

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 9, 2018

8:20 MORNING WORSHIP

Song of Adoration

Lighting of the Advent Candle:
The Breton Family

Worship through Song

Offering

Time of Prayer

Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 8-20

Song

**Unwrapping the Kingdom
in Our Relationships**
Pastor Wes Oden

Song

Scripture Reader: Mike Jordan
Acolyte: Evie Cox

*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.*

Music Ministry Team:

Ethan Bast, Lauren Grifoni, vocals; Bethany Cousins, guitar & vocals;
Amanda Cox, piano & vocals; Kingsley Kolek, keyboard & vocals;
Alena Carrigan, viola; Elisabeth Harris, bass; Jessi Sacco, drums

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

9:40 MORNING WORSHIP

Song of Adoration

Lighting of the Advent Candle:
Rebekah O'Reilly and Friends

Worship through Song

Offering

Time of Prayer

Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 8-20

**Unwrapping the Kingdom
in Our Relationships**
Pastor Wes Oden

Song

Scripture Reader: Ethan Carr
Acolyte: Zoe Beardsley

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 and is available during services.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Children ages 2-5 are dismissed during the song before the sermon for Children's Church for both services: they meet in room 116 in the Christian Education Building.

JUNIOR CHURCH (Kinder-3rd Grade) meets today (8:20).

There are **KID'S BAGS AND BIBLES** available in the book shelf on the left side of the foyer next to the Men's restroom.

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. Advent is a bittersweet time: it's a time of hopeful anticipation for what God is going to do and a time of painful waiting for God to do what He has promised. Today, we are reminded that the promises of old are still true and that the presence of God with us is still real.

COMMUNITY CAROLING - College Ministries invites all ages to join in Soup and Chili Lunch at 12:30 in Community and all who to desire to meet there at 1:30 for caroling at the Nursing Home and other homes in the community.

TONIGHT AT 5:00 you are invited to join in and sing with the church choir the anthems of the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah. Even if you would rather not sing, come and join us in this wonderful celebration of God's gift to us.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING is the third Sunday of Advent. We will gather for worship for one worship service at 10:00. Pastor Wes will lead us in thinking about *Unwrapping the Kingdom in Government*. There is **no Sunday School** the next four weeks (December 16, 23, 30 and January 7).

NEXT SUNDAY EVENING AT 5:00: Carol Sing and Cookies Reception – Bring your instruments for our annual Carol Sing. Please bring a plate of cookies to the Community Room prior to the Carol Sing in the sanctuary for the cookie reception following the carol sing. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: we will host Christmas Eve services 5:00 and 7:00. Both services will include carols, candle lighting and the reading of the Christmas story. The 5:00 service will also have a time for children.

PRAYER ROOM: the prayer room is available every day, 7:00am – 9:00pm (holidays excluded). Reserve the prayer room online (www.hwchurch.org) or by contacting the church office. Walk-ins are welcome with consideration given to a previous reservation.

THE FLOWER COMMITTEE WELCOMES YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS. You may purchase poinsettias we have already ordered (\$12.00) or you may bring your own on December 14. Please leave \$12 with Patty Stalker in the church office and fill out a reservation form indicating your preferences. If you wish to honor a loved one, please leave this information with Patty by December 13.

STEWARDSHIP

Received (June 1—Present): \$403,464.64
Budgeted (June 1—Present): \$412,651.80

MISSION MOMENT—We pray for our whole missionary family in the diverse ways they will celebrate Christmas with or away from family, and with Christians around the world. View the new picture bulletin board in the C.E. building atrium for a glimpse of those we support financially.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Pray for fruit to remain amongst those coming to faith in the Middle East (Luke 8:5-15) and pray for brothers and sisters to wisely disciple new believers. The transition into the community of faith, the Church is not easy.

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Sunday, December 16 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service
 5:00 p.m. – Carol Sing/Cookie Reception
 (Bring your instruments)

Sunday, December 23 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Monday, December 24 5:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
 7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 30 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Sunday, January 6 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Sunday, January 13 8:20 a.m., 9:40 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. – Worship Services

PRAYER CONCERNS: for Barbara Woolsey and her family at the death of her mother and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Ray Ott, Eileen Spear, Sheryl O'Brien, Roselyn Danner, Gwen Mercer, Bethie Liddick, Bill Getty, Bev Rhett, Nancy Cole, Gus and Louise Prinsell, Florence Teuber, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair, Mike Raybuck, Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey's brother), Eila Shea, Peter Lingenfelter, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen's daughter-in-law), Dan Gurley, Paul Johnson; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the North Park Wesleyan Church (Pastor Jon Ward).

Peace



Prepare
the way
for the Lord;
make his paths
straight.

—MARK 1:3

Special Events at Houghton Wesleyan Church

*December 9 - 5 p.m.
Messiah Sing-along*



Led by the church choir, the entire congregation is invited to join in and sing with us the anthems of the Christmas portion of *Handel's Messiah*. We will also have soloists to sing the solos. We will have scores to hand out among the congregation, but please bring your own if you have one! Even if you would rather not sing, please come and join us in this wonderful celebration of God's gift to us. Please contact Amanda Cox with any questions.

*December 16 - 5 p.m.
Carol Sing &
Cookie Reception*

Bring Your Instruments!



Bring a plate of cookies to share (leave them in the church kitchen) before joining voices in celebrating our annual Carol Sing in the sanctuary.

Christmas Eve we have two services!



- 5:00 p.m. Family Service includes a time for children
- 7:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Service

Both services will include the lighting of candles, music and the scriptures of Christmas

Christmas Eve Offering!



EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT GRANTS LAND FOR WESLEYAN CHURCH & TRAINING CENTER.

The Wesleyan church in Egypt, mostly rural marginalized congregations in this Muslim nation, have been miraculously granted choice land in an urban area near Cairo for a church and national training center. The catch – construction must begin in two years. We join Rev. Atif Sedhom Kilf, National Superintendent (John Khalif's (HC '18) father), in a vision for future nation-wide ministry. **Our 2018 Christmas Eve Offering will join matching Egyptian donors and will help bring this vision to pass.** Please pray.