



2024 THEME

Cultivating Saints Who Shine
in A World of Darkness

Our Theme for 2024

Each year at Anderson, we choose a focus for spiritual growth. This overarching theme addresses an area of need within the congregation and community and serves as a general guideline for our sermons and classes for the year. As our elders discussed our upcoming theme they did so with the realization many of our own members are facing a plethora of trials and tribulations. Each of us has our own unique burdens as we endure to our final, ultimate goal of heaven with our loving Father. We want to help “bear one another’s burdens” when faced with trials. So, our theme selection for 2024 is:

“*Tested by Fire*”

This phrase is coined by Peter in his letter to persecuted saints as he writes,

*“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory, at the revelation of Jesus Christ...”* (1 Peter 1:6-7, NKJV).

Peter uses the picture of a “fiery trial” in one more key passage within his first epistle saying,

*“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the **fiery trial** which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy”* (1 Peter 4:12-13, NKJV).

The reality of hardships and trials is a theme we are constantly confronted with as we read through the ages of the Scriptures. Since the introduction of sin, and its accompanying curses after the fall of Adam and Eve, a great conflict has occurred. God and those striving to serve Him have been in a spiritual warfare with Satan and his spawn.

Think back through the people of the Old Testament. Can you find an age when God's people did not face fiery tests before God exalted them? Abram had to leave "Ur of the Chaldees" before reaching the promised land. Joseph went from prison to the palace. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were literally in the fire! Hebrews 11 contains the names of various people who overcame tremendous trials as they walked by faith diligently seeking the promises of God.

Think of Jesus, the Son of God. His life was filled with trials from the day of His birth being sought by Herod until the day the Roman soldier nailed Him to the cross. Yet, for this reason, He is our perfect Mediator. Hebrews 4:15-16 says, "*For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*" Jesus understands our earthly battle. He has lived it.

Think of the apostles amongst the disciples of the early church. Each of the apostles faced the hardship of persecution. "*James the brother of John*" becomes the first apostolic martyr in Acts 12:1-2. The extensive persecution of the apostle Paul is written about in the book of Acts and within Paul's epistles (some of which he writes from prison). As John writes the book of Revelation he does so in exile "*on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ*" (Revelation 1:9). Yet, such suffering did not stop those motivated by the risen Jesus. Instead, they were found "*rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name*" (Acts 5:41).

Now, think of Christians today. Do we think we will avoid the earthly difficulties so many other godly people of ages past faced in their own journey of faith? As Paul writes to Timothy, he reminds him, "*Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution*" (2 Timothy 3:12). We are in a spiritual battle in this sin-cursed world. The conflicts of life are inevitable. It is not a matter of if, but when. Thus, knowing we will be "*tested by fire*" we must not live a life trying to avoid the battle, but learning from God's Word and God's people throughout ages past about how to face and persevere in the fire.

What to Expect As You Visit

If you are visiting with us today or plan to visit, we want you to know you are an honored guest. We also want to assure you our goal is to worship God in a way that pleases Him. Jesus once said, *“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth”* (John 4:24). This first-century expectation is still our aspiration in the twenty-first century church today!

Here are a few things you might expect as we study God’s Word and worship together today.

A Welcome Greeting

We love our visitors and want you to feel welcomed. The term “greet” is used 60 times in the New Testament. It is part of letting people know they are loved and welcomed. No matter who you are, we will welcome you to learn with us in our assembly (James 2:1-9).

Heartfelt Singing

One of the first things visitors often notice is our “acapella” singing. Paul once taught Colosse, *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord**”* (Colossians 3:16). Since the New Testament example and instruction regarding music only involves singing, then this is how we worship as we gather together today.

Fervent Prayer

The first-century church was a praying church. After the gospel was first preached, Acts 2:42 records, *“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.”* Paul writes, *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God...”* (Philippians 4:6). We believe in the power of prayer. Therefore, as we gather you will find us praying.

The Lord's Supper

If you meet with us on a Sunday, the Lord's Supper will be offered and shared on every first day of the week. We do this each Lord's Day after the pattern found in Acts 20:7, "*Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them...*" This memorial service was instituted by Jesus before He died (Matthew 26:26-30) and is taken "*in remembrance*" of the sacrifice of Jesus (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

Freewill Offering

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 says, "*Now concerning the collection...On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper...*" This collection was "*for the saints*" and from "*the saints*" of the local church. In similar fashion, we take up a freewill offering on the first day of the week. However, visitors are not solicited and we will not take up an offering on any day besides Sunday.

