

St. James Presbyterian Church
June 18, 2017



St. James Presbyterian Church
Order for Worship
WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

A Time for Gathering and Quiet Meditation

Please silence electronic devices at this time. Prayer Cards, located in the pew pockets, can be filled out and passed to an Usher or placed in the offering plate. If you desire, check the appropriate line on the prayer card and your prayer will be shared during worship. We use two song books. The purple hymnal, called Glory to God is abbreviated GTG. The black book, entitled The Faith We Sing, is abbreviated FWS.

Prelude

Carolyn Mullen, Music Director

Welcome and Announcements

Please pass the Friendship Pads in the pews, place your name on the sheet, and note who is in the pew with you so that you can greet them after the service.

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Sue Smith, Lector

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

The Lord sends us out into the harvest.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn of Praise**

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” #645 GTG

Call to Confession

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**God of birth, God of joy, God of life,
we come to you as a people hungry for good news.**

**We have been so dead to miracles
that we have missed the world's rebirth.**

**We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures
and have overlooked the joy you offer us.**

**We have been so concerned with making a living
that we have missed the life you set among us.**

Forgive us, gracious God.

**Please stand as you are able.*

**Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift;
open our lips and hands to share it with all humanity
in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Children come forward during the response for the Time with Children

***Response to Words of Forgiveness** "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!" #591 GTG

Time with Children

Passing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Let us share signs of God's peace.

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

As recipients of abundant life in Christ,
we now offer our gifts to God.

Offertory

***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.**

**Please stand as you are able.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of unending gifts,
we praise you for your abundant goodness.
As you are generous, we want to be generous too.
May the gifts we bring
extend your generosity into the world,
so that all people may be made whole
by your goodness and grace.

Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Spirit of wisdom and truth,
pour out your grace upon us
as we listen for the living Word,
that our hearts may be set on fire
and our lives proclaim
your deeds of power.

Amen.

First Lesson

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (pg. 564 in pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music

“Massa’s in the Cold, Cold Ground” (Stephen Foster) &
“When the Saints Go Marching In” (Traditional) Jim and the Dingers

Second Lesson

Genesis 18:1-15 (pg. 14 in pew Bible)

Sermon

“God of the Impossible” The Rev. Seth J. Thomas

***Hymn of Response**

“The God of Abraham Praise” #49 GTG

Joys and Concerns (Read from Prayer Cards.)

Prayers of the People

**Please stand as you are able.*

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. 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.

***Closing Hymn**

"To Abraham and Sarah" #51 GTG

***Benediction**

Postlude

As our worship concludes, our service begins.

We invite you to join us for coffee and cookies in the Horizon Room, adjacent to the Narthex, overlooking the bay.

Please introduce yourself to those new to you and extend the hand of peace, friendship and welcome to everyone.

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Lector

Sue Smith

Music Director

Carolyn Mullen

Sacristan

Ann Lary

Ushers

Barbara Harnden
Katy Read

Coffee Hour

Deacons

Flowers

Kathleen Laughlin

Sound System

Peter Burkland



**Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East is tomorrow, Monday, June 19 at 5:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Solstice Sing-A-Long June 20th is the longest day of the year, the day we celebrate the fullness of the sun's light and remember that Christ's light shines brightly in our lives. This year, we're hosting a hymn-sing at Saint James at 8pm! Join us for hymns and praise songs, led by Pastor Seth. We'll sing and pray together for about an hour and wrap up just in time to head outside for the sunset!

It's time for the **St. James Salmon Barbecue**, 5:30pm, Friday, June 23, on the lower terrace in front of the Fellowship Hall. We'll have lawn games, sidewalk art show, bubbles, and other creative activities.

Congregational Life committee will provide salmon, beverages, garlic bread, and dessert. **Please bring a salad to share.** Sign up sheets are in the attendance pads. Suggested donation for dinner is \$7/person; \$10/family.

The Grief Support group is held bi-monthly at 10am on the first and third Mondays in the Lounge. The next meeting will be June 19.

Bellingham Bells Family Fun Day-Sunday, August 6; 3:05 pm. Let's go as a group and have a "ball"! We need to get tickets soon so sign up in the Narthex ASAP.

Project Homeless Connect If you would like to volunteer at Project Homeless Connect on Friday, July 24, please go to the *Project Homeless Connect 2017* web site <https://www.projecthomelessconnect.org/> and click on *register here*. There you will find specific jobs and times. Here at St. James we will continue to collect items as listed in the June Pulse. Please place items in the bottom basket of the shopping cart in the Narthex until July 14. The list does include "undies" which we have collected for the event the last few years.

LOOKING AHEAD

This Week at St. James (June 18-June 24)

- TODAY** Father's Day
11:45am Deacons
- Monday** 10am Grief Support Group
5:15pm Tai Chi
5:30pm Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East *hosted by St. James, in Sanctuary*
7pm Boy Scouts
- Tuesday** 10:15am Yoga
4pm Cross-fit
7:30pm WA Gender Alliance
8pm Solstice Sign-A-Long
- Wednesday** 11:15am Tai Chi *Now meeting in Fellowship Hall*
12:15pm Chair Tai Chi
12:30pm Parish Walk with Pastor Seth
- Thursday** 10:15am Yoga
4pm Cross-fit
- Friday** **5:30pm Salmon Dinner**
- Saturday** * * *

Next Sunday

- 9:30am Adult Church School *New time!*
10:30am Worship

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 for times and dates.

Pulse items are due on the 16th of every month. Last month's Pulse was terrific! Thanks to everyone who sent in items for the newsletter. Please send July items to office@saintjamespres.org

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

Church school is available for children pre-school through 5th grade.

Today in Sunday School Compassion. Focus scripture: Matthew 9:35-10:8. Children will learn that Jesus knows and loves them, calling them by name to be his helpers. They will explore ways to express God's love to others.

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

Administrative Secretary: Natasha Orme
Music Director: Carolyn Mullen
Organist/Pianist: Melany Armstrong
Treasurer: Marina McLeod
Children's Ministry: Zadra Nolan, Coordinator
Teacher: Lucy Sieczk

St. James Presbyterian Church

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www.saintjamespres.org

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday
9am-2pm

