

"HOLY WEEK ROCKS!" Now that the snow is starting to melt, you may be able to find the 12 rocks that are hidden around the outside of the church. Each rock has a Bible verse that corresponds to a Holy Week event. If you find one, take a picture of the rock and share it at HWCKIDS face book, hide the rock again and look up the Scripture with your family!

SUNDAY SERMONS ON THE INTERNET: You may access the Sunday sermon on the church website (www.hwchurch.org) or on iTunes (www.itunes.com).

MEETINGS THIS WEEK: Finance Committee, Monday, 7:00 pm

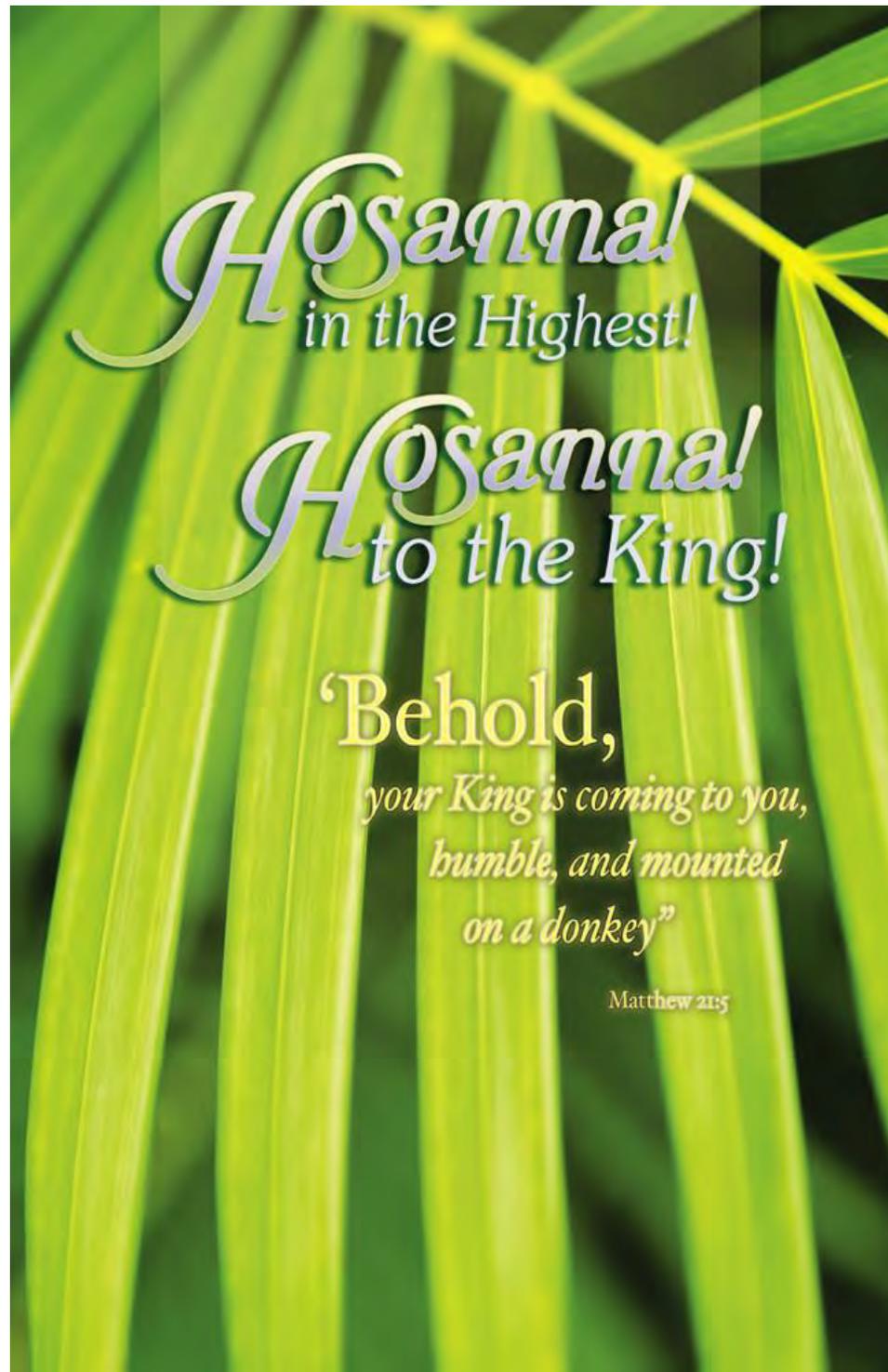
PASTOR WES'S BLOG: Pastor Wes posts a new blog most Wednesdays. You may subscribe on the church website (www.hwchurch.org) in order to receive an email each week when the blog is posted.

