



 **St. James**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 7, 2018

# St. James Presbyterian Church

## Order for Worship

### WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

#### A TIME FOR GATHERING AND QUIET MEDITATION

*Welcome. We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. Please fill out our Friendship Pad, located at the end of your pew, so we can get to know you. Prayer cards are also available in the pew pockets. If you would like to have your prayer shared in worship, please fill out the card and hand it to an usher during the Passing of the Peace.*

*We worship using a variety of liturgy, printed in your bulletin, and two song books. The purple hymnal called Glory to God (GTG) and the black book, The Faith We Sing (FWS). Please silence electronic devices before the service.*

#### PRELUDE

Julian Fajardo, Pianist

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*OPENING WORDS

Jim Gresham, Lector

In the beginning,  
God created the heavens and the earth.  
The Spirit of God  
swept over the face of the waters;  
then God said: Let there be light,  
and God saw that it was good.  
At the beginning of his ministry,  
Jesus was baptized by John.  
The heavens opened,  
and the Spirit descended like a dove;  
then God said: This is my beloved Son,  
in whom I am well pleased.

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" #475 GTG

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

A prophet appeared in the wilderness,  
calling the people to repent, be baptized,  
and prepare the way of the Lord.  
We return to the water to confess our sins,  
giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ,  
the one who has come to save us.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of all glory, you look from heaven  
and see us as we are—  
not worthy to kneel at your feet,  
not ready to welcome your way.  
Forgive us, gracious God.  
In Christ, come to us and save us;  
loosen the ties that bind us to sin  
and set us free to love and serve you;  
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

**\*RESPONSE TO WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

“Glory to God” #583 GTG

### **INVITATION TO GODLY PLAY**

### **THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

*Please pass prayer cards to an usher*

### **GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

The earth belongs to God, our creator;  
every good thing is a gift from the Lord.  
Let us glorify God through the gifts of our lives.

### **OFFERTORY**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**                    "For the Life That You Have Given"                    #717 GTG

**For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,  
With these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:  
Here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;  
Give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We give thanks, O God,  
for every blessing and spiritual gift  
you have poured out upon us.  
Let the gifts of our lives  
be a source of blessing in your world,  
all to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

### **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 29 (pg. 504 in pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

"No Longer a Baby" (Leach/Sanborn)

**SERMON READING**

Matthew 3:13-17 (pg. 3 in pew Bible)

**SERMON**

"Who is the Christ? He Is Beloved" The Rev. Seth J. Thomas

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostles Creed (pg. 17 in GTG)

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

*continues on next page*

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**

**“Down Galilee’s Slow Roadways” #164 GTG**

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

### **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us open our hearts.

**We open them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

**It is right to lift up thanks and praise.**

### **THE INVITATION & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **WELCOME TO THE TABLE**

“The body of Christ, given for you.” **Amen.**

“The blood of Christ, shed for you.” **Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **COMMUNION PRAYER**

##### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be they name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.**

**Amen.**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "In Christ There Is No East or West" #317 GTG

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

*As our worship concludes, so our service begins.*

*We invite you to join us for fellowship and refreshments in the Horizon Room, to your right as you leave the sanctuary, overlooking the bay. Please introduce yourself to those new to you and extend the hand of peace, friendship, and welcome to everyone.*

**NEXT SUNDAY - JANUARY 14, 2018**

*"Who Is the Christ? He Is Tempted."*

First Reading: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Sermon Reading: Matthew 4:1-11

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Our 2018 Annual Meeting will be January 28 following Sunday morning worship.***

**Annual Reports for 2017** were due last Friday, January 5, 2018. If you haven't turned in your report, please contact Natasha in the church office. Thank you.

**Worship and Music committee** meets at 10am, Wednesday, January 10 in the Horizon Room.

**Prime Timers** will meet on Friday, January 12 at noon in the Horizon Room.

**Taking down the Christmas decorations** on Tuesday, January 9 at 11am. Come and join us! Any questions call Cheryl at 360-306-0326

## LOOKING AHEAD

### **This Week at St. James (January 8-January 13)**

<b>Monday</b>	5:15pm Tai Chi 7pm Boy Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:15am Yoga 4pm Cross-fit 5:30pm Finance 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance
<b>Wednesday</b>	10am Worship Committee
<b>Thursday</b>	10:15am Yoga 3pm Christian Faith Formation 4pm Cross-fit 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Choir
<b>Friday</b>	12pm Prime Timers
<b>Saturday</b>	9am Church Work Party

### **Next Sunday**

9am Adult Church School  
10:30am Worship  
12pm Session BYOL

### **Programs sharing our St. James facility:**

#### **12 Step Programs**

AA Men's Book Study Group: 7pm Mondays  
Al Anon: 5:30pm Tuesdays  
AA SOS Men's Group: 6pm Wednesdays  
AA Fairhaven Group: 7:30pm Thursdays and Sundays  
OA: 10am Saturdays

### **Bayside Co-op Preschool Information (360-733-3972)**

**Hawthorne Learning Solutions** Contact Matt and Emily Hawthorne at [hlearningsolutions@gmail.com](mailto:hlearningsolutions@gmail.com) for times and dates.

## PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

### Lector

Jim Gresham

### Sound

Jim Mullen

### Communion Server

Carla Shafer

Alice Beaty

### Coffee Hour

Deacons

### Sacristan

Faye Hill

Mark Beaty

Faye Hill

### Flowers

Cheryl McGregor

**The nursery** for children birth through 3 years of age is located downstairs at the south end of the building.

### **Godly Play, is our educational program for kids age 4 through 5th grade.**

Today children's understanding of the Christmas season broadens when all of the elements of Advent -- Bethlehem, the Holy Family and the Christ Candle merge to tell the story of Epiphany. The spirit of Christmas continues to surround people.

**Parents:** We would appreciate having your children registered for Godly Play, as a measure of security. You only need to register once. Please ask a teacher for a registration sheet.

**Children of all ages** are welcome throughout the service to worship with their families. Kid Packs are available in the Kids' Cupboard in the Narthex. Please see an Usher for details.

### **The Saint James Staff**

Pastor: The Rev. Seth J. Thomas

[pastor@saintjamespres.org](mailto:pastor@saintjamespres.org)

Administrative Secretary: Natasha Orme

Music Director: Carolyn Mullen

Pianist/Accompanist: Julian Fajardo

Treasurer: Marina McLeod

Children's Ministry: Zadra Nolan, Coordinator

Teachers: Erika Singh-Cundy, Sophie Rose Kendrick, Lucy Sieczka

### **St. James Presbyterian Church**

910-14th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225

360-733-1325, [office@saintjamespres.org](mailto:office@saintjamespres.org)

[www.saintjamespres.org](http://www.saintjamespres.org)

### **Office Hours**

Tuesday-Friday, 9am-2pm

