



## ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, October 18, 2020

Matthew 22:15-22 & Isaiah 45:1-7

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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**

Brian Johnson, Lector

Exalt the Almighty  
and worship at God's holy mountain,  
**for the Lord our God is holy.**  
Look! The Lord draws near;  
come into the presence of the Holy One.  
**Let us behold the glory of our God.**

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" - GTG #1

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Seth Thomas

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Living Lord,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
You call us to give all that we are  
and all that we have  
in service to Christ.  
But we hold tightly to our treasure,  
afraid we will not have enough for ourselves,  
and hold back our talents,  
afraid these gifts will not be enough.

**God, unclench our fists  
and help us to give fully and freely  
so that, in all things,  
we might serve and glorify you. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

**INVITATION TO GODLY PLAY**

Tracy Caruso & Claire Alarid

**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

Marina McLeod

**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**

Isaiah 45:1-7

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

**SERMON READING**

Matthew 22:15-22

**SERMON**

"Caesar's Coin, Cyrus' Grip, and Public Faith"  
Rev. Seth Thomas

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"For the Life That You Have Given"  
GTG #717

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

**JOYS & CONCERNS**

**PRAYER 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**

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## **HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"  
GTG #12

## **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, October 25th: Parables & Prophets**

**"Who Is Lord?" - Matthew 22:34-46 & Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18**

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## ST. JAMES STAFF

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

In this story, we see that God was with the People as they “went out” (the literal meaning of the word exodus) from slavery into freedom through the water. The People of God look back to this time to sustain them when God is hidden and they feel lost. For the Jews, especially, the Feast of Passover keeps alive this core event. For Christians, Baptism reawakens this event.

## **BRING GODLY PLAY HOME**

Please make sure that answers and pictures are sent to Tracy by this Thursday 10/22. Send answers to any questions to [tracy@saintjamespres.org](mailto:tracy@saintjamespres.org).

## **LECTIONARY TEXTS**

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary texts. This week, October 18th, the lectionary texts are:

Isaiah 45:1-7 (worship)

Matthew 22:15-22 (preaching)

Psalm 99

Exodus 33:12-23

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

## **BOOK STUDY ON RACE: I'M STILL HERE**

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.

- October 18: Chapters 10, 11, 12 (and interlude "A letter to my son")
- October 25: Chapters 13, 14

## **ST. JAMES BOOK CLUB MEETS OCTOBER 19TH!**

St. James Book Club is currently reading Melinda Gates's *The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World* "When you lift up women, you lift up everybody - families, communities, entire countries..."

In her book, Melinda tells the stories of the inspiring people she's met.

We will be meeting Monday evening October 19th @ 7:00. Email

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

## **STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN PACKETS DUE NOVEMBER 1ST**

St. James is launching our annual Stewardship Campaign. We will be distributing hard copies of the stewardship materials, but if you would

prefer an electronic packet instead, please let us know by completing this form today.

If you would like to stick with the hard copy, then you do not need to fill out this form. Please email Marina McLeod at

[stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com](mailto:stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Here is the link to the form: <https://forms.gle/CEvjkrCvPL2ngnk99>

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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.**

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 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

Bellingham Community Chorus  
Boy Scouts Troop 7  
Happy Hour Al-Anon  
Overeaters Anon  
WA Gender Alliance  
You Are Not Alone (YANA)

Bayside Co-op Preschool (back in session)  
Hawthorne Learning Solutions (back in session)  
Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County (back in the office)