MISSIONARY MOMENT – Pray for plans in the works for an intergenerational “helping hands” trip to Wesleyan Academy in Puerto Rico. Contact Pastor Jon Cole if you’d like more info. Pray for all those preparing for a variety of short term ministries ahead and for the Mission Committee making funding decisions.

PERSECUTED CHURCH – Pray for Pastor Andrew Brunson, jailed and awaiting trial in Turkey on false charges linked to the nation’s campaign against internal terrorism. Brunson, a Gospel worker, is suffering for the sake of Christ. He, his wife and family need prayer for God to intervene and common sense to prevail. (Open Doors USA).

LIVE STREAMING: All of our worship services are live streamed through the church website and through streaming devices (AppleTV, Roku, etc.). If you use Roku, you will need to find the services on our new Roku app. Search for Houghton Wesleyan Church. Our new app will enable easier access.

PRAYER CONCERNS: for the family of Gerry Alderman and for all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Leonard Watson, Florence Teuber, Roselyn Danner, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen’s daughter-in-law), Tim Nichols, Bob Brown, Louise Prinsell, Hudson Hess, Nancy Cole, Brian Orbaker (Charlie and Connie Smith’s son-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter, Chuck Barrett (Wendy Ott’s brother), Sheryl O’Brien, Ben King, Doris Essepien, Eila Shea, Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey’s brother), Bill Getty, Ella Woolsey, Mike Raybuck, Bev Rhett, Micah Christensen, Linda Roth, Emily Crikelair; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for the leaders of our nation; and for Oramel Church (Pastor Charlie Little).



PALM SUNDAY

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP

MARCH 25, 2018

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

Prelude: *Jesus Enters Jerusalem*Calvin Hampton

***Call to Worship**

As the time came for Him to be taken up into heaven,
Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.

As He went along, people spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut up branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

When he came near the place where the road goes down to the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

“Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!”

The crowds that went ahead of Him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest! “

***Invocation**

*Hymn 146 ***All Glory, Laud and Honor***

***Words of Greeting and Peace**

Ministry Spotlight: Discipleship

Anthem: *God So Loved the World*Stainer

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 22

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

***Doxology**

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Ah, Holy Jesus*Johann Heerman (1630), Amanda Cox
Debbie Shea, violin

Prayer of Confession

Our great God and Savior, as we look to the cross we are reminded that the victory is Yours. Sins forgiven. Death conquered. Your people redeemed, and Your Kingdom come. Though we affirm this truth, we often resist your call to embrace the cross. Forgive us Lord. Forgive us for the times when we have spent more energy fighting to prove we are right instead of doing what you ask of us. Forgive us for the words we speak out of revenge or judgment, instead of speaking the truth in love. Forgive us for being what we see in the world instead of embracing who we are in You. In our weakness—lead us to the cross and into the victory of Your resurrection that we might know and experience your promised forgiveness in Christ. 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.*

Song of Preparation: *What Wondrous Love is This?*

*New Testament Reading: Mark 15: 33-39

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 149 ***O Perfect Life of Love***

Sermon: **The Cross Casts a Shadow on God**
Pastor Wes Oden

*Hymn 155 ***Beneath the Cross of Jesus***

*Benediction

*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

*Postlude: *Chorale Prelude on “Valet will ich dir geben,”* BWV 536J. S. Bach

*Please stand if able
Organist: Judy Congdon

Worship Leader: Sunshine Sullivan
Acolyte: Maya Cooley

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: 2 and 3 year olds meet in room 116; 4-5 year olds in room 115 in the Christian Education Building.

WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH. On this day when we celebrate Christ’s entry into Jerusalem amid the cheers and adulation of the crowd, we are reminded that by the end of the week he will be jeered and nailed to a cross. As we worship God with our songs and words, with our mouths and ears, with our hearts and minds, let us open ourselves to our loving Father.

WEDNESDAY: No Kids’ Club this week!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE (SEE INSERT):

- Maundy Thursday—7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday—Come and go 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Easter Sunday—Resurrection Service/Baptism 7:45 a.m.
Easter Worship Celebration 10:00 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING: we join with Christians around the world in celebration of the resurrected Christ. Please note the worship schedule listed on the insert.

EASTER PLANTS

The Flower Committee welcomes Easter plants to decorate the church for Easter Sunday. If you would like to honor a loved one, please give the information to the church office by tomorrow, March 26, and leave your plant at the church by Good Friday. The flower committee will be purchasing lilies for \$15 if you would like to purchase one.



TODAY IS PALM SUNDAY 8:20, 9:40, and 11:00 A.M.

Children are invited to join the procession of palms at each service that takes place during the first hymn. All interested children can meet in the foyer right before church begins.

MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 P.M.

This service connects us with the last night of Jesus' life before he goes to the cross. Songs, scripture and communion, the stripping of the church and Tenebrae readings that express the darkness of this night we remember. Nursery available for children 0-2 years old.

GOOD FRIDAY *SHADOW OF THE CROSS* 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

The Journey will take place in the sanctuary. Please enter by the street-side glass doors. Through brief meditations and interactive elements, you will be led to ponder the events of Christ's death and the ongoing implications of his death for us. Our Good Friday event is an opportunity to help us think about how the events of Holy Week and the cross impact us and the whole world. The implications of the cross are applicable for adults, youth and children.

EASTER SUNDAY

7:45—Resurrection Service/Baptism

8:30—Breakfast in the Community Room: Eggs, ham, roasted potatoes, quick breads, and cinnamon rolls. Beverages and table service will be provided. Donations will be accepted.

10:00—Easter Worship Celebration

Easter Sunday Morning Church Breakfast

8:30am – following the Baptism service at 7:45am

This year's donation breakfast is presented by the HWC youth group in order to raise money for our short-term missions trip this summer.

You can help by donating the following items!

Apples, Bananas, Oranges

Ham

Potatoes, Eggs, Orange Juice

These items can be left in the kitchen (eggs in the refrigerator please!) on or before Wednesday March 28.

Fresh baked sweet breads and cinnamon rolls may be donated by bringing them to the church on Easter Sunday morning. Please indicate below what you will bring and return this sheet to Pastor Jon.

Name _____ Phone/email _____

Item _____ Quantity _____

Thanks so much for supporting our youth!



Nursery Volunteer Sign-up

Summer Months: May 1-September 30

Children are never too young to begin experiencing the love of God and sensing that they are a part of the body of Christ. The nursery ministry is an effort to care for the physical needs of children and to provide a place where children are appreciated as part of Christ's body.

Please complete the following survey if you are able to help in the nursery. We will gladly use you as a volunteer if:

- 1) you are willing to go through an application/screening process;*
- 2) you are willing to attend required training meetings; and*
- 3) you attend HWC regularly.*

Thank you for your part in this ministry of love for Christ and the little ones. He has entrusted to us. The completed survey can be sent intracampus to the church office or put in the offering plate as soon as possible. Thanks.

There must be two adult (18 or older) volunteers for each service. You may be a third volunteer if you are 14-17 years old. You may accompany your parent(s) if you are under 14. Please indicate your age if you are under 18.

Please completely fill out the information below:

1. Name _____ 18 or older _____ Age if under 18 _____
2. Address/CPO Box # _____
Phone number _____
E-mail address _____
3. During the summer months (May 1-September 30) I would be willing to work:
_____ every week _____ 8:20/8:30
_____ every other week _____ 9:40/9:45
_____ once each month _____ 11:00
_____ other _____ 5:00 p.m.
4. Dates I will **not** be available from May 1-September 30:

Perhaps you are not sure of your schedule. Please don't hesitate to sign up anyway. It is easy to switch with someone else should you find that you are unavailable when you are scheduled.

Please fill this out even if you are a regular nursery worker.