Biblical Preaching

Another practice of the New Testament church was "*teaching*" and preaching (Acts 2:42). Paul stated to Ephesus before he left, "*I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God*" (Acts 20:27). This preaching is from God's Word (2 Timothy 4:1-5) and is for the purpose of teaching the unsaved about Jesus and strengthening the saved as they serve Jesus. Please double-check what you hear with Scriptures (Acts 17:11).

Anderson's Leadership



- **Elders:** Dennis Favior, Vernon White
- **Deacons:** Loren Clouse, Brock Dodson, Mike Dodson, Dan Johnson, Kyle Marks
- **Evangelist:** Joshua Welch

2024 Sermon Plans: Tested by Fire

In order to emphasize our 2024 theme, several sermons throughout the year will be specifically aimed at helping others as they face the fiery trials of this life. These lessons will focus on the lessons the Holy Spirit provides us directly from the text. We believe in Biblical, practical, and faithful preaching here at Anderson.

This will include lessons about Jesus. If anyone knows how to face the fiery trials of this life it is Jesus. In 2023, we began an expository sermon series in the gospel of Luke. At the close of 2023, we are approaching the final week of Jesus Christ when He was betrayed, tried, crucified, and resurrected. The very picture of the Christian’s life could be symbolized with the cross. So, we will finish this study throughout the year seeing how Jesus endured when “*tested by fire.*”

Additionally, we will study from Old Testament characters. Romans 15:4 reminds us, “*whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*” There are so many characters of old who found themselves in the crucible of life: Joseph, Job, Moses, the Judges, Ruth, David, Elijah, Esther, Ezra, and so many more. We will choose characters from the Old Testament who are able to help us in our new covenant walk with God.

Yet, we may also spend some time studying through New Testament teachings directed towards Christians in difficult places. The epistles of 1 and 2 Peter are sure to be referenced throughout our study in 2024. Additionally, we may look at the 7 Churches of Asia and the unique trials each church faced as 1st century Christians in a Gentile region not always receptive to the teachings of Christianity. As Christians, one of our greatest sources of wisdom is our ability to learn from history. We will attempt to do so in these lessons.

We would love to have you visit with us in 2024. If you would like to listen to previous lessons be sure to visit our web site at andersonchurchofchrist.com or our youtube page (QR code on the back page of this booklet)!

Opportunities to Grow

- ⇒ **Assemblies of worship** on Sundays at 10:20 AM and 5 PM
- ⇒ **Bible classes** for people of all ages on Sundays at 9:30 AM and Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
- ⇒ **A Bible Reading schedule** has been included in this booklet to help you stay on track with our classes and your growth.
- ⇒ **Song worship** every fourth Sunday of the month at 5:00 PM so we can be edified and admonished through song.
- ⇒ **Bible devos for young people** hosted in homes and a **NEW! Bible Drills class for KIDS** on the 4th Sundays at 4:40.
- ⇒ **5th Sunday Shepherd's Sundays** allow our elders to preach and feed the local flock here at Anderson.
- ⇒ **Summer Youth Preaching Intern**—We'll have Luke Veyon working with us this summer as a preaching intern.
- ⇒ **Winter Men's Studies**—November-April on the second Mondays on a monthly basis taught by guest speakers.
- ⇒ **Women's Studies**—various ladies' studies will be available in 2024 to participate in.
- ⇒ **Sunday Morning Sermon Series:** Joshua Welch will be preaching theme-related lessons.
- ⇒ **Podcast:** keep your eyes open in 2024 for a new podcast to help you stay spiritually connected in a fresh way.

“Tested by Fire”

BIBLE STUDY

Come Join Us



Sunday Adult Classes

On Sunday mornings throughout 2024, at 9:30 AM, adults have the opportunity to grow with a steady diet from God’s Word. Our third quarter study will be broken up into three mini-sessions with three different teachers, including our summer intern.

