



St. James

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 11, 2018

4th Sunday in Lent

**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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Faye Hill, Lector

O give thank to the Lord, who is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Come! Live in the Light!" #749 GTG

CALL TO CONFESSION

This is the judgement, that the light has
come into the world,
for people loved darkness rather than light
because their deeds were evil.
Let us uncover our sin before the
liberating light of Christ.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God,
we confess the folly of our sin and the hypocrisy
of our complaints.
We grumble about the evils in our world,
even as we commit injustices and profit through deceit.**

**Please stand as you are able.*

**We fret about the scarcity of resources
while hoarding earth's good and cheating the poor.
We protest the problems of our world,
but we do not actively work to address them.
Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace.
Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways
that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

***RESPONSE TO WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

"Create in Me" #422 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

People of God, let us offer our sacrifice of thanksgiving,
telling of God's deeds with songs of joy.

OFFERTORY

Randy Bowers

***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 THANKSGIVING**

Merciful God, we thank you for your
wonderful works among humankind.
Accept this offering with the dedication
of our lives
and help us be for the world an emblem
of your steadfast love,
in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Please stand as you are able.*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Almighty God,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
open your Word and illumine our darkened world,
that we may see clearly and live faithfully
by the light of your truth in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (pg. 559 in pew Bible)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM "God So Loved the World" (Stainer)

SERMON READING John 3:14-21 (pg. 94 in pew Bible)

SERMON "A Time To Kill, and A Time To Heal" The Rev Seth J. Thomas

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** "There Is Now a New Creation" #774 GTG

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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;
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.**

WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS

***CLOSING HYMN** "Thy Mercy" *see insert*

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you are able.*

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 - March 18 - 5th Sunday in Lent

“A Time To Plant, and A Time To Pluck Up What Is Planted”

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31- 34

Sermon Reading: John 12:20-33

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP! More volunteers are needed for both the South Side **Community Meal on March 18 and Family Promise the week of April 15.** Please sign up in the Horizon Room or contact Gretchen Pfueller for more information.

Lenten Vespers services during the season of Lent We invite you to these special evening services on **March 25 and March 30 (Good Friday)**, at 7pm. Come for a time of quiet prayer, contemplative practice, and communion.

The **Annual Interfaith Hope Auction** is Saturday, March 24. Susan Burklund will be gathering donations and items for a garden “basket”. Jenny Sue LeSchander, Gary Culbertson and Gretchen Pfueller have auction tickets to sell. This event supports Interfaith’s 11 housing units, CAST Food Outreach, and the new Family Promise. Please come!

The Sunday Morning 9:00am class will begin a study of *The Book of Matthew* this coming Sunday and will continue until Pentecost. Study books will be available in the class. If you need child care, please call Tracy Caruso or Faye Hill. Hope to see you there!

This year the **Flower Committee** will decorate our Sanctuary with beautiful azalea plants for Easter. Cost is \$20 for a living plant that can be taken home following Easter morning worship. **Please fill out the form that is inserted in your bulletin.**

**Please stand as you are able.*

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Lector

Faye Hill

Ushers

Adam Beaty

Bill Read

Coffee Hour

Deacons

Sacristan

Jenny Sue LeSchander

Martha Speer

Milt Schayes

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. The Faces of Easter IV and V

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.

ST. JAMES CAN NOW ACCEPT ONLINE DONATIONS!

Using our new system you can:

- give from your bank account or using a credit card
- make a one-time donation or set up a recurring gift
- designate your gifts as part of your annual pledge
- designate your Per Capita contribution

All of these options are available online at:

<https://saintjamespres.churchcenter.com/giving>

You can also set up a credit card or bank account for instant giving via text message. To receive a link for set-up, text any amount to **84321**.

These are *additional options*. Please note that we are still happy to process your in-person or by-mail donations as well. Thank you for your patience and your questions as we launch this new opportunity.

Treasurer's email address for questions or concerns:

stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com

LOOKING AHEAD

This Week at St. James (March 11-March 17)

TODAY	12pm Session BYOL
Monday	4pm Cross-fit 5:15pm Tai Chi 7pm Boy Scouts
Tuesday	10am Staff Meeting 10:15am Yoga 7pm Community Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance
Wednesday	* * *
Thursday	10:15am Yoga 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Choir
Friday	Items for Pulse due today! 4pm Cross-fit
Saturday	9:30am Weavers Guild

Next Sunday - 5th Sunday in Lent

9am Adult Church School
10:30am Worship
11:45am Deacons

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 for times and dates.

The Saint James Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Seth J. Thomas
pastor@saintjamespres.org

Administrative Secretary: Natasha Orme

Music Director: Carolyn Mullen

Pianist/Accompanist: Julian Fajardo

Treasurer: Marina McLeod

Children's Ministry: Tracy Caruso

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

St. James Presbyterian Church

910-14th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225

360-733-1325, office@saintjamespres.org

www.saintjamespres.org

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9am-2pm

