



Times of Worship

Sunday Bible Classes:	9am
Sunday AM Worship:	10am
Sunday PM Worship:	5pm
Wednesday Bible Study:	7pm

Join us Online

Church Website:

<https://www.westfayettechurchofchrist.com/>

YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGckN8D9NwwX3KUbQ4GRKyA>

Interested in a Bible Study?

Please send an email to patcawthon@gmail.com

Evangelist

Patrick Cawthon

The Masquerade

To masquerade means to pretend to be someone you are not. For example, Rashad may dress up as and claim he is Batman but we all know he is not (except for Rashad). Such as the case in this example, it is very easy to see past the mask and know Rashad is certainly not Batman. However, it's not always so easy to see past someone's masquerade. Such was the case with "Judas, one of the twelve."

When we are first introduced to Judas in the gospel of Luke it says, "Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor." (6:16) He did not start out as a traitor but someone who was willing to leave everything and follow Jesus just like the other 11 apostles who was with Jesus every day for over three years. Judas listened to Jesus teach the multitudes, heal the sick, raise the dead, and cause the blind to see. Judas was an eye-witness of Jesus' compassion to the less fortunate and how He was able to deal with the anger of those who hated Him.

We learn from **John 12:6** that Judas was a thief and would often take for himself from the money box that was meant to support Jesus and his disciples. Judas acted like he was a true disciple of Jesus but deep inside he was struggling with greed and the love of money which is the root of all kinds of evil.

When Mary poured perfume over Jesus' head which was worth over a year's wages, Judas spoke up and said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and given to poor people?" (**Joh 12:5**)

Week of July 23

Attendance

- ◆ **AM Service** - 60
- ◆ **PM Service** - 46
- ◆ **Monday VBS** - 55
- ◆ **Tuesday VBS** - 58
- ◆ **Wednesday VBS** - 55ish
- ◆ **Thursday VBS** - 56

Contribution

- ◆ Weekly Budget \$2,400
- ◆ Contribution - \$1,426

Upcoming Birthdays

- ◆ Matthew and Kristin (7/31)
- ◆ Bettie Fae Ledbury (8/6)
- ◆ Ken and Marlene (8/9)

Calendar Items

Men's Meeting this afternoon at 4pm at the building

Women's Bible Study on Tuesday at the building at 11a

Song Learning Class on Sunday August 13 at 4pm at the building

Today's Lessons

- ◆ **AM Sermon** - Math Lessons From The Bible
- ◆ **PM Service** - Song Service

John tells us in **verse 6** he said this not because he was so concerned for the poor but because he loved money.

The night before Jesus was betrayed by Judas He told all of his disciples, "One of you is going to betray Me." They all began to ask Jesus, "Is it me?" Including Judas. What is amazing is when Jesus said this, none of the apostles said, "It's gotta be Judas." When Jesus told the apostles "One of you will betray Me," they did not know how badly He was going to be betrayed. It shows you just how good Judas was at living a double life.

What kept Judas from taking his mask off and revealing his struggle with greed and the love of money? Part of the answer to this question is his pride. He did not want anyone to know his wicked motives and his sin that he was keeping such a good secret from everyone (except for Jesus who gave Judas many opportunities to repent).

James 4:7-10 - "Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, *you double-minded*. Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you."

Just because someone shows up to church and is an active participant in worship does not mean they are living a holy life. Judas heard the best teacher there has ever been and around the most holy person to every walk the earth and he still fell away. The best thing we can do is draw near to God and humble ourselves before God. If we do those things He has promised to "exalt you."

We may be able to fool those around us into thinking we are righteous and have a strong faith but God knows us better than we know ourselves. He is watching us 24 hours a day and even knows our thoughts. We can't hide anything from God so it's better to come clean and take our mask off if we are wearing one.

1Sa 16:7 - "*God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.*"

Patrick