1st QUARTER (January-March):

Hebrews: Word of Encouragement (taught by M. Dodson)

2nd QUARTER (April-June):

The Book of Esther (Dennis Faivor)

3rd QUARTER (July-September):

July: The Book of Ruth (taught by Luke Veyon)

August: Leadership (taught by Dennis Faivor)

September: The Family (taught by Vernon White)

4th QUARTER (October-December):

The Gospel of Mark (taught by Vernon White)

Wednesday Adult Class

Midweek Bible study allows us the opportunity to refuel. We will be renewed by encouragement. We are recentered through prayer. We are rejuvenated by Bible study. Our Wednesday evening study is at 7 PM weekly. The more you show, the more you grow. So, make it a part of your weekly calendar to come pray, study, and encourage and build up one another. The lineup for our adult classes is:

1st QUARTER (January-March):

Survey of the Minor Prophets (taught by Joshua Welch)

2nd QUARTER WEDNESDAYS (April-June):

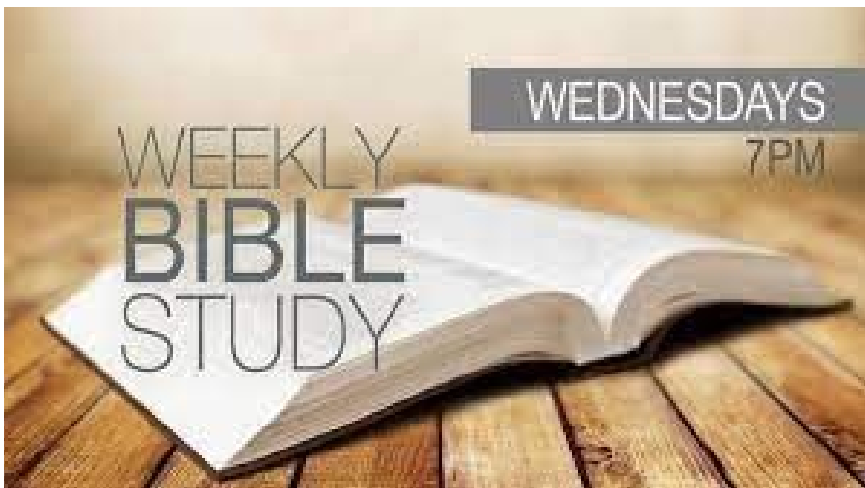
1 and 2 Timothy (taught by Ben Martin)

3rd QUARTER (July-September):

Job: Lessons in Suffering (taught by Joshua Welch)

4th QUARTER (October-December):

Genesis—part 1 (taught by Robert Hartian)



A Song For Our Hearts

Colossians 3:16 says, *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”* One way to keep our hearts pure and focused is through spiritual songs. One such hymn is found in our Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs book (#650). We hope to sing this song periodically throughout the year to keep our theme in mind and be encouraged by its lyrics. The words to this encouraging song are found below. May you meditate upon it often.

Jesus, draw me ever nearer,
As I labor through the storm.
You have called me to this passage,
And I'll follow, though I'm worn.

Jesus, guide me through the tempest;
Keep my spirit staid and sure.
When the midnight meets the morning,
Let me love you even more.

Let the treasures of the trial
Form with me as I go,
At the end of this long passage,
Let me leave them at Your throne.

CHORUS: May this journey bring a blessing;
May I rise on wings of faith;
At the end of my heart's testing,
With your likeness let me wake.

Children’s Bible Classes

Sometimes we think Bible class is for grown-ups. Yet, Jesus teaches us He wants to have a relationship with children too!

“Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.’ And He laid His hands on them and departed from there” (Matthew 19:13-15).

Young people *can* grow to be fantastic examples in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity (1 Tim 4:12). But, they do not develop these qualities by accident. They must be taught, molded, led, and equipped to form faith of their own. Parents, teachers, and mentors must walk with them and guide them.

We take our Bible class opportunities seriously at Anderson. Our goal is to use God’s word to shape and inscribe seven fundamental truths on the tablets of young hearts:

