



January 18, 2026

"Jesus Cleanses the Temple"

Psalm 127:1-2, John 2:13-25

**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 to share
how we can be of support!*

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Janice Smith

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jessica Parks

To those who want to follow him,
Jesus asks, "What are you seeking?"

**Teacher, we do not seek worldly power,
but a better way to live.**

What are you seeking?"

**Teacher, we do not seek worldly wealth,
nor the prizes of paradise, but simply to be with you.**

"What are you seeking?"

**Teacher, we do not seek worldly praise or fame, only that you call us
by name. Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"
- GTG 394

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the ages,
We do not always wait with patience.
We do not always sing your praises.
We do not always recognize your work in our lives.
We would rather take the credit for ourselves.
We would rather take the easy way out.
We would rather step on others
if it means more for ourselves.
Forgive us for all the ways we forget you.
Help us to delight to do your will.
Help us to trust in you
and return us to the path of righteousness.

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 127:1-2 pg. 573

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Tender Shepherd"
Joseph and Pamela Martin
St. James Chancel Choir

SERMON READING

John 2:13-25 pg. 93

SERMON

"Jesus Cleanses the Temple"
Rev. Janice Smith

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"From the Nets of Our Labor"
- GTG 751

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

JOYS & SORROWS

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

"Meditation"
Florence Price
Leah Bruno, piano

***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**

"Let Us Build A House" - GTG 301

WE GO INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS

***BLESSING & CHARGE**

POSTLUDE

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, January 25, 2026

“Nicodemus”

John 3:1-21

GODLY PLAY: Parable of the Good Shepherd

In this lesson we hear the parable of the Good Shepherd, in which the shepherd searches for his one lost sheep, leaving the other ninety-nine to do so. This parable is often considered more of an identity statement than a parable.

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. Children will be brought upstairs for the final hymn.

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY MORNING

A new sign-up sheet for providing flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday mornings during 2026 is located on the bulletin board in the Horizon Room. Please help the Flower Committee by signing up soon. We hope that every family will sign up for at least one Sunday during the year.

Thank you!

NEW 4 WEEK CLASS STARTING - TODAY!

Please join us for a four week class entitled, 'Who Am I Becoming?' This class, led by Randy Pries, will be considering the variety of past and present contributors that have shaped who we have become so far. And then drawing on scripture and a book called *Surrender to Love* by David Benner, look at God's heart and desire for us, and how His love can shape who we are becoming, and the way forward. We will be meeting at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR - REHEARSAL AFTER SERVICE

Our Children's Choir, under Leah Bruno's direction, continues at St. James. Rehearsals will be held after church this month in the sanctuary. All children are welcome, even if you haven't attended a prior rehearsal.

YOUTH GROUP

Inviting all Middle and High schoolers! Join us next Sunday, January 25th from 12:30-2:30pm for lunch, discussion, and games. Let us know if you can make it so we know how much pizza to order!

cfm@saintjamespres.org.

PUB THEOLOGY

Pub Theology will be taking a break for January. Watch for updates for when we resume.

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 Goldfish, Graham crackers, or gluten-free pretzels. 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 cfm@saintjamespres.org if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering.

TODDLER TIME IS BACK!

Join us on 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.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

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 St. James in the Lounge.

LECTIONARY TEXTS

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary or worship texts for this week, January 18th:

Psalm 127:1-2 (worship)

Psalm 40:1-11

John 2:13-25 (sermon)

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Isaiah 49:1-7

John 1:29-42

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

Monday, 1/19	Church office closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday 4:00pm, St. James Fitness - if interested, speak with Mark Beaty 7:00pm, St. James Book Club
Wednesday, 1/21	8:30am, Toddler Time 10:00am, Grief Group
Thursday, 1/22	8:30am, Coffee & Conversation at St. James 10:00am, St. James Writers Circle 4:00pm, St. James Fitness - if interested, speak with Mark Beaty 6:00pm, SJPC Bell Choir 7:00pm