



## ORDER FOR WORSHIP

May 2, 2021

Flourishing Creation: Rivers & Streams, Isaiah 41:17-20, Rev. 22:1-5

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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**

"This is My Father's World"  
St. James Handbell Choir

#### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Seth Thomas

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Merry Thomas

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.**

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Out of Deep, Unordered Water" - GTG #484

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Seth Thomas

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Today, we remember and confess  
that we have become alienated from Earth  
and have polluted the rivers of our garden planet.

**We are sorry.**

**We have polluted our rivers with poisons.**

**We have treated our streams as waste dumps.**

**We have turned living waters into death traps.**

**We have wasted precious waters in careless living.**

We are sorry.

**Healer of Creation, forgive us. Amen.**

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

Rev. Seth Thomas

## **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**

Merry Thomas

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 41:17-20, p.669-670

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SERMON READING**

Revelation 22:1-5, p.260

### **SERMON**

"Flourishing Creation: Rivers & Streams"

Rev. Seth Thomas

### **HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" - GTG #509

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

### **JOYS & CONCERNS**

Rev. Seth Thomas

### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

## OFFERTORY

“Impromptu, Op. 90 No. 3” (Schubert,) Luke Arnold

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Seth Thomas

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us open our hearts.

**We open them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

**It is right to lift up thanks and praise.**

## THE INVITATION & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### WELCOME TO THE TABLE

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

## COMMUNION PRAYER & 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.**

## HYMN OF COMMITMENT

"For Everyone Born" - GTG #769

v. 1, 2, & 3

## WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS

## BLESSING & CHARGE

Rev. Seth Thomas

## POSTLUDE

“La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin” (Debussy,) 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, May 9, 2021**

**Flourishing Creation - Sky, Psalm 19:1-6, Matthew 16:1-4**

## 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)

Music Director: Luke Arnold, [music@saintjamespres.org](mailto:music@saintjamespres.org)

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

Office email: [office@saintjamespres.org](mailto:office@saintjamespres.org)

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

Church office closed Wednesdays

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

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

**You can access online worship through**

**our website at [www.saintjamespres.org/live](http://www.saintjamespres.org/live),**

**the St. James Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/saintjamespres](http://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres)**

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

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

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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 SYNAGOGUE AND THE UPPER ROOM**

In this lesson the synagogue and the upper room are joined together to form a model of Christian worship, the joining of the Old and New Testaments, and much more.

## **BRINGING HOME GODLY PLAY**

Try the activities that were sent home via email and send pictures of your work and answers to any wondering questions to

[tracy@saintjamespres.org](mailto:tracy@saintjamespres.org).

## **LECTIONARY TEXTS**

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary texts, this week, May 2nd, the lectionary texts are:

Isaiah 41:17-20 (worship)

Revelations 22:1-5 (preaching)

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

Acts 8:26-40

John 15:1-8

## **NEW BOOK DISCUSSION**

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.

## **YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITY**

The Youth group will be participating in a work day on May 15th, helping the City of Bellingham and the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association to pull invasive blackberry bushes from Happy Valley Park. If you are interested in joining us, please let Tracy know.

## **PRAYERS, PRAISES, AND UPDATES**

If you have a prayer request or update you would like to share, please email [office@saintjamespres.org](mailto:office@saintjamespres.org).

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## THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

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**Attention: most 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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**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)**