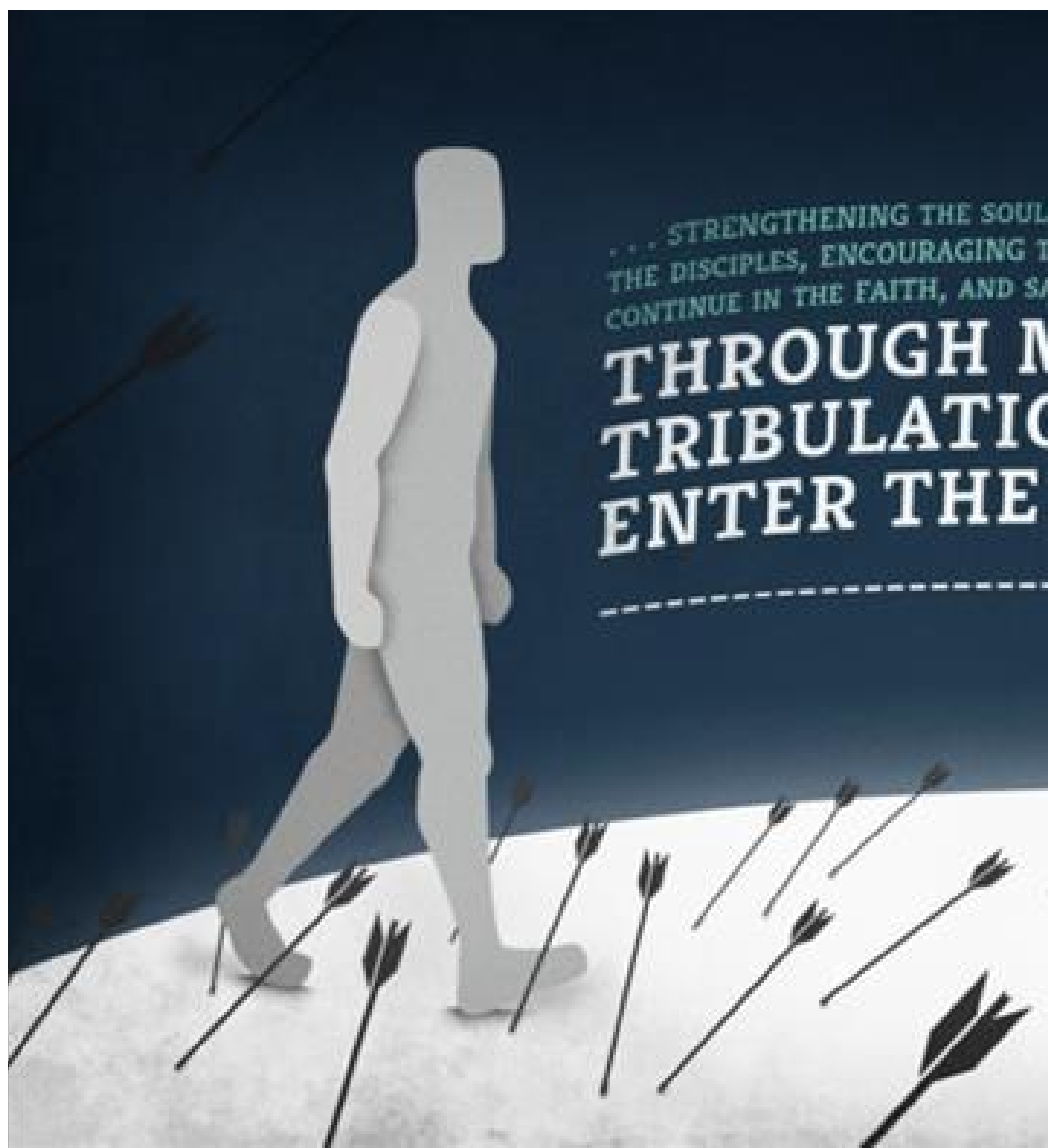
1. A grasp of the big picture of the Bible
(Acts 8:30-31; 18:26)
2. Respect for authority
(Eph 6:1; Lev 19:32; Rom 13:1; 1 Pet 5:6)
3. A sincere commitment to personal purity
(2 Tim 2:22; 1 Cor 6:19-20)
4. Solid reasons for faith and hope
(Rom 1:16; 2 Tim 1:12; 1 Pet 3:15)

5. The ability to make wise choices
(Prov 3:13-18; Col 4:5)
6. A “God-first, others-next” way of thinking
(Matt 6:33; 22:36-40; Phil 2:3-4)
7. An authentic, developing connection with Jesus
(John 15:4-5; Matt 4:4; 1 Thes 5:17)

These seven ideals from Scripture form the cornerstone of our Bible classes at all age-levels. We have classes for all ages and strive to teach material that is age-appropriate.

What Do We Need From You?

- ◆ **Your involvement:** Make the most of this opportunity by making sure your children and grandchildren are **present and prepared for class**.
- ◆ **Your prayers:** Pray for our teachers and our collective effort.
- ◆ **Your contribution:** Share resources and efforts of your own for the good of our Anderson family.
- ◆ Our teachers must remember:
 - Each teaching opportunity is important, a window we won’t get again (Eph 5:16).
 - You are trying to shape and save souls, not simply finish a workbook (Matt 19:14).
 - Teaching is an awesome responsibility (James 3:1), but it is for the good of the church (Matt 28:19-20; Eph 4:11-16).



