

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

Prelude: *Prelude on "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"* ...Michael Burkhardt

\*Call to Worship (from Colossians 3)

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

***Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.***

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

***Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.***

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

***And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.***

\*Invocation

\*Hymn 335 ***Love Divine, All Loves Excelling***

\*Words of Greeting and Peace

Celebration of Ministry: Poverty Simulation

Anthem: *I Need Thee Every Hour* .....Robert P. Manookin

Old Testament Reading: 2 Chronicles 24: 15-22

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

\*Doxology

Worship through the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Offertory* (Micah 6:6-8).....John Ness Beck

Prayer of Confession

**Our Father in heaven, we come today with a need to confess our sins to You. We have spoken harshly not gently. We have broken confidence even though we were trusted with sensitive information. We have acted arrogantly despite Your call to humility. We have allowed our work to drive us while ignoring the rest that You command and that we need. We have not honored others above ourselves. We have been selfish with our time, our gifts, and our resources. In Your loving mercy, forgive us and in Your wondrous grace, make us more like Christ as we hear his words of pardon that if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins. 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: **By Our Love**

\*New Testament Reading: Luke 11:37-54

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

\*Hymn 334 ***I Would Be Thine, O Take my Heart***

Sermon: **Do Jesus' Expectations Amaze Us?**  
Pastor Wes Oden

\*Hymn 367 ***O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee***

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Amen (Hymn 656, Threefold)

\*Postlude: *Fugue in B minor, BWV 544* .....J. S. Bach

\*Please stand if able

Organist: Judy Congdon

Worship Leader: James Mullen

Acolyte: Zoey Clem

**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.

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.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Following the New Testament scripture reading children ages 2-5 will be dismissed for Children's Church which meets in the Christian Ed building in Room 116.

**WELCOME TO THE HOUGHTON WESLEYAN CHURCH.** The season of Epiphany helps us gain a clearer understanding of who Jesus is and why he comes. Jesus' teaching and interaction with the religious leaders of Israel is integral to our vision of him. Out of these encounters, our eyes are opened to his heart and to the central elements of his calling upon his disciples. May God give open our eyes and our hearts today as we worship Jesus.

**NEXT SUNDAY MORNING** Pastor Wes' sermon focuses our attention on not just how amazing Jesus is but where our sense of amazement leads us. We gather for worship at 8:20, 9:40, and 11:00.

**POVERTY SIMULATION** – Sign Up ASAP for March 12 or 13, 6:30 pm. Register online: [www.hopeinternational.org/simulation](http://www.hopeinternational.org/simulation) or contact Austen Kewin.

**HWC COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY:** Thanks to the more than 130 people who completed the survey to help us improve our communication at HWC. We would love to hear from more of you, particularly Houghton College and Houghton Academy students. The purpose of the survey is to serve you better by uncovering the methods of communication that are working and those that need to be improved. The survey should take less than 10 minutes and is completely anonymous. Use this link to do the survey online: [https://houghton.formstack.com/forms/hwc\\_survey](https://houghton.formstack.com/forms/hwc_survey). Paper surveys are available in the church office.

**MEMBERSHIP CLASS:** Pastor Wes is organizing a membership class in March. If you are interested in becoming a member or knowing more about membership, this class is for you. If you are interested in knowing more about who we are as the Houghton Church, this class is for you. If you are already a member but would like a review, this class is for you. Please contact the church office ([office@hwchurch.org](mailto:office@hwchurch.org)) if you are interested in attending.

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

Received (June 1—Present): \$574,117.82 / Budgeted (June 1—Present): \$580,769.20

**MISSION MOMENT** – Pray for Alan and Cheri Shea and family in final preparations for March 14 return to the ELWA radio and major SIM hospital campuses in Liberia. Pray for family health and Alan working here and once there, on all power, water, technical matters and radio studio completion.

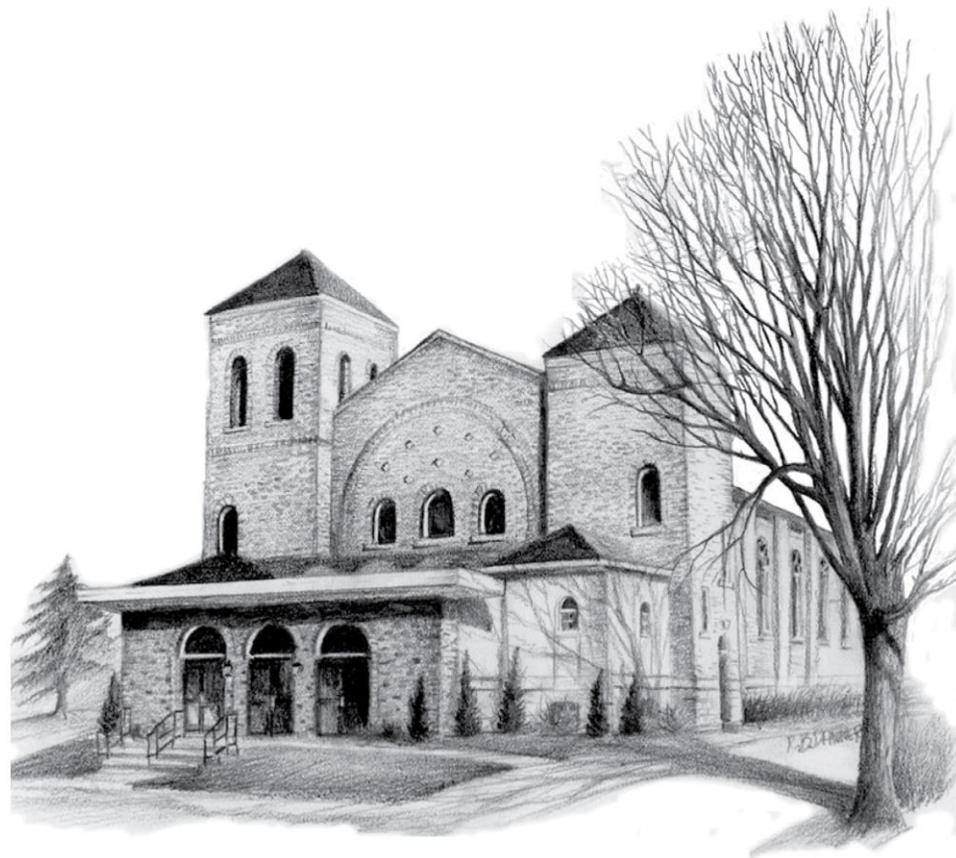
**PERSECUTED CHURCH** – Pray for Nigeria in a time of uncertainty with the delay of national elections compounded by terrorist group activities. Weekly reports filter out of killings and atrocities towards Christians —most recently a pastor killed and his family kidnapped in northern Nigeria.

**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 all who are grieving; for people with health concerns: Bob Brown, Bill Getty, Nancy Cole, Jean-Louis Roederer, Roselyn Danner, Eileen Spear, Evelyn Heil, Dan Gurley, Sheryl O'Brien, Gwen Mercer, Gus and Louise Prinsell, Bethie Liddick, Bev Rhett, Florence Teuber, Phil Main, Emily Crikelair, Mike Raybuck, Sheldon Emerson (Darby Luckey's brother), Eila Shea, Izabela Daugherty (Dave and Karen's daughter-in-law), Peter Lingenfelter, Paul Johnson; for the injured and grieving from tragedies and disasters; for refugees; for peace amid threats of war; for Shongo County Chapel, Wellsville (Pastor Lewis Mericle).



*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 Pastor*