



September 29, 2024

"Liberal and Conservative"

Mark 9:38-50

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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**

Jennie McLaurin

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Alice Bailey

We gather in this place  
seeking to live in faithful community  
and asking God to guide us.

**Lord, revive our souls,**  
that we might lift each other up.

**Lord, revive our souls,**  
that we might order our communities  
in ways that lead us toward love.

**Lord, revive our souls!**

### **\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

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

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Let the words of our mouths  
and the meditation of our hearts  
be acceptable to you, O Lord,  
our rock and our redeemer.  
For you are our rock,  
and yet we place our faith in sinking sand.  
You are our redeemer,  
and yet we are convinced that we must save ourselves.  
You are our source of unity,  
and yet we isolate ourselves in every way we can.  
You are our fount of forgiveness,  
and yet we fear that we will be condemned.  
Forgive us, O Rock.  
Forgive us, O Redeemer,  
and show us what it means to forgive one another.

## **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 19:7-14 pg. 499

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

#### **SERMON READING**

Mark 9:38-50 pg. 45

#### **SERMON**

"Liberal and Conservative"

Jennie McLaurin

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

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"  
- GTG 465

## **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**

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

- GTG 804

## **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, October 6, 2024**

**Guest preacher Rev. Laura Terasaki**

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## **GODLY PLAY:** The Flood and the Ark

In this lesson we move with the people of God from the creation to the re-creation and God's promise to Noah, to God's family and to us.

We hope you will join us at 10:15am for songs and memory verse time in the lounge. At 10:30, children will go downstairs to Godly Play, and adults will stay upstairs to worship. Students will be brought upstairs for the final hymn.

## **LECTIONARY TEXTS**

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary texts for this week, September 29th:

Psalms 19:7-14 (worship)

Mark 9:38-50 (sermon)

Psalms 124

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

James 5:13-20

## **WELCOME HOME LUNCH FOR THOMAS FAMILY**

Please join us after worship on October 6 for a Welcome Home Luncheon for the Thomas family. This will be a catered lunch.

## **PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING SOWING THE SEEDS OF PEACE**

Please prayerfully consider donating to the Peace & Global Witness special offering. This offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world. You may contribute by using the envelope in your bulletin on October 6 or by using the QR code on the bulletin inserts or by using the drop-down tab on the St. James Website.

## **INTERFAITH COALITION - WINTER WARMTH DRIVE**

Share your unused, clean or like new coats, hats, and gloves of all sizes with our community. Donations will be accepted at St. James in the narthex until October 6. Please hang coats under the signs and place hats and gloves in the marked baskets.

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

There will be a short congregational meeting on Sunday, October 13th. The purpose of this meeting is to elect members for the Nominating Committee.

## **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 next 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 [tracy@saintjamespres.org](mailto:tracy@saintjamespres.org) if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering.

## **TODDLER TIME IS BACK!**

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.

## **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, 9/30	4:00pm, St. James Fitness, open to all
Tuesday, 10/1	5:30pm, Building & Grounds
Wednesday, 10/2	8:30am, Toddler Time 4:00pm, Mission & Social Action 6:00pm, CFF
Thursday, 10/3	4:00pm, St. James Fitness, open to all 7:00pm, Choir rehearsal
Next Sunday, 10/6	10:30am In-person and streamed Sunday Worship Service <a href="https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/">https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/</a>

## PROGRAMS SHARING OUR ST. JAMES FACILITY

AA Fairhaven Group.....	Mondays/ Thursdays
AA Men's Book Study Group.....	Mondays
AA SOS Men's Group.....	Wednesdays
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 Al-Anon.....	Tuesdays
Liberation Yoga.....	TBD
Linda's Tai Chi.....	Mondays
Little Sapling Music.....	Wednesdays/ Thursdays quarterly
Meditation AA.....	Fridays
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 (on sabbatical 7/1-10/1)

Head of Staff: Janice Smith, [janice@saintjamespres.org](mailto:janice@saintjamespres.org)

Pastoral Support & Memorials: Randy Pries, [randypries@gmail.com](mailto:randypries@gmail.com)

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

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

Treasurer: Katie Dunne, [stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com](mailto:stjamestreasurer.bham@gmail.com)

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

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

Janice Smith will be in Bellingham on Tuesdays and Sundays, during Seth's sabbatical, for in person appointments. She will also be available other days if scheduled ahead. [janice@saintjamespres.org](mailto:janice@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:



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Give to general  
offering:



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