Teen House Devotionals

Bible Studies For Teens

Our teens will gather bi-monthly in different homes to study the word of God together and encourage one another. The schedule for the 2024 teen studies is below.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
February	Welch's	Joshua Welch
April	White's	Vernon White
June 21	Adkins	Luke Veyon
August	Faivor's	Dennis Faivor
October	Hiatt's	Russell Hiatt
December	Clouse's	Loren Clouse

Men's and Women's Studies

Gender-Specific Teaching

In the fall and winter months, our men and women gather separately to study topics from the Bible which may involve more gender-specific teaching. The general plan is as follows...

- **Ladies' Classes** taught by one of our women at Anderson. Plans are to meet from May through October on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7.
- **Men's Class** every second Monday of the month (November-April) at 7 PM taught by guest speakers from area congregations.

2024 Summer Internship

Meet Luke Veyon

Look through the Bible and you will find numerous examples of spiritual mentors. Moses had Joshua, his assistant (Exodus 24:13; Numbers 13:16). Samuel “*ministered to the Lord before Eli*” (1 Samuel 3:1). Elijah stayed close to Elisha (2 Kings 2). Jesus shared his life with His disciples. Barnabas was one of the first encouragers to Paul (Acts 9:26-27). Paul, in turn, calls both Timothy and Titus his “son” in the faith (1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 1:2; Titus 1:4).

Paul was not the physical father of Timothy. Yet, he was clearly a mentor. He was not even always working in the same city as Timothy. Yet, he still took the time to act as a spiritual father and mentor to him. Paul actually commanded “*older men*” and “*older women*” act as mentors to “*younger men*” and “*younger women*” (Titus 2:1-10). It was the job of spiritually-minded Christians in Crete to take the younger Christians under their wing and give them the guidance and encouragement they needed to mature in the faith.

When it comes to evangelism, the process of passing on the faith is one we see taught in Scripture. 2 Timothy 2:2 says, “*And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also*” (NKJV). With this directive in mind, our congregation has invited a young man to be mentored as an intern with us during the summer of 2024.

Luke Veyon is from Fredericktown, Ohio. He will be with us from mid-May to mid-August of 2024 while between his freshman and sophomore years of study at Northern Ohio University. Luke has already done appointment preaching in Ohio. For us, he will study with the elders and preacher, interview other preachers, write bulletin articles, teach a mini-class and youth devotionals, and preach sermons during his time of training here. We look forward to a profitable summer of mutual encouragement as Luke studies and serves alongside of us at the Anderson church of Christ.

52 Week Thematic Reading Plan

In years past, we have often had a daily Bible reading plan to share in our theme booklet. Old Testament, New Testament, and chronological Bible reading plans abound online and in various places. So, we encourage you to explore if this is your goal.

This year, our reading plan takes a more practical shape. First of all, the plan is weekly and not daily. This allows more flexibility as you can choose the days you prefer to read as it suits your schedule. For many, they fail to keep up with Bible reading plans because of a busy day here or there or getting bogged down with more difficult texts. This plan is less daunting. Yet, secondly, we will include both Old Testament and New Testament readings that follow our theme of “Tested by Fire.” These readings are intended to help you keep up with texts our adult Bible classes will be studying in 2024.

For example, in our first quarter, our adult classes will be studying through the Minor Prophets in the Old Testament and the book of Hebrews in the New Testament. So, the reading plan has a suggested weekly reading which will weave together nicely with our plan of study and help you to stay focused on immersing yourself in these studies.

As you notice the other readings, you will find they are complementary to our other adult Bible classes and some upcoming sermon series. For example, in our second quarter, read of the judges of the Old Testament who delivered Israel during great times of trial. In our third quarter, focus on the great lessons we learn about God and man in the midst of Job’s suffering. In our fourth quarter, we will begin a study in Genesis and the gospel of Mark. May the reading of God’s Word be a blessing to you as you live by its teachings.

“But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in his law he meditates day and night” (Psalm 1:2, NKJV).

