



February 9, 2025

"Being Engaged"

Luke 5:1-11

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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  
how God is moving in your life.*

*Please visit [www.saintjamespres.org/contact](http://www.saintjamespres.org/contact) to share  
how we can be of support!*

*\*Please stand in body or in spirit*

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**ORDER FOR WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE**

Leah Bruno

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dr. Seth Thomas

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jessica Parks

You call us, O Christ, to live as your disciples,  
**with new life, by way of new paths,  
seeking new ways.**

In your call toward deep waters,  
**grant us faith.**

In your command not to fear,  
**grant us courage.**

In your invitation to follow,  
**grant us surrender.**

Restore to us the joy of living as your disciples,  
**that we might travel with you  
in the way of miracle. Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

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

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,  
you call, but we seldom hear.  
You beckon, yet we turn away.  
Sin keeps us from responding to you,  
thwarting even our best efforts.  
Forgive our lack of attention  
to things that matter  
and restore our sense of your priorities.  
Focus us on your call to worship and service  
as we seek to follow after Jesus Christ.

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

### **\*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**

#### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 138 pg. 577

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

#### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

“How Can I Keep from Singing”  
Quaker Tune, arr. Bradley Ellingboe  
Words by Robert Lowry

St. James Chancel Choir  
Merry Thomas, flute  
Jim Gresham, clarinet

#### **SERMON READING**

Luke 5:1-11 pg. 62

#### **SERMON**

“Being Engaged” Rev. Dr. Seth Thomas

#### **\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**

“Commit Your Way to God the Lord”  
- GTG 706

## **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**

##### **\*DOXOLOGY**

**"For the Life That You Have Given" - GTG 717**

**For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,  
With these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own;  
Here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;  
Give us grace to love and serve you, Living what we pray and sing.**

##### **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

##### **\*SINGING WELCOME AS CHILDREN RETURN TO SANCTUARY**

**Welcome, children, welcome, we are glad you're here.**

**Welcome, children, welcome. Now to God draw near.**

##### **\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

**"You Walk Along Our Shoreline" - GTG 170**

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

##### **\*BLESSING & CHARGE**

#### **POSTLUDE**

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*As our worship concludes, our service begins.  
We invite you to join us for fellowship following worship. Please introduce  
yourself to those new to you and extend a welcome of peace and  
friendship to everyone.*

**Next Week, February 16, 2025  
“Being Blessed” Luke 6:17-26**

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## **GODLY PLAY: Parable of the Mustard Seed**

Jerome Berryman says that “it is important for children to encounter parables during childhood so they can develop the ability to hear with their own ears what Jesus was communicating when he spoke in parables.” Our parable boxes use two dimensional materials to help reiterate that these are Jesus’s words and stories to us. The wondering questions used for parable lessons are designed to encourage children to see that there are deeper meanings in the parables than what they might initially encounter.

We hope you will join us at 10:15 for our intergenerational memory verse time. After memory verse time The Godly Play room will open at 10:30am for students, adults will stay upstairs for worship. Students will be brought upstairs for the final hymn.

## **LECTIONARY TEXTS**

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary or worship texts for this week February 9th:

Psalms 138 (worship)

Luke 5:1-11 (sermon)

Isaiah 6:1-8

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

## **BELL CHOIR**

The bell choir will rehearse on Thursdays from 6-6:45pm, in the Horizon Room. If you're interested in playing with us, please see Jenny Sue for more information. The more hands, the merrier!

## **PUB THEOLOGY - TOMORROW February 10**

Join us on the 2nd and 4th Monday's from 6:30-7:30pm at Archer Ale House in Fairhaven. Childcare and carpooling are available at St. James beginning at 6:15pm and ending at 7:45pm.

Led by Jimmy and Jessica Parks, we'll explore themes of Christian ethics-ideas about good, evil, and the in-between, and how we live them out in everyday life. This is not a lecture or Bible study, but an opportunity to have an open discussion in a relaxed, welcoming setting. Jimmy and Jessica will facilitate the discussion and provide resources for deeper engagement, if desired. Outside readings are not required for participation but will allow for a richer conversation. Please reach out to [jimmyjamesjimbo@gmail.com](mailto:jimmyjamesjimbo@gmail.com) if you would like the resources used for discussion or if you have any questions.

