



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, July 26, 2020

The Voyage Home: Romans

Nothing...Nothing Stops the Spirit: Romans 8:26-39

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. We would love to connect with you and support you in this strange season.

Please visit www.saintjamespres.org/contact to share how we can be of support.

PRELUDE

Luke Arnold

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Seth Thomas

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lector

A tiny seed that burgeons into a majestic tree
with branches that offer shelter and shade;
or yeast, hidden within a bushel of flour,
that transforms the dough in due time:
this is what the kingdom of heaven is like.

We gather 'round Jesus—our teacher and Lord—
seeking wisdom and understanding,
longing for a foretaste of the kingdom of heaven.

Let anyone with ears to hear listen!

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Be Thou My Vision" - GTG #450

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Seth Thomas

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you search our hearts and see the places where they are hardened and resistant to your will. In this time of much upheaval and pain, we frequently turn away from those in need, seeking our own security instead of the well-being of all creation. We let petty differences separate us from one another. We allow self-interest to

overwhelm your commandment to love our neighbors. We fail to see your image evident in every person.

Forgive us, we pray, and in your mercy redirect us so that we can once again walk in your ways. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

COMPASSION CAMP - SESSION THREE INTRODUCTION

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 105:1–11, 45b

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON READING

Romans 8:26-39

SERMON

"Nothing...Nothing Stops the Spirit"

Rev. Seth Thomas

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"You Are My Strength When I Am Weak"

GTG #519

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

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

"Seek Ye First" - GTG #175

WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS

BLESSING & CHARGE

Rev. Seth Thomas

POSTLUDE

As our worship concludes, our service begins.

We invite you to join us for fellowship in a chat room. Please introduce yourself to those new to you and extend the hand of peace, friendship, and welcome to everyone.

**Next Week: [The Voyage Home: Romans](#)
[When Some Won't Journey with Us: Romans 9:1-5](#)**

ST. JAMES STAFF

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

Children & Family Director: Tracy Caruso, tracy@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

www.saintjamespres.org

**ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN BUILDING IS CLOSED DUE TO THE
CORVID-19 SHELTER IN PLACE STATEWIDE MANDATE. ALL
ACTIVITIES HAVE MOVED TO ONLINE VENUES.
CONTACT pastor@saintjamespres.org FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

Give to St. James Online:

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

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



SESSION 3: COMPASSION HELPS US LOVE OURSELVES

It means showing gentleness and kindness to ourselves in heart, soul, mind, and strength. When we pay attention to and honor our own selves, we experience how God sees and loves us. Through Jesus' teaching of an ancient Hebrew commandment, the children will experience self-love as an essential form of compassion. Children will practice affirming themselves through word and body, seeing how doing so connects them to God's Spirit within.

LECTIONARY TEXTS

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary texts. This week, July 26th, the lectionary texts are:

Psalms 105:1-11, 45b (worship) or Psalm 128

Romans 8:26-39 (preaching)

Genesis 29:15-28

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

NEW BOOK FOR ST. JAMES BOOK CLUB!

St. James Book Club is currently reading *The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life* By David Brooks. Everybody tells you to live for a cause larger than yourself, but how exactly do you do it? The author of *The Road to Character* explores what it takes to lead a meaningful life in a self-centered world.

We will be meeting Monday evening August 17th @ 7:00. Email tracy@saintjamespres.org for the Zoom link.

SUNDAY MORNING ALL CHURCH BOOK STUDY

Please join us for study and discussion on the book *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, the New York Times best-selling book exploring the counterproductive reactions white people have when their assumptions about race are challenged, and how these reactions maintain racial inequality.

Discussions are Sundays at 9:00am on the Sunday worship zoom link and follow the schedule listed:

July 26: Ch. 4 - 6

August 2: Ch. 7 - 9

August 9: Ch. 10 - 12

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

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

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

Next Sunday 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