Finding Sermons at the Wright Center

The Wright Learning and Information Center has a rich collection of sermons. They include published sermons in books and journals, collected sermons in the archives, and audio and video of sermons preached in Shelton Chapel. This guide will give you suggestions to help you find the kinds of sermons you need.

Finding sermons using Sophi Search

To find books cataloged in the general subject area of "sermons" do a subject search for sermons in Sophi Search, by selecting Subject in the drop-down menu by the search box on [the library website](#).

You'll find that this brings up a lot of results, but adding an additional term (like "sermons, American") will narrow your results. Searching in Sophi Search will bring up print books of sermons in the library stacks, as well as journal articles about sermons and historic sermons from databases like the American Theological Library Association Historic Monographs Collection. Filtering by source type, date, or subject in Sophi Search (using the filters below the search box) is a good way to quickly narrow down your result list. If you are looking for print material available at Austin Seminary, use the "Austin Seminary / SSW Library Catalog" limiter under All Filters.

Here are some examples of subject headings for specific types of sermons:

- Children's sermons
- Evangelistic sermons
- Church Year sermons
- Christmas sermons
- Lenten sermons
- Advent sermons

- Ash Wednesday sermons
- Easter sermons
- Story sermons
- Dialogue sermons
- Youth sermons
- Occasional sermons

Note that in Sophi Search "Sermons" is a different subject from "Preaching." Preaching refers to the art of giving sermons.

You will find that "Sermons" is used both as a separate subject heading and as a subdivision of other topical headings, names of individuals, locations, or names of denominations (for example, "Presbyterian Church -- Sermons.")

Finding Sermons on Specific Bible Passages

The subdivision "sermons" can be added to any subject heading for a book of the Bible (for example, "Bible. John--Sermons"). Check with the access and instruction librarian if you have trouble constructing the subject heading for a book of the Bible.

Finding Sermons by Particular Individuals

To find sermons by a particular person enter their last name and the word "sermons" in a keyword search in Sophi Search.

Browsing for books of sermons in the library

General collections of sermons can be found in the call number <u>BV 4241</u>, for example:

20 Centuries of Great Preaching

Sermons within denominational traditions can be browsed in the following call numbers:

Presbyterian Church Sermons – <u>BX 9178</u>

Methodist Church Sermons – <u>BX 8333</u>

Episcopal Church Sermons – <u>BX 5937</u>

Catholic Church Sermons – <u>BX 1756</u>

Accessing recorded sermons

Audio and video recordings of sermons can be found in Sophi search. Sermons available online will have a link to the digital collections for online viewing. Sermons recorded on physical media, such as CD, DVD, or VHS, are available for checkout. Physical recordings housed in the "Wright Center Storage" location are available at the library services desk.

Selected faculty sermons are also available for streaming on the Austin Seminary Digital Collections page here: https://www.austinseminarydigital.org/

Finding Sermons in the Archives

The Austin Seminary Archives has collections of ministerial papers that include extensive files of sermons and sermon notes. The organization of the sermons varies depending on the individual system of the minister who preached them. Some collections to look at include:

- Malcom Black papers (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00012.xml)
- Henry Brown sermons (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00014.xml)
- Thomas White Currie, Jr. papers (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00024.xml)
- Robert Francis Gribble papers (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00037.xml)
- Ronald Miller Guinn sermons (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00038.xml)
- La Hora Presbiteriana audio collection (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00059.xml)
- Arthur Gray Jones sermons and addresses (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00052.xml)
- Charles Leonidas King papers (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00056.xml)
- John Douglass Leslie papers (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00061.xml)
- C. Ellis Nelson papers (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00082.xml)
- Samuel Orr sermons and wedding ceremony (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00083.xml)
- James Mason Sedgwick papers (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00109.xml)
- James Allen Smith sermons (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00113.xml)
- Frank Hall Wright sermons (https://www.txarchives.org/apts/finding_aids/00136.xml)

You can view all our collection inventories here: https://www.txarchives.org/search/repository=apts

Contact the archivist at archives@austinseminary.edu for specific questions on finding and using sermons in the archives.

If you have questions, please contact us at library@austinseminary.edu