## **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

Can't make it to Pub Theology but want to be a part of an open conversation about life, theology, current events, and the Church? Grab coffee with Seth, Jessica, and Jimmy on Thursdays from 8:30-9:30 am at Makeworth Coffee (1201 N State St).

## **TODDLER TIME**

Wednesday mornings from 8:30-10:30am for ages four and younger. Come join us in the St. James Fellowship Hall for an open play time. Parents have a chance to socialize with other parents and enjoy free coffee while their children play. This is a free, unstructured playtime; while it will be staffed, parents/guardians must be present at all times. We provide a few toys but feel free to bring your own to share.

## **BELLINGHAM COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

We are once again joining with Lowell Elementary school to provide snacks for children who may need them during the school day. We are asking for donations of individually wrapped nut-free snacks. Items can be left in the tub in the narthex or outside Tracy's office. This will be an ongoing need until the school year ends in June. Our goal is 100 snacks/month.

Lowell is also in need of mentors and volunteers to read with children at the school. Please contact [cfm@saintjamespres.org](mailto:cfm@saintjamespres.org) if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering.

## **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).

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

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Monday, 2/10	4:00pm, St. James Fitness, open to all 6:30pm, Pub Theology
Tuesday, 2/11	10:30am, Women's Bible study
Wednesday, 2/12	8:30am, Toddler time 5:00pm, Finance
Thursday, 2/13	4:00pm, St. James Fitness, open to all 7:00pm, Choir rehearsal
Next Sunday, 2/16	10:30am In-person and streamed Sunday Worship Service <a href="https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/">https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/</a> 12:00pm, Deacons/ Elders meeting

## PROGRAMS SHARING OUR ST. JAMES FACILITY

AA Fairhaven Group.....	Mondays/ Thursdays
AA Grateful Hearts.....	Mondays
AA Men's Book Study Group.....	Mondays
AA SOS Men's Group.....	Wednesdays
AA Meditation Group.....	Saturdays
Bayside Co-op Preschool.....	Monday-Friday during school year
Bellingham Community Chorus.....	Tuesdays September-April
Bellingham Ukulele Group (BUG).....	1st Saturday of each month
Boy Scouts Troop 7.....	Mondays
Happy Hour AI-Anon.....	Tuesdays
Liberation Yoga.....	TBD
Linda's Tai Chi.....	Mondays
Little Sapling Music.....	Wednesdays/ Thursdays quarterly
Overeaters Anonymous.....	Saturdays
The Table Church.....	Sundays
Whatcom Weavers Guild.....	TBD
Wild Hearts group.....	TBD
World Peace Poets.....	TBD

## ST. JAMES STAFF

Pastor: Seth J. Thomas, [pastor@saintjamespres.org](mailto:pastor@saintjamespres.org)

Children & Family Director: Tracy Caruso, [tracy@saintjamespres.org](mailto:tracy@saintjamespres.org)

Music Director: Leah Bruno, [music@saintjamespres.org](mailto:music@saintjamespres.org)

Treasurer: Stefany Ness, [treasurer@saintjamespres.org](mailto:treasurer@saintjamespres.org)

Admin: Sharon King, [office@saintjamespres.org](mailto:office@saintjamespres.org)

910 14th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225 360-733-1325 [www.saintjamespres.org](http://www.saintjamespres.org)

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pastor Seth's Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

To schedule ahead of time: <http://www.calendly.com/pastorseththomas>  
or [pastor@saintjamespres.org](mailto:pastor@saintjamespres.org)

*In consideration of others, please refrain from wearing heavy perfumes and scents, and please silence your cell phones before the service.*

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**You can access online worship through  
our website at [www.saintjamespres.org/live](http://www.saintjamespres.org/live)**

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Give toward an  
existing pledge:



Give to  
St. James Online:

[Click Here](#)

Give to general  
offering:



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