Week 1: *Hosea, Hebrews 1*

Week 2: *Joel, Hebrews 2*

Week 3: *Amos, Hebrews 3*

Week 4: *Obadiah, Hebrews 4*

Week 5: *Jonah, Hebrews 5*

Week 6: *Micah, Hebrews 6*

Week 7: *Nahum, Hebrews 7*

Week 8: *Habakkuk, Hebrews 8*

Week 9: *Zephaniah, Hebrews 9*

Week 10: *Haggai, Hebrews 10*

Week 11: *Zechariah, Hebrews 11*

Week 12: *Malachi, Hebrews 12*

Week 13: *Lamentations, Heb 13*

Week 14: *Judges 1-2, 1 Tim 1*

Week 15: *Judges 3, 1 Tim 2*

Week 16: *Judges 4-5, 1 Tim 3*

Week 17: *Judges 6-8, 1 Tim 4*

Week 18: *Judges 9-10, 1 Tim 5*

Week 19: *Judges 11-12, 1 Tim 6*

Week 20: *Judges 13-14, 2 Tim 1*

Week 21: *Judges 15-16, 2 Tim 2*

Week 22: *Judges 17-18, 2 Tim 3*

Week 23: *Judges 19, Titus 1*

Week 24: *Judges 20-21, Titus 2*

Week 25: *Ruth 1-2, Titus 3*

Week 26: *Ruth 3-4, Philemon*

Week 27: *Job 1, Ephesians 1*

Week 28: *Job 2, Ephesians 2*

Week 29: *Job 3, Ephesians 3*

Week 30: *Job 4-7, Ephesians 4*

Week 31: *Job 8-14, Ephesians 5*

Week 32: *Job 15-19, Ephesians 6*

Week 33: *Job 20-24, Phil 1*

Week 34: *Job 25-31, Phil 2*

Week 35: *Job 32-37, Phil 3*

Week 36: *Job 38-39, Phil 4*

Week 37: *Job 40, Colossians 1*

Week 38: *Job 41, Colossians 2*

Week 39: *Job 42, Colossians 3-4*

Week 40: *Genesis 1, Mark 1*

Week 41: *Genesis 2, Mark 2-3*

Week 42: *Genesis 3, Mark 4*

Week 43: *Genesis 4, Mark 5*

Week 44: *Genesis 5, Mark 6*

Week 45: *Gen 6-8, Mark 7-8*

Week 46: *Gen 9-10, Mark 9*

Week 47: *Gen 11-12, Mark 10*

Week 48: *Gen 13-22, Mk 11-12*

Week 49: *Gen 22-24, Mark 13*

Week 50: *Gen 25-27, Mark 14*

Week 51: *Gen 28-36, Mark 15*

Week 52: *Gen 37-50, Mark 16*

Songs of the Cross

Nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus instituted a memorial of his death. Following the pattern of the earliest Christians, we share in this communion every first day of the week (Acts 20:7). Interestingly, after Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper, Matthew 26:30 says, “*And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives*” (NKJV). To help us meditate upon the Lord’s great sacrifice for us we will, like Jesus, sing a hymn to help guide our thoughts as we prepare for this memorial. Below is a list of 52 hymns we will sing to help us in our weekly observance.

January

- 7 *Near the Cross (#484)*
- 14 *Lamb of God (#155)*
- 21 *Exalted (#198)*
- 28 *The Old Rugged Cross (#541)*

February

- 4 *We Saw Thee Not (#197)*
- 11 *Hallelujah, What A Savior! (#201)*
- 18 *O Thou Fount of Every Blessing (#680)*
- 25 *I Know That My Redeemer Lives (#497)*

March

- 3 *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed? (#227)*
- 10 *By Christ Redeemed (#354)*
- 17 *Christ Arose! (#248)*
- 24 *Come Share the Lord (#346)*
- 31 *In Christ Alone (#306)*

**“And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives”
(Matthew 26:30, NKJV).**

April

- 7 *There Is A Fountain (#286)*
- 14 *He Carried My Sorrows (#229)*
- 21 *He Loves Me! (#200)*
- 28 *I Gave My Life For Thee (#235)*

