



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, March 22, 2020

"Marks of Vitality: Empowered Servant Leaders" - Matthew 9:35-38

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

Tracy Caruso, Lector

Lord Christ, open our eyes

to see clearly the light of the world.

Holy Spirit, illumines our minds

to perceive God's glory shining among us.

Almighty God, prepare our hearts

to see, to trust, to worship the Messiah.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"O God, Beyond All Praising" - FWS #2009

Dylan Cisneros

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Seth Thomas

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Wonder-working God,
forgive us when preconceived notions
cloud our vision and blind us
to your activity in our lives.**

**We watch for signs of your glory
in the successful and strong,
in pious acts and answered prayers,
in favorable outcomes and dreams fulfilled.**

**But you make yourself known in unexpected ways:
in shepherd boys lifted to the throne
and outcasts returned to community;
in death-haunted valleys transformed by your presence,
and ordinary pools made extraordinary by your grace,
through water and mud,
and a table prepared with sacrificial love.**

**We long for a salve that relieves our stubborn focus
on inconsequential questions,
and for water that heals our blindness
to revelations of your love.**

**Open our eyes,
illumine our minds,
and prepare our hearts,
to receive your amazing grace. 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

Tracy Caruso

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 5, p. 490

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON READING

Matthew 9:35-38, p. 9

SERMON

"Marks of Vitality: Empowered Servant Leaders"
Rev. Seth Thomas

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"Be Thou My Vision" - GTG #450

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

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**

"Blest Be The Tie That Binds" - GTG #306

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 29th - Lent: Season of Vitality
Marks of Vitality: Spirit Inspired Worship
Revelation 22:1-7**

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Lector: Tracy Caruso

Sacristan: Jenny Sue LeSchander

Flowers: Lenten Season Observed

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 Sieczka

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

<https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/>

Give to St. James Online:

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

Join the conversation at <https://faithlife.com/saintjamespres>



GODLY PLAY: FACES OF EASTER IV & V

Lent is the season we 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 lesson focuses on Christ's temptation in the desert and on the face of Christ as a healer and parable-maker.

BRINGING GODLY PLAY HOME

I will end our Godly Play lesson by asking if there is anything in the viewer's home that could help tell more of the story. If parents want to email me their child's response I will compile them to share next week.

ST. JAMES TECH SUPPORT

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are taking extra precautions by not gathering together for corporate worship in person and suspending other meetings around the church. However, we have access to a number of helpful tools that make our worship services available online via our website or Facebook, as well as options for hosting live video and audio calls and meetings. Visit <http://www.saintjamespres.org/tech-support> to sign up for support!

ONLINE PRAYER OFFERING - GLORY JOHNSON

Glory Johnson will be offering an online time for prayer and reflection on Monday, March 30 at 12pm. More information will be available soon on how to sign up and participate from home. Stay tuned to the church website or Facebook Page for more info.

LENTEN SOUP AND STUDY, MINUS THE SOUP!

UPDATE: Lenten Soup and Study, minus the Soup! We have been holding a Wednesday evening Lenten Study looking at the *7 Marks of Vital Congregations*, as we are suspending in-person gatherings, we are wondering if anyone is interested in continuing the study without the soup and meet on-line. Please contact Seth or Tracy if you are interested in participating.

BINGO NIGHT IS BACK!

UPDATE: BINGO Night is being postponed. Watch for a new date

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES
March 23rd - March 29th, 2020

Attention: all church activities have moved to on-line forums where applicable. Contact your group leader for details.

Monday-Thursday 9:00am Daily Prayer- Streamed at
<https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/>

Next Sunday, 3/29 10:30am Streamed Sunday Worship Service
<https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/>

PROGRAMS SHARING OUR ST. JAMES FACILITY

**ALL GROUPS MEETING IN OUR BUILDING ARE
POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

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

AI-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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