

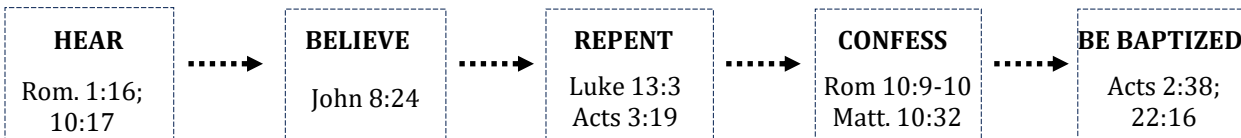
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Sermon Notes

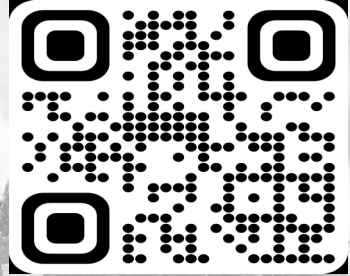


**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
Song ~ Announcements ~ Song ~ Opening Prayer ~ Song ~ Scripture Reading ~ Song ~ Sermon ~ Song ~  
Lord's Supper ~ Offering ~ Song ~ Closing Prayer

**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.  
*Sis. Carter (lower level)*
- Young Christians' Class .....10 a.m.  
*Bro. Taylor. (upper level)*
- Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.  
*Bro. Webster (main auditorium)*
- Fortifying the Christian Class.. 10 a.m.  
*Bro. Ed. Davis (lower level)*
- Worship Service ..... 11 a.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

## Guarding Against Going Through the Motions

It is said that there are three kinds of people in the world, those who make things happen, those who watch what happens, and those who wonder what happened! Sadly, many Christians are among those who wonder what happened after leaving worship service.

As we gather in worship week after week, it's easy to fall into the routine of going through the motions. We may find ourselves singing the hymns, listening to the sermons and prayers, and partaking in the communion without fully engaging our hearts and minds. While outwardly we may appear to be present, inwardly we might be spiritually distant or disconnected. Guarding against this tendency is vital for maintaining enthusiasm for worship.

What causes the "going through the motion" kind of worship? It might be familiarity, where the worship routines become so ingrained that they lose their significance. It might be from distraction, as the busyness and pressures of life encroach upon our time with God. Additionally, it might arise from complacency, where we become content with a shallow kind of worship.

Yet, God's word challenges us to be more engaging in our relationship with God. In Psalm 119:10, the psalmist declares, "With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments." This heartfelt pursuit of God is not merely about outward actions but about the state of our hearts. Jesus emphasized the importance of genuine worship when He said, "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth" (John 4:24).

So, how can we guard against going through the motions in our spiritual life? Firstly, instead of passively participating in worship, how about being intentional and engaging? This means we are more responsive and attentive to every aspect of worship. How about humbly allowing God, through His Word and the Spirit, to challenge and convict us? How about praying before worship that our presence will be indicative of our absolute weakness and our desperate need to be strengthened by God?


So, guarding against going through the motions requires intentional effort and a genuine desire to pursue God wholeheartedly. Let us strive to develop a spirit of authenticity and engagement in our worship, prayer, and daily walk with God, knowing that He delights in those who seek Him with sincerity and devotion.

Bro. Webster

**Let us strive to develop a spirit of authenticity and engagement in our worship, prayer, and daily walk with God...**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REMINDERS

~Please silence your *phones*.   
~No *eating nor drinking* inside the auditorium.

*New guests* please complete a Welcome Card.  
*Returning guest* please **print** your name in the Returning Guest Log in the foyer.

A *Suggestion Box* and *Prayer Request* cards are located in the foyer.

*Contributions* can be made electronically via [Zelle \(recommended\)](#) using the church's email-[westhammondcc@gmail.com](mailto:westhammondcc@gmail.com).

Please contact the church's secretary for any of the following:

- ◆ *Requests* or *announcements* to be made or to be included in the bulletin.
- ◆ *Corrections* or *updates* to your information in the church's online directory.
- ◆ Year-end contribution *statement*.

The *Men's Class* meets *every* Thursday at 6:30 p.m.  
The *Ladies' Class* is scheduled to resume April 4, 2024.

## ANNUAL LADIES LECTURESHIP RETREAT

When: March 28-31, 2024 in Orlando, FL.  
Theme: *Christian Women: A Steadfast Extraordinary Journey*.  
Website: [www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org](http://www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org)

## TRAVELING & CONDOLENCES

The Conners have both lost family members this week. They are in MI. and hope to be back with us next week.

## FOR PRAYERS

Sis. Lightfoot has been transferred to Shirley O'Ryan Rehab located at 1 Ingalls Drive, Harvey, IL. Visiting hours are 4-7p.m. daily. Any question, please contact Bro. Lightfoot.

Sis. Cotton & family, Sis. Ricks & family, Sis. Hardy, Sis. Chaff & family, Sis. Davis, Katherine Bynum, friend of Sis. Sims, Nicky Mancini, friend of Sis. Bell, Sis. Lightfoot & family, Quince Dixon, the sister of Sis Laurene Cunningham, Sis. Ellis, Sis. Simpson, Sis. Simmons and Sis. Brantford.

**NO BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**  
**NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

## True or False

Noah remained in the ark for 6 months.	T	F
Psa. 117 is the shortest chapter in the Bible.	T	F
Absalom intentionally hanged himself.	T	F
Job's breath was offensive to his wife.	T	F
Solomon had 700 wives.	T	F
Paul was a shoemaker by trade.	T	F
Unlike Paul, Peter was married.	T	F
Galatia was a city.	T	F
Revelation written to 7 churches.	T	F
Baptism is optional for salvation.	T	F

## ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S T or F

F, T, T, F, T, T, T, F, F, F



## ARMOR OF GOD WORD SCRAMBLE

1. OARRM \_\_\_\_\_
2. TRHUT \_\_\_\_\_
3. ELBT \_\_\_\_\_
4. IHERNOSGSTEUS \_\_\_\_\_
5. CPEEA \_\_\_\_\_
6. DSEHIL \_\_\_\_\_
7. ITFHA \_\_\_\_\_
8. ALOSIANVT \_\_\_\_\_
9. EMLHTE \_\_\_\_\_

## Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	95
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	46
Last Sunday's offering	\$4,952.52
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$4,069.13</b>