May

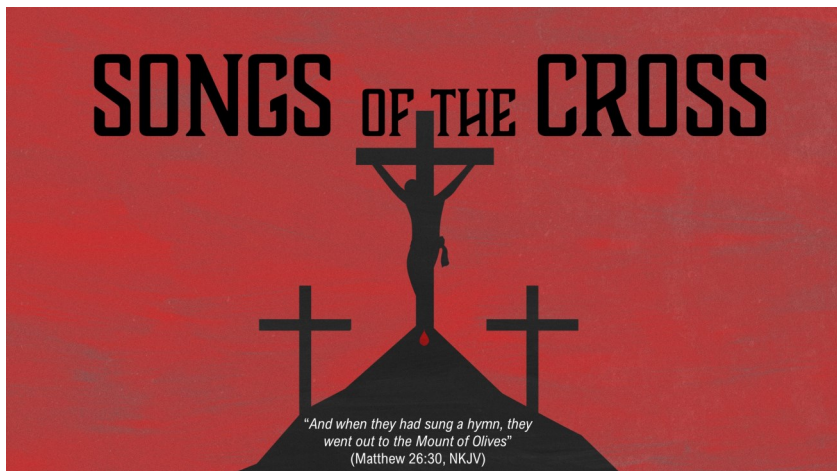
- 5 *I Stand Amazed (#244)*
- 12 *In Gethsemane Alone (#221)*
- 19 *The Way of the Cross Leads Home (#682)*
- 26 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (#206)*

June

- 2 *Ten Thousand Angels (#238)*
- 9 *In Remembrance (#362)*
- 16 *Lead Me to Calvary (#246)*
- 23 *Night, With Ebon Pinion (#220)*
- 30 *Tell Me the Story of Jesus (#191)*

July

- 7 *The Breaking of Bread (#357)*
- 14 *Without Him (#295)*
- 21 *Because He Lives (#458)*
- 28 *The Depth of God's Love (#239)*



Psalm 136

During the Feast of Passover, there were certain hymns traditionally sung during the Passover Feast. Psalms 113-118 were among those hymns. Yet, it is thought by many commentators the hymn Jesus and His disciples sang before they went to the Mount of Olives was Psalm 136. What a beautiful thought to have in mind as we give thanks for God’s mercy shown through the cross!

Psalm 136:1-3 reads,

“Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

For His mercy endures forever.

2 Oh, give thanks to the God of gods!

For His mercy endures forever.

3 Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords!

For His mercy endures forever!”

Songs of the Cross (continued)

August

- 4 *The Feast of Love (#353)*
- 11 *And Can It Be? (#451)*
- 18 *The Power of the Cross (#236)*
- 25 *My Eyes Have Seen Your Glory (#316)*

**“This is my body,
which is given
for you.”**



September

- 1 *Thus Remember Me (#360)*
- 8 *Nailed to the Cross (#290)*
- 15 *'Tis Midnight and On Olive's Brow (#222)*
- 22 *Were You There? (#247)*
- 29 *Jesus Calls Us (#648)*

October

- 6 *What Did He Do? (#252)*
- 13 *O Father Let Us See His Death (#359)*
- 20 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (#230)*
- 27 *I Believe In A Hill Called Mount Calvary (#503)*

November

- 3 *When We Meet in Sweet Communion (#352)*
- 10 *Open Our Eyes, Lord (#487)*
- 17 *Why Did My Savior Come to Earth? (#241)*
- 24 *The Way That He Loves (#450)*

December

- 1 *When My Love to Christ Grows Weak (#506)*
- 8 *Victory in Jesus (#293)*
- 15 *I'm The One (#616)*
- 22 *How Deep the Father's Love For Us (#448)*
- 29 *I Am the Way (#194)*

*All songs are from the Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs hymnal unless otherwise noted.



**“This is my
blood of the
covenant.”**

Wednesday Evening Short Talks

At our Wednesday evening Bible studies at 7, we go straight to a 40-minute Bible study, then gather together to sing and hear a short, 5-7 minute word of edification from one of our members. Our short talks in 2024 will come from passages of Scripture in the book of James.

January

- 3 “James, A Bondservant” (James 1:1)
- 10 “Count It All Joy” (James 1:2-3)
- 17 “Let Patience Have Its Perfect Work” (James 1:4)
- 24 “If Any Of You Lacks Wisdom” (James 1:5-6)
- 31 “A Double-Minded Man” (James 1:7-8)

February

- 7 “He Will Pass Away” (James 1:9-11)
- 14 “Blessed Is The Man Who Endures Temptation” (James 1:12)
- 21 “Let No One Say When He is Tempted...” (James 1:13)
- 28 “Each One Is Tempted When...” (James 1:14-15)

March

- 6 “Do Not Be Deceived” (James 1:16)
- 13 “The Father of Lights” (James 1:17)
- 20 “First Fruits of His Creatures” (James 1:18)
- 27 “Swift to Hear, Slow to Speak” (James 1:19-20)

