children's Ministry Director*