



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, March 15, 2020

"Marks of Vitality: Outward Focus" - Matthew 25:31-46

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 the liturgy printed in your bulletin and two songbooks: the Glory to God hymnal (GTG), and The Faith We Sing (FWS). Please silence electronic devices before the service. Nursery care is available for children ages birth through 3 years and Godly Play is available for children ages 4 through middle school.

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE

Luke Arnold

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Seth Thomas

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jenny Sue LeSchander, Lector

Come, you who are thirsty—

here is living water.

Come, you who are weary—

here is the fount of eternal life.

Let us drink from the well of grace.

Let us worship the Lord!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" - GTG #65

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Seth Thomas

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, time and again, you defy our expectations.
You cross barriers of culture and creed
and look into the eyes of a stranger, and we are astonished.
We confess that we are not keen to do the same.
While you teach inclusion, we preserve division;
while you model hospitality, we default to suspicion.
Open our eyes to see your mission for what it is—
the healing of the world.
Astonish us with your grace, O God,
that we might move from surprise to service,
and from doubt to faithfulness.
By your Spirit, inspire and empower us
to proclaim your good news in word and deed. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

INVITATION TO GODLY PLAY

Tracy Caruso

***THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Jenny Sue LeSchander

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 28:10-17, p. 25

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Keep Your Lamps!" Arr. by Andre Thomas

SERMON READING

Matthew 25:31-46, p. 29

SERMON

"Marks of Vitality: Outward Focus"
Rev. Seth Thomas

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"I Bind Unto Myself Today" - GTG #6

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Luke Arnold

***DOXOLOGY**

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 DEDICATION**

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

"When Peace Like A River
(It Is Well With My Soul)" - GTG #840

WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS

***BLESSING & CHARGE**

Rev. Seth Thomas

POSTLUDE

Luke Arnold

As our worship concludes, 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 week, March 22nd - Lent: Season of Vitality
Marks of Vitality: Empowered Servant Leaders
Matthew 9:35 - 38

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Lector: Jenny Sue LeSchander
Head Usher: Robb McGregor
Sacristan: Jenny Sue LeSchander
Coffee Hour: Deacons
Flowers: The Flower Committee

ST. JAMES STAFF

Pastor: The Rev. Seth J. Thomas, pastor@saintjamespres.org
Children & Family Director: Tracy Caruso, tracy@saintjamespres.org
Worship & Music Leader: Dylan Cisneros, music@saintjamespres.org
Accompanist: Luke Arnold
Treasurer: Marina McLeod, stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant: Shannon Laws, office@saintjamespres.org
Teachers: Claire Alarid, Tova Breen, Fiona Dent,
Frankie Morrissey, Lucy Siczka

910 14th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225 (360) 733-1325

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesdays 9:00am-12:00pm

Thursday, Friday 9:00am-2:00pm

www.saintjamespres.org

Give to St. James Online:

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

Stay current on activities and happenings @saintjamespres



GODLY PLAY: FACES OF EASTER II & III

Lent is the season we prepare for Easter. These lessons help children continue to prepare for the Mystery of Easter. We move toward the Mystery by hearing the stories of Christ's journey toward the cross and resurrection. This week's lesson focuses on the face of Christ as the One who was lost and found and the face of Christ as the One who was baptized and blessed.

BRINGING GODLY PLAY HOME

Ask your student what item they chose to go with the picture of the boy who was lost and found.

LENTEN SOUP AND STUDY!

Lenten Soup and Study! Join us Wednesdays in Lent from 5:30-7:00pm. We will begin each session with a soup dinner and then follow with a discussion from the 7 Marks Bible Studies of Vital Congregations.

ST. JAMES BOOK CLUB FOR MARCH

The St. James Book Club meets the third Monday of the month, March 16th, at 7:00pm in the Lounge. The current book is "In the Midst of Winter" by Isabel Allende. Copies of the book are available in the office.

2020 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Summer is just around the corner, which means it is time to register for VBS. St. James is partnering again with First Presbyterian and St. Paul's Episcopal to hold Anchored: Deepening Faith in God Vacation Bible School June 28th through July 3rd, 9-Noon. Registration is open for just the partnering churches until April 15th then it will be open to the public, last year we filled up before the end of April so get your registration in fast! You can register at tinyurl.com/anchored20. We are also in need of volunteers for that week! Please let Tracy know if you are able to help that week.

BINGO NIGHT IS BACK!

Mark your calendars for Friday evening March 27th for our annual taco dinner and BINGO night. We will have a taco dinner ready at 6 followed by an evening of BINGO with fun, food, popcorn, and prizes! Suggested donation of \$5/person, \$15/family. Please find the RSVP sheets in the friendship pads in your pew.

SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY MEAL - CANCELLED

Tonight: Southside Community meal has been canceled due to concerns about gathering in large groups with the potential spread of viruses. We will provide an update when future opportunities to serve are available.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

March 16th - March 22nd, 2020

Monday, 3/16	2:00pm Jo McLeod Memorial - POSTPONED 4:00pm St. James Fitness* 5:15pm Tai Chi* 7:00pm St. James Book Club*
Tuesday, 3/17	10:15am Yoga*
Wednesday, 3/18	8:30-10:00am Toddler Time 10:00am Grief Support Group* 5:30pm Vital Congregations Lenten Soup & Study
Thursday, 3/19	10:15am Yoga* 6:30pm St. James Bell Choir* 7:30pm St. James Chancel Choir*
Friday, 3/20	4:00pm St. James Fitness*
Next Sunday, 3/22	9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Sunday Worship Service 10:45am Godly Play

**contact your group leader for cancellations*

PROGRAMS SHARING OUR ST. JAMES FACILITY

AA Fairhaven Group: 7:15pm, Thursdays and Sundays

AA Men's Book Study Group: 6:30pm, Mondays

AA SOS Men's Group: 6:00pm, Wednesdays

Al-Anon: 5:30pm, Tuesdays

Bellingham Community Chorus: 6:30pm, Tuesdays

Overeaters Anon: 10:00am, Saturdays

WA Gender Alliance: 7:30pm, Thursdays

You Are Not Alone (YANA): 6:00pm, 2nd Mondays

Bayside Co-op Preschool, Mon - Fri

Boy Scouts Troop 7, Every Monday night except for school holidays

Hawthorne Learning Solutions

Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County

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