



## ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, August 30, 2020

"House Rules: Love" - Romans 12:9-21

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### **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](http://www.saintjamespres.org/contact) to share how we can be of support.*

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#### **PRELUDE**

Luke Arnold

#### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Seth Thomas

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jenny Sue LeSchander, Lector

From whirlwind and burning bush,  
in still of night and in sheer silence—  
**God calls the faithful to sacred work.**

Beckoning us to turn aside,  
inviting us to stand on holy ground—  
**God welcomes the faithful into sacred space.**  
Come, God is calling.  
**Let us worship the Lord!**

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Lift High the Cross" - GTG #826

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Seth Thomas

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Compassionate God,  
who hears the cries of the oppressed,  
you call us to resist evil  
and hold fast to what is good,  
to take up the cross  
and commit our lives to the cause of love.  
But we are afraid to confront powers**

that privilege some and diminish others;  
we do not want to lose  
the security we enjoy.  
Forgive us.

Open our ears to hear your voice,  
our eyes to look upon neighbors in need,  
and our hearts to respond with compassion,  
that we might follow the way of Christ. Amen.

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

### **INVITATION TO GODLY PLAY**

Tracy Caruso, Lucy Sieczka

### **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**

Psalms 26:1-8

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### **SERMON READING**

Romans 12:9-21

### **SERMON**

"House Rules: Love"  
Rev. Seth Thomas

### **HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" - GTG #69

## **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

"The Prayer Perfect"  
Dave & Pat Nelson

### 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

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*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, September 6th: Romans**  
**"House Rules: Grace" - Romans 13:8-14**

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## ST. JAMES STAFF

Pastor: The Rev. Seth J. Thomas, [pastor@saintjamespres.org](mailto:pastor@saintjamespres.org)

Children & Family Director: Tracy Caruso, [tracy@saintjamespres.org](mailto:tracy@saintjamespres.org)

Accompanist: Luke Arnold

Treasurer: Marina McLeod, [stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com](mailto:stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com)

Administrative Assistant: Shannon Laws, [office@saintjamespres.org](mailto:office@saintjamespres.org)

Teachers: Claire Alarid, Lucy Siczka

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

[www.saintjamespres.org](http://www.saintjamespres.org)

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**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](mailto:pastor@saintjamespres.org) FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

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Give to St. James Online:

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

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



## **GODLY PLAY: THE PARABLE OF PARABLES**

Jerome Berryman says that “it is important for children to encounter parables during childhood so they can develop the ability to hear with their own ears what Jesus was communicating when he spoke in parables.” Our parable boxes use 2-dimensional materials to help reiterate that these are Jesus’s words and stories to us. The wondering questions used for parable lessons are designed to encourage children to see that there are deeper meanings in the parables than what they might initially encounter.

## **LECTIONARY TEXTS**

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary texts. This week, August 30th, the lectionary texts are:

Psalm 26:1-8 (worship)

Romans 12: 9-21 (preaching)

Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c

Exodus 3: 1-15

Matthew 16: 21-28

## **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 this Monday evening on August 17th @ 7:00PM.

Email [tracy@saintjamespres.org](mailto:tracy@saintjamespres.org) for the Zoom link.

## **NEW BOOK STUDY ON RACE COMING IN SEPTEMBER**

On September 13, we will begin another Zoom book study on the topic of Race, reading Austin Channing Brown’s “I’m Still Here”. Pick up a copy and join us at 9:00AM on Zoom, using the Worship Service link to join early.

## **PASTOR SETH AWAY THIS WEEK**

Pastor Seth will be away this coming week as he begins his online coursework pursuing a Doctorate of Ministry through Portland Seminary. If you have an urgent pastoral care need, please contact the church offices or your church Deacon directly.

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## THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

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**Attention: all church activities have moved to on-line forums where applicable. Contact your group leader for details.  
Join us for worship service online.**

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

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## PROGRAMS SHARING OUR ST. JAMES FACILITY

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**ALL GROUPS MEETING IN OUR BUILDING ARE  
POSTPONED. PHASE 3 SCHEDULING HAS BEGUN.**

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

**AA Fairhaven Group  
AA Men's Book Study Group  
AA SOS Men's Group  
Al-Anon  
Bellingham Community Chorus  
Overeaters Anon  
WA Gender Alliance  
You Are Not Alone (YANA)**

**Bayside Co-op Preschool  
Boy Scouts Troop 7  
Hawthorne Learning Solutions  
Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County**