April

- 3 “Receive With Meekness the Implanted Word” (James 1:21)
- 10 “Be Doers of the Word” (James 1:22-25)
- 17 “This One’s Religion Is Useless” (James 1:26)
- 24 “Pure and undefiled Religion” (James 1:27)

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials”—James 1:2

May

- 1 “Do Not Hold the Faith...With Partiality” (James 2:1-4)
- 8 “If You Show Partiality” (James 2:5-9)
- 15 “Judged by the Law of Liberty” (James 2:10-12)
- 22 “Mercy Triumphs Over Judgment” (James 2:13)
- 29 “Faith by Itself” (James 2:14-18)

June

- 5 “Even the Demons Believe” (James 2:19-20)
- 12 “Abraham...The Friend of God” (James 2:21-24)
- 19 “Rahab the Harlot” (James 2:25)
- 26 “Faith Without Works Is Dead Also” (James 2:26)

July

- 3 “Let Not Many of You Become Teachers” (James 3:1)
- 10 “The Tongue” (James 3:2-6)
- 17 “Full of Deadly Poison” (James 3:7-8)
- 24 “Blessing and Cursing” (James 3:9-12)
- 31 “Wisdom Not From Above” (James 3:13-16)

August

- 7 “Wisdom From Above” (James 3:17-18)
- 14 “Where Do Wars and Fights Come From?” (James 4:1)
- 21 “You Ask Amiss” (James 4:2-3)
- 28 “A Friend of the World” (James 4:4)

September

- 4 “God Resists the Proud” (James 4:5-6)
- 11 “Submit to God” (James 4:7-8)
- 18 “Humble Yourselves” (James 4:9-10)
- 25 “Who Are You to Judge Another?” (James 4:11-12)

4th Quarter Short Talks From The Book of James

October

- 2 “If the Lord Wills” (James 4:13-16)
- 9 “To Him Who Knows to Do Good” (James 4:17)
- 16 “Come Now, You Rich” (James 5:1-3)
- 23 “The Ears of the Lord of Sabaoth” (James 5:4-6)
- 30 “Be Patient” (James 5:7-8)

November

- 6 “Do Not Grumble” (James 5:9)
- 13 “Take the Prophets” (James 5:10)
- 20 “The Perseverance of Job” (James 5:11)
- 27 “Do Not Swear” (James 5:12)

December

- 4 “Is Anyone Among You Suffering?” (James 5:13)
- 11 “Is Anyone Among You Sick?” (James 5:14-15)
- 18 “The Fervent Prayer of a Righteous Man” (James 5:16-18)
- 25 “Save A Soul From Death” (James 5:19-20)



Turning the Page

Individually, it is our hope 2023 was a year of personal growth. As a church, here is a list of a few brief highlights from our congregation in the past year as we focused on “Good News of Great Joy.”

- One of our shepherds, Vernon White, went on a preaching trip to Colombia with another member, Nolan Clouse.
- Our church financially supports both our local preacher and helps preachers in Colombia.
- Our evangelist, Joshua Welch, preached at meetings and lectureships in Lebanon, Indiana; Columbus, Ohio; Dayton, Ohio; Fishers, Indiana; Casey, Illinois; Cullman, Alabama; Las Vegas, Nevada; Florence, Alabama; Indianapolis, Indiana as well as guest speaking at two youth camps and a local chapel service in Anderson this year staying busy in preaching work.
- In June, we hosted a special singing/worship service for our FC Camp visitors and set another attendance record.
- In the summer, we hosted 13 guest speakers during our summer series titled “In Need.”
- Our congregation sent funds to help a Colombian preacher purchase transportation so he could do his evangelistic work.
- In August, we set up a booth at the AU Church, Club, and Community Fair and saw an increase in college visitors.
- Our web site has been updated and improved to help us with a more effective online presence.
- Our e-team started producing shorts for youtube and reels for Instagram and Facebook to grow our social media outreach.
- We rejoiced while baptizing 10 new believers into Christ and have seen multiple, new families place membership.
- We were able to make improvements to our physical grounds (new amplifier system, made repairs to lift pump, improved landscaping, and baptistery improvements).

It is our hope 2024 brings about even more growth.



ROMANS 16:16,
"THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
GREET YOU."

1230 N. Scatterfield Rd
Anderson, IN 46012
www.andersonchurchofchrist.com

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