



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, April 12, 2020

EASTER Marks of Vitality: A Healthy Church - Matthew 28:1-10

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

Brian Johnson, Lector

Do not be afraid;

I know that you are looking for Jesus
who was crucified.

He is not here. He has been raised!

Alleluia!

Come, with amazement and great joy.

Come, with wonder and praise.

Let us shout the good news!

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today!" - GTG #245"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Seth Thomas

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Like the women who came to your tomb
as the first day of the week was dawning
and found the tomb empty,**

**we have such good news to tell.
For you, Lord,
have cast off your grave clothes
and shattered the powers of sin and death.**

**But we have heard this news before.
How often have we let our “alleluias” fall silent
as we passed through the church doors?
How often have we returned to daily routines
as if Easter changes nothing?
How often have our actions belied
the power of resurrection to transform our world?**

**Risen Lord,
Forgive us for our half-hearted witness.
Free us from the bindings of fear or indifference,
disappointment or disenchantment.
Fill us with the light of resurrection
and send us into the world
to proclaim in word and deed
that we have seen the Lord!
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

Brian Johnson

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

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

SERMON READING

Matthew 28:1-10

SERMON

"The Empty Tomb, The Empty Church, and
The Way of Resurrection"
Rev. Seth Thomas

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** " In the Darkness of the Morning" - GTG #229

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**

"Thine Is The Glory" - GTG #238

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, April 19th - Resurrection Life
Abundance (Matthew 15:29-39)**

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Lector: Brian Johnson

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

Give to St. James Online:

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

Stay current on activities and happenings [@saintjamespres](https://www.instagram.com/saintjamespres)



GODLY PLAY: EASTER EGGS

The folk celebration of Easter Eggs brings delight this time of year. Our culture's Easter Eggs have little to do with Easter that is celebrated in churches, but the eggs of Eastern Europe do. In this lesson children are introduced to those eggs in a way to reclaim a wonderful sign of new life in Easter.

BRINGING GODLY PLAY HOME

Templates to make your own Easter Eggs have been sent to families. Have your student design, create, and tell you the meaning of his/her egg.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

In this season of great struggle for our community and world, we are looking for folks who are willing to serve. This weekend, we are opening up a new version of the St. James Time & Talent's form for you to sign up to serve around our community, now during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as in the future in our church community. We ask that each person take the time to fill out this form, found at <http://www.saintjamespres.org/helping>. There are many ways to serve, pray, and support one another in this season.

LECTIONARY TEXTS

For anyone in wishing to study the lectionary texts This week, April 12th, the lectionary texts are:

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (worship)

Matthew 28:1-10 (preaching) or

Acts 10:34-43;

Jeremiah 31:1-6; 1

Corinthians 3:1-4;

Acts 10:34-43;

John 20:1-18

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

April 13th - April 19th

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, 4/19 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.**

**CONTACT THE GROUP LEADER FOR
ONLINE MEETING INFORMATION**

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

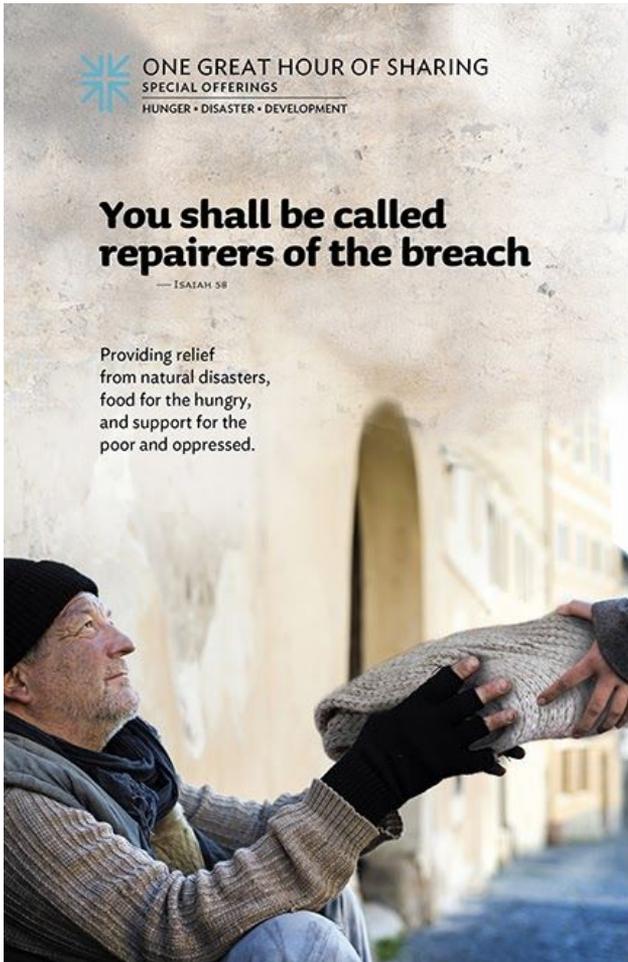
Hawthorne Learning Solutions

Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County

One Great Hour of Sharing (insert)

Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. For more, you can watch an informational video from the Presbyterian Mission Agency at <https://vimeo.com/320337801>.

Please consider contributing to this special collection by using our on-Line Giving site, <https://saintjamespres.churchcenter.com/giving>, and look for "One Great Hour of Sharing" in the drop-down menu.



 ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

**You shall be called
repairers of the breach**
— ISAIAH 58

Providing relief
from natural disasters,
food for the hungry,
and support for the
poor and oppressed.