



## ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, September 20, 2020

"Agitating the Privileged" - Matthew 20:1-16 & Jonah 3:10-4:11

---

### **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.*

---

#### **PRELUDE**

Luke Arnold

#### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Seth Thomas

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lindsay Anderson, Lector

Draw near to the Lord,

who hears our pleas and our praise.

**We come to rest in God's holy presence.**

Here is bread that the Lord provides;

here is manna to nourish our souls.

**We gather to feast on God's sustaining Word.**

Remember the Lord's wonderful works each evening;

see God's glory with the morning's light.

**Come, let us worship the Lord!**

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

"O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!"

GTG #41

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Seth Thomas

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord, your generosity surprises us.

For you do not mete out grace

according to how hard we work,

or how often we worship,

or how closely we follow the rules.

No, you lavish grace upon us  
according to your own desire.  
But we insist on deciding  
who is deserving and who is not.  
We grumble that some receive too little  
while others have more than they deserve.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Help us to live with humility and gratitude  
so that our words and deeds  
might embody your 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**

Lindsay Anderson

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Jonah 4:6-11

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### **SERMON READING**

Matthew 20:1-16

### **SERMON**

"Agitating the Privileged"  
Rev. Seth Thomas

### **HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"All Who Love and Serve Your City"  
GTG #351

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

### **JOYS & 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

"Wayfaring Stranger"  
Jim Gresham, Merry Thomas

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### HYMN OF COMMITMENT

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"  
GTG #649

## 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 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 27th: Parables & Prophets**  
**"The Unfair Way of God" - Matthew 21:23-32 & Ezekiel 18:25-32**

---

## 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

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

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



## **GODLY PLAY: THE HOLY BIBLE**

This lesson is about where the Church's story comes from. It is part of a comprehensive approach to Christian formation that forms a spiral curriculum that enables children to move into adolescence with an inner working knowledge of the classical Christian language system to sustain them all their lives.

## **BRING GODLY PLAY HOME**

Each week you can help your student find the weekly Godly Play story in your home Bible. For this week create a special bookmark to use with your at-home bible. Remember to send responses to the wondering questions and/or pictures of bookmarks or other responses to [tracy@saintjamespres.org](mailto:tracy@saintjamespres.org)

## **LECTIONARY TEXTS**

This week, September 20th, the lectionary texts are:  
Jonah 4: 6-11 (worship), Matthew 20:1-16 (preaching)  
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45, Exodus 16:2-15, Philippians 1:21-30

## **ST. JAMES BOOK CLUB - THIS MONDAY!**

St. James Book Club is currently reading *The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story*, by Hyeonseon Lee. It is an extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships - and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her family to freedom.

We will be meeting Monday, September 21st @ 7:00pm. Email [tracy@saintjamespres.org](mailto:tracy@saintjamespres.org) for the Zoom link.

## **ST. JAMES BOOK STUDY, EVERY SUNDAY 9:00AM**

Join us for a Zoom book study on the topic of Race. We are reading Austin Channing Brown's *"I'm Still Here"*. Pick up a copy and join us Sundays at 9:00AM on Zoom, using the Worship Service link to join early.

## **SPECIAL OFFERING TODAY**

St. James participates in four special offerings during the year. The third one for 2020, the Peace & Global Witness Offering, will be taken on Sunday, Sept 20. Your **Mission and Social Action** committee ask that you please consider contributing to this worthy cause to help us locally and globally address the anxiety and discord that are so prevalent today. 25% of the funds we collect will be used here in our community toward peace-promoting efforts; 25% will be provided to Presbytery for regional causes, and 50% will go to PCUSA's Mission Agency to advocate for

peace and justice in cultures of violence through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. You can contribute to this offering by sending your check to the church with **Peace & Global Witness** in the memo line, or by using the green GIVING button on the St. James website and selecting **Peace & Global Witness in the pull-down menu**. Thank you for your consideration.

---

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

---

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

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  
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