



ORDER FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, May 9, 2021

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

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

"Prelude in C Major" (Bach) - Luke Arnold

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Seth Thomas

CALL TO WORSHIP

Maureen Kosa

In the name of the Creator, who colors the sky,
the name of Christ, who died under dark skies,
and the name of the Spirit, the wind in the sky. Amen.

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Sky is filled with God's presence.

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

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Earth is filled with your presence. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"How Great Thou Art" - GTG #625

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Seth Thomas

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

We are sorry.

**We have been thoughtless and greedy,
ready to pollute rather than preserve,**

**to abuse the atmosphere rather than believe
the air is indeed the breath of God for us.**

We have have choked the air with ugly gases,
polluted the very breath of God.

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

Maureen Kosa

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 19:1-6, p. 498-499

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON READING

Matthew 16:1-4, p. 17-18

SERMON

"Flourishing Creation: Sky"
Rev. Seth Thomas

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"There's a Wideness in
God's Mercy" - GTG #435

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

"Adagio, Violin Sonata No. 3"
(Brahms) - Luke Arnold

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

"Will You Come and
Follow Me" - GTG #726

WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS

BLESSING & CHARGE

Rev. Seth Thomas

POSTLUDE

"Raggy Waltz" (Brubeck) - 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 16, 2021
Flourishing Creation - Mountains
Psalm 48:1-11, Micah 4:1-5

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

Administrative Assistant: Shannon Laws, office@saintjamespres.org

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:



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offering:



Give to
St. James Online:

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



GODLY PLAY: MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS

This story follows the story of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Mary's story parallels the stories of divine intervention in the birth of Isaac to Sarah, and Samuel to Hannah.

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, May 9th, the lectionary texts are:

Psalm 19:1-6 (worship)

Matthew 16:1-4 (preaching)

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

Acts 1:15-17

John 15:9-17

SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION

We will be looking at Justin McRoberts and Scott Erickson's book Prayer: Forty Days of Practice. We hope you can 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.

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)