



**St. James**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 18, 2018  
5th 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**

“Morning Sunrise (Mazzatenta), Julian Fajardo, Pianist  
St. James Bell Choir

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sue Smith, Lector

Jesus said, “When I am lifted up, I will draw all people to myself.”

Blessed be the God of our salvation

who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Lift High the Cross” #826 GTG

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us pray for the cleansing of our hearts,

confessing our sins to the One whose mercy is everlasting.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Redeeming God,**

**we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart,**

**and have not loved our neighbors as we ought;**

**we have strayed from your commandments.**

**Do not remember our sins, but forgive our iniquities,**

**that we may fix our eyes on you and sin no more,**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**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**

Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground  
and takes on new life, it remains just a single grain.

With grateful hearts,  
let us bring the fruit of our lives 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.**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

As the high priest Melchizedek blessed Abraham  
and offered his tithe of bread and wine at your holy altar,  
may our gifts be made perfect through Christ  
to glorify you and bless the world. **Amen.**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Prayer of Illumination**

Your Word, O God, has power to change our lives  
and to create a whole new world.  
As we meditate on your word this day,  
fill us with your Holy Spirit,  
that we may treasure your word with our whole hearts  
and fix our eyes on you. **Amen.**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**                      Jeremiah 31:31-34 (pg. 735 in pew Bible)  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**    “I Believe” (Boersma/Lantz)  
The words of today’s choir anthem come from a poem discovered on the wall  
of a cellar in Cologne, Germany after World War II:

“I believe in the sun, even when it is not shining;  
I believe in love, even when I feel it not;  
I believe in God, even when He is silent.”

**SERMON READING**    John 12:20-33 (pg. 106 in pew Bible)

**SERMON**  
“A Time to Plant, and A Time To Harvest ” The Rev Seth J. Thomas

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**                      “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” #203 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**    “Hymn of Promise” #250 GTG

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

#### **POSTLUDE**

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

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

*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 25 - Palm Sunday**

“A Time To Be Born and A Time To Die”

First Reading: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Sermon Reading: Mark 11:1-11

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The **South Side Community Meal** is today at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church at 5pm-6:30. All are welcome.

**FAMILY PROMISE** The new FP Center is ready! St. James has 15 volunteers who want to help homeless families at the host church, Sacred Heart from April 15-22. The next step is FP training on Tuesday, March 27, 6-8:30 at Sacred Heart. This is a necessary opportunity to know everything about Whatcom FP and be prepared even if you are just thinking of volunteering. Sign up in the Horizon room. Other training dates are available.

**Interfaith Hope Auction** is this Saturday evening. Tickets are still available in the Interfaith office upstairs. Susan Burkland is seeking donations for our auction garden themed contribution.

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

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. Thank you!**

**Mark Your Calendars!! →→Next Ladies Night Out**

Friday, April 13th at 6pm. We will eat out at a local restaurant - yum!

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## **Seder Meal - Thursday, March 29, 6pm**

Gather around the table for a time of fellowship and a meal of remembrance. We will eat together in the style of a traditional Seder Meal, remembering the practices of the Jewish Passover and looking forward to the final days of the Lenten season. Please sign up by filling out the handout in your pew to let us know if you can attend.

**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:

**<http://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](mailto:stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com)**

## LOOKING AHEAD

### **This Week at St. James (March 18-March 24)**

<b>TODAY</b>	11:45am Deacons 5pm South Side Community Meat at Our Saviours Lutheran Church 5:30pm Prayer Vigil for Peace at First Christian Church
<b>Monday</b>	10am Grief Support Group 4pm Cross-fit 5:15pm Tai Chi 6pm Boy Scout Court of Honor 7pm Boy Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:15am Yoga 7pm Community Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance
<b>Wednesday</b>	* * *
<b>Thursday</b>	10:15am Yoga 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Choir
<b>Friday</b>	4pm Cross-fit
<b>Saturday</b>	4:45pm Music Teachers Assoc.

### **Next Sunday - Palm Sunday**

9am Adult Church School  
10:30am Worship - New members  
7pm Vespers Service

### **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**

Sue Smith

### **Sacristan**

Jenny Sue LeSchander

### **Ushers**

Kay Carr

Katy Read

### **Coffee Hour**

Deacons

### **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: 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](mailto:office@saintjamespres.org)

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

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

