



September 16, 2018



**St. James**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# 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.*

*Please silence electronic devices before the service.*

*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).*

#### PRELUDE

Pat Nelson, Pianist  
"Joyfully Ring" (McCleary) St. James Bell Choir

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lindsay Anderson

#### \*OPENING WORDS

Sue Smith, Lector

Look at the heavens!

**They are shouting the glory of God.**

The days and the nights declare the magnificence  
of God's creative works.

**Their voice goes through all the earth  
and their words reach the ends of the world.**

Let our words of praise be acceptable to you.

**Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer!**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** "Lord, Who May Dwell within Your House" #419 GTG

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us use our voices to declare those things we have said and done  
that have separated us from God, and from each other,  
that we may experience God's mercy and receive God's forgiveness.

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**You have called us, O God, and we have refused to listen;  
you have stretched out your hand  
and we have not taken it.**

**We have taken what you have given us  
and used the gifts to hurt others and defy you.**

**We have refused to be tamed by your wisdom.**

**Forgive our inability to recognize you  
and live out the reality of your gospel.**

**Give us the insight we need to understand your place in our lives  
so that our words and actions reflect  
the glory of God in the lives of others.**

**In the name of the Messiah we pray. Amen.**

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

**\*RESPONSE TO WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

*"The Gloria" #581 GTG*

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Tracy Caruso

## **THE PASSING OF 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**

God has given us the sun and made us stewards of all creation. God has given us our lives and our very beings. Let us give to God, from what God has given us.

**OFFERTORY**

*"Songs of Worship and Praise" (arr. Rogers)  
St. James Bell Choir*

**\*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 wisdom, may this offering serve as a powerful witness to this world in need. Guide us as we administer the gifts that you have given us for the building of your kingdom. In Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

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

#### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Let the words of our mouths  
and the meditations of our hearts  
be acceptable to you, O Lord.  
Be our Rock and our Redeemer. **Amen.**

#### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15 (pg. 495 in pew Bible)

#### **CHOIR ANTHEM**

"Do Not Fear" (Frombach/Lantz)  
St. James Chancel Choir

#### **SERMON READING**

Matthew 5:9-10 (pg. 4 in pew Bible)

#### **SERMON**

"Blessed are the Peacemakers"  
Fred Hartsook, Director of the INN University Ministries

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" #753 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.**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

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

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" #757 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.*

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**Pastor Seth** is away this week for a gathering of new PC(USA) pastors. If you have a pastoral care need, please contact your deacon or the church office.

**Today's flowers** are given by Robb & Cheryl McGregor, in celebration of their 29th anniversary!

**Godly Play - Creation:** With this lesson we begin to tract the elusive presence of the mystery of God in the story of God's People. We begin to play Hide-and-Seek with the Holy One and ask, "What can we know of the Giver by the gift?"

**Bringing Godly Play Home:** The days of creation make an especially wonderful story to share during the week. For example, on the first day you can ask, "I wonder who saw the light today?" and on the second day ask, "I wonder who saw the water today?" When everyone has finished sharing you can give thanks to God for the gifts from creation you've enjoyed that day. Day 1: Light. Day 2: Water. Day 3: Land and green growing things. Day 4: Day and night. Day 5: Creatures that fly and creatures that swim. Day 6: Creatures that walk on the earth. Day 7: Rest.

**Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Middle East** will be hosted by St. James on Tuesday, Sept 18, at 5:30pm. Please join us.

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## **Weekly Prayer Practice**

**For the week of September 16, 2018**

*The following is a simple prayer practice that can be used at home or work throughout your week. Included is a short prayer, which roots you in God's presence, followed by guided pauses for you to speak of what is on your heart, and closes with the Lord's Prayer.*

*Scripture texts for the upcoming week's worship at St. James Presbyterian, are also included, for daily reading and reflection.*

### **Prayer for the Week**

Almighty God,  
you call your church to witness  
that in Christ we are reconciled to you.  
Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may turn to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

### **Guided pauses**

*People of God, for what do you...*

*Know Gratitude...*

*Know Longing...*

*Cry in Lament...*

*Seek Forgiveness...*

*Hold Hope...*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Next week's Scriptures**

First reading: Psalm 66:1-12

Sermon: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

## LOOKING AHEAD

### THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES (SEPTEMBER 17-SEPTEMBER 23)

<b>Monday</b>	10am Grief Support Group 4pm St. James Fitness 5:15pm Tai Chi 7pm Boy Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:15am Yoga 5:30pm Peace Vigil 7pm Bhm Community Chorus 7:30pm WA Gender Alliance
<b>Wednesday</b>	***
<b>Thursday</b>	10:15am Yoga 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir
<b>Friday</b>	12pm Prime Timers 4pm St. James Fitness
<b>Saturday</b>	***

### Next Sunday

9am Adult Church School  
10:30am Worship

### PROGRAMS SHARING OUR ST. JAMES FACILITY:

#### 12 Step Programs

AA Men's Book Study Group: 6:30pm Mondays  
Al Anon: 5:30pm Tuesdays  
AA SOS Men's Group: 6pm Wednesdays  
AA Fairhaven Group: 7:15pm 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 SAINT JAMES STAFF**

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

Music Director: Carolyn Mullen  
Pianist/Accompanist: Kaitlyn Ronstadt  
Treasurer: Marina McLeod  
Children & Family Director: 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

Give online to St. James:  
<https://saintjamespres.churchcenter.com/giving>

### **Office Hours:**

Tuesday-Friday, 9am-2pm

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### **PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S WORSHIP**

Lector: Sue Smith                      Sacristan: Carla Shafer  
Flowers: Cheryl McGregor        Coffee Hour: Deacons

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

