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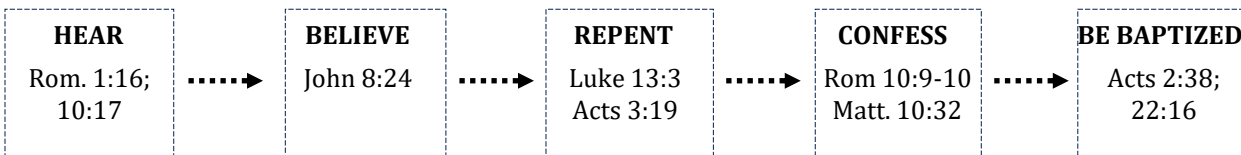
**Sermon Notes**



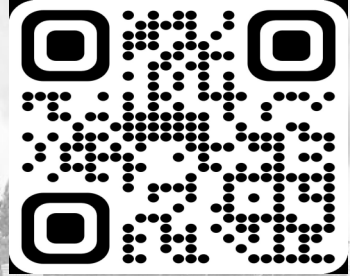
**ORDER OF SERVICE**

Song ~ Announcements ~ Song ~ Opening Prayer ~ Song ~ Scripture Reading ~ Song ~ Sermon ~ Song ~  
Lord's Supper ~ Offering ~ Song ~ Closing Prayer

**WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**



# THE MESSENGER



*"This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." **1John 1:5***

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**WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS**

If you are one of our visitors today, please know that we are indeed honored to have you. If you are a member of the Lord's body, thanks for choosing to worship with us today. If you are not a member of the Lord's church, we will be happy to meet with you and discuss how one becomes a member of the church which we read about in the New Testament. We aim to speak as they spoke and do as they did. We also offer a free Bible Correspondence Course which can be mailed to you. Or, someone will be glad to meet with you for a one-on-one Bible study. You can indicate your desire on a visitor's card and place it in the collection tray located at the front on the communion table.

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**Sunday**

Children's Sunday School ....10 a.m.  
Young Christians' Class .....10 a.m.  
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.  
Worship Service .....11 a.m.

**Wednesday**

Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.

*I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."  
**Psalm 122:1***

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## Artificial Intelligence vs. Divine Intelligence

There is much discussion going on presently in the technological and political world regarding artificial intelligence (AI). It is defined as “the capability of a machine to imitate intelligent human behavior” (Merriam-Webster). We must admit the incredible things that AI has been able to accomplish so far, even as it continues to be developed. It is already very much at play in our lives. For example, our smartphones can respond to verbal questions via Siri, Google, Alexa etc. and, according to a New York Times report dated March 7, 2023, “Hungarian physicians are using an artificial intelligence model that can detect breast cancer four years before it develops.” This is mind-blowing!

However, as AI continues to develop, it is becoming increasingly important for Christians to think about the relationship between AI and divine intelligence. On the one hand, AI is a powerful tool that can be used for good or evil. It can be used to solve complex problems, improve our lives, and even help us to understand the universe better. On the other hand, AI also raises some serious ethical concerns. For example, what happens if AI becomes so intelligent that it surpasses human intelligence? What if AI is used to create autonomous weapons that could kill without human intervention? Consequently, there is a bipartisan effort in the Senate to put legislations in place to properly regulate it.

**...while AI is able to mirror the intelligence of man, no one nor nothing can imitate God’s abil-**

In light of these challenges, Christians need to remind themselves and the world of who God is! He possesses divine intelligence, He is omnipotent (all-powerful) and omniscient (all-knowing). He blesses man with the intellectual ability to invent technology. However, unlike AI, He never errs (Josh. 21:45). He knows our deepest needs and how to satisfy them (Phil. 4:19). The point is that while AI is able to mirror the intelligence of man, no one nor nothing can imitate God’s ability. King David declared, “Therefore You are great, O Lord GOD. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears” (2 Sam. 7:22).

Artificial intelligence must be seen as a gift from the divine intelligence of God. Just as God gave us the gift of intelligence, so has He also given us the gift of AI. AI can be used to help us to better understand the world and to solve some of the problems that we face. However, we must also use AI responsibly and ethically for everything and everyone is subject to God. Paul says, in Rom. 11:36, “For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen”

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REMINDERS:

~Please silence your *cell phones*.



~No *eating* in the auditorium.

*New guests*, please be sure to complete a Welcome Card.

*Returning guest* please **print** your name in the Returning Guest Log in the foyer.

*Prayer request* cards are located in the foyer. There is a *suggestion box* in the foyer.

Contributions can be made electronically via **Zelle** using the church’s email - [westhammondcc@gmail.com](mailto:westhammondcc@gmail.com) or phone number **219-554-3458**. PayPal using the link [@SouthlandA](#) and by **CashApp** using the link [\\$slacoc](#).

Please send any *requests* and *announcements* to be made or to be included in the bulletin to Sis. Ruthie Gamble at 708-336-3120.

Please take a look at the *sign-up sheet* in the foyer and sign up to bring food for the upcoming picnic on August 5th.

The *Men’s Class* meet every other Thursday. The next meeting is scheduled for July 13th at 6:30p.m.

The *Ladies’ Class* has been put on hold until further notice.

## ANNUAL LADIES LECTURESHIP RETREAT

The 37th Annual Retreat will take place next year, March 28-31, 2024 in Orlando, Florida.

The theme is *Christian Women: A Steadfast Extraordinary Journey*. Registration is now open.

Website: [www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org](http://www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org)

## TRAVELING

Prayers for the Chaff, Hardy, and Young families, as they travel for the holiday.

## FOR PRAYERS

Sis. Lennon had a successful surgery this past Tuesday, for a brain tumor. Sis. Brantford is back at home from the hospital. Taylor Lockhart, cousin of the Cunningham/Gamble families, is diagnosed with cancer. Quince Dixon, the sister of Sis.

Cunningham is facing some health challenges. Bro. Paul Woodard, the brother of Sis. Woodard. Sis. Andria Mendenhall, Sis. Williams, Sis. Chambers, Sis. Glenda Carter also her friends Gloria & Mitch Harrington, Bro. Croom, Sis. Bria Gamble and Brooke, Sis. Cossom, Bro & Sis. Strickland, Sis. Davis, Bro. & Sis. Taylor and the Neal family.

## FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Please continue to pray for and encourage our new members Sis. Chambers, Bro. Andre Mendenhall, Sis. Tene Mendenhall, Sis. Blanche Mendenhall, Sis. Ricks, Sis. Armmer, Bro. Strickland, Bro. Croom, Sis. Reba & Michelle Metevia and Sisters Tillman and McLaurin.

## SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

*Children’s Bible Class* taught by Sis. Whitney Taylor (lower level).

*Young Adult Class* taught by Bro. Taylor. (upper level)

*Adult Bible Class* - taught by Bro. Webster (main auditorium)

We need volunteers for *Sunday School teachers* for kids. Please see Bro. Webster for more information if you are interested.

**NO BIRTHDAYS OR ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

**HAVE A SAFE AND BLESSED HOLIDAY**



## Last Week’s Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	91
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	53
Last Sunday offering	\$ 5154.62
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$2,625.00</b>