



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Flourishing Creation: Wilderness - Isaiah 42:10-13, Luke 4:1-13

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

"Holy, Holy, Holy", St. James Handbell Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Seth Thomas

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alice Bailey, Lector

In the name of the Creator, the fountain of life,
the name of Christ, the pulse of life,
and the name of the Spirit, the breath of life. Amen.

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Earth is filled with God's presence.

Christ, we come into your presence today
to worship in this sanctuary called Earth,

A planet filled with your presence,

quivering in the forests,

vibrating in the land,

pulsating in the wilderness,

shimmering in the rivers.

God, reveal yourself to us in this place
and show us your face in all creation.

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Earth is filled with God's presence. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Fairest Lord Jesus" - GTG #630

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Seth Thomas

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Today, we remember and confess
that we have become alienated from Earth
and that we have desecrated the wild places of our garden planet.

We are sorry.

We have polluted deserts with radioactive waste.

We have torn holes in the ozone layer.

We have contaminated the roiling oceans.

We have destroyed the homes of wild creatures.

We are sorry.

Healer of Creation, forgive us. 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

Alice Bailey

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 42:10-13, p. 671

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON READING

Luke 4:1-13, p. 61

SERMON

"Flourishing Creation: Wilderness"

Rev. Seth Thomas

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"My Life Flows On" - GTG #821

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

Rev. Seth Thomas

OFFERTORY "In the Garden" Dave & Pat Nelson (ed. Jim Gresham)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

"How Firm a Foundation" - GTG #463

WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS

BLESSING & CHARGE

Rev. Seth Thomas

POSTLUDE

Sonata No. 50 in D (Haydn), 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, May 2, 2021
Flourishing Creation - Rivers & Streams
Isaiah 41:17-20, Revelation 22:1-5

SOCIAL DISTANCING REMINDERS

- 1) Enter: center aisle, Exit: side aisles.
- 2) Please stay in place during the service.
- 3) When talking to others, stay 6 feet apart.
- 4) Please don't sing during hymns. Okay to stand and listen.
Standing can help move you out of your head and open the creative side of your brain.
- 5) Sit on an "X"; family units may share an "X".
- 6) End of service - go down the side aisles and outside where you may visit briefly.

ST. JAMES STAFF

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

Children & Family Director: Tracy Caruso, tracy@saintjamespres.org

Music Director: Luke Arnold, music@saintjamespres.org

Treasurer: Marina McLeod, stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com

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

Church Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Church office closed Wednesdays

www.saintjamespres.org

St. James Sunday morning worship continues to be held online.

You can access online worship through

our website at www.saintjamespres.org/live,

the St. James Facebook page at www.facebook.com/saintjamespres

or via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88335387843>.

CONTACT pastor@saintjamespres.org FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Give toward an
existing pledge:



Give to general
offering:



Give to
St. James Online:

[Click Here](#)

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



GODLY PLAY: THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND WORLD COMMUNION:

This lesson sets the story of the Good Shepherd next to Holy Communion to deepen each other's interpretation.

BRINGING GODLY PLAY HOME

Try the activities that were sent via email and send pictures of your work and answers to any wondering questions to tracy@saintjamespres.org.

LECTIONARY TEXTS

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary texts. This week, April 25th, the lectionary texts are:

Isaiah 42:10-13 (worship) Luke 4:1-13 (preaching)

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

Acts 4:5-12

John 10:11-18

SUNDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY

New book discussion starts April 25th. We will be looking at Justin McRoberts and Scott Erickson's book Prayer: Forty Days of Practice. We hope you can all join us at 9:00 am using the Sunday morning worship zoom link. Let Seth or Tracy know if you would like a copy of the book.

FAMILY PROMISE SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES THIS MONTH

April 26-May 2, St. James partners with our neighbors, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and Our Savior's Lutheran Church once again to assist homeless families. The families are currently living in Interfaith Coalition housing during this time of Covid-19 and knowing specific needs in advance is difficult. However, if you are willing to provide dinner for one of the families please contact Gretchen Pfueller at gmpfueller@gmail.com for more information. She will have a list of needs soon.

PRAYERS, PRAISES, AND UPDATES

Jennie McLaurin donated a kidney to a friend (Jeff) on April 20. The surgery went well. The family wishes to thank you all for your prayers and asks that continued prayers be made for healthy recoveries. Andrew, Jennie's husband, shares, "*Jeff feels fantastic and Jennie has less pain than she anticipated. The doctors said it was a beautiful kidney. We feel the prayers.*" Amen!"

If you have a prayer request or update you would like to share, please email office@saintjamespres.org.

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

Out of consideration for those at higher risk of complications from COVID-19, church meetings and events should be held online or via phone, or email. If an in-person meeting is necessary, please consult our Church Reopening Guidelines and Procedures (<https://saintjamespres.org/reopening>) before contacting the church to schedule.

AA Fairhaven Group
AA Men's Book Study Group
AA SOS Men's Group (in building)
Bayside Co-op Preschool (in building)
Bellingham Community Chorus
Bellingham Ukulele Group (BUG)
Boy Scouts Troop 7 (in building)
Happy Hour AI-Anon
Hawthorne Learning Solutions (in building)
Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County (in building part-time)
Linda's Tai Chi
Overeaters Anon
South Hill Neighborhood Association
WA Gender Alliance
Whatcom Weavers Guild
You Are Not Alone (YANA)