



**St. James**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 4, 2018

3rd 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**

Jenny Sue LeSchander, Lector

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
**reviving the soul;**  
the decrees of the Lord are sure,  
**making wise the simple;**  
the precepts of the Lord are right,  
**rejoicing the heart;**  
the commandment of the Lord is clear,  
**enlightening the eyes;**  
the fear of the Lord is pure,  
**enduring forever;**  
the ordinances of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.  
**They are more desirable than gold, sweeter  
than honey.**  
**In keeping them is great reward.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” #403 GTG

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Despite all that God has taught us,  
we still act foolishly;  
we are still weak.  
In the cross of Christ,  
we find forgiveness and grace.  
We confess our sins,  
trusting in God's wisdom and strength  
rather than our own.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God,**  
**how fickle we are; we sin against you without even knowing it.**  
**Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin,**  
**and save us from willfully ignoring your way.**  
**Let your commandments rule and guide us.**  
*(pause for silent reflection)*

**Forgive us for worship anyone or anything except you;**  
**keep us faithful.**  
*(pause)*

**Forgive us for failing to honor all our relationships—**  
**with those closest to us and those who are distant neighbors.**  
**Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness,**  
**rather than words that belittle or destroy.**  
**Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness.**  
*(pause)*

**Forgive us for thinking everything depends on our efforts and power,**  
**for you are the God who made us,**  
**led us out of slavery,**  
**and has brought us into the community of faith.**  
**Help us to depend on you alone**  
**and to rest in your peace.**  
**In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**\*RESPONSE TO WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

**"Create in Me" #422 GTG**

*\*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**

The house of God is not a marketplace for buying and selling.

It is a house of prayer,

a place of healing and restoration,

a place where we bring before God our provisions

to be used for present needs.

Let us bring our tithes and offerings 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**

O Lord our God,

we want to follow all your commandments—

to love only you, not worshiping the things of this world;

to love our neighbor freely,

not desiring for ourselves something they possess.

Accept these offerings, we pray,

and teach us to be generous,

giving fully of ourselves

that we may truly be the body of Christ in the world. **Amen.**

## **WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 19:7-10 (pg. 496 in pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **CHOIR ANTHEM**

“What Wondrous Love is This” (Mansfield)

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**SERMON READING**

John 2:13-22 (pg. 93 in pew Bible)

**SERMON**

“A Time to Break Down, and A Time to Build Up”  
The Rev Seth J. Thomas

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**

“Be the Centre” (see insert)

**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 AND 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.**

**WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD’S AMBASSADORS**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

“O Christ, the Great Foundation” #361 GTG

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## 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 - March 11**

Title: "A Time To Kill, and A Time To Heal"

First Reading: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Sermon Reading: John 3:14-21

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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.

**COMMUNITAS PRESBYTEROS - Joining St. James this Lent!** Have you considered membership at St. James? Join us after service today to learn more about **Belonging (Communitas) and Presbyterianism (Presbyteros)**. Our gathering today includes lunch. New members will join the church on Mar. 25! See Pastor Seth in person or via email ([pastor@saintjamespres.org](mailto:pastor@saintjamespres.org)).

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!

**CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER** Sunday, March 18, we will be preparing and serving the **Southside Community Meal** at Our Savior's Lutheran Church at 5:00 pm. We need several people to help with set-up, food prep and cooking, serving and clean-up. Please contact Gretchen Pfueller if you are willing to help.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### This Week at St. James (March 4-March 10)

**TODAY** 12pm Communitas Presbyteros Gathering

**Monday** 9am Personnel  
10am Grief Support Group  
4pm Cross-fit  
5:15pm Tai Chi  
7pm Boy Scouts

**Tuesday** 10:15am Yoga  
5:30pm Building and Grounds  
6pm Finance Committee  
7pm Community Chorus Rehearsal  
7:30pm WA Gender Alliance

**Wednesday** 4pm Mission and Social Action  
7pm Christian Faith Formation

**Thursday** 10:15am Yoga  
6:30pm Bell Choir  
7:30pm Choir

**Friday** 12pm Prime Timers  
4pm Cross-fit

**Saturday** 9am Church Work  
Party

### Next Sunday - 4th Sunday in Lent

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.

**The Sunday Morning 9:00 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!

St. James now accepts online donations! Visit: <http://saintjamespres.churchcenter.com> for more information

## PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

### Lector

Jenny Sue LeSchander

### Ushers

Adam Beaty  
Nancy Peck

### Coffee Hour

Deacons

### Sacristan

Jenny Sue LeSchander

**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.**  
Work Day!

**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

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

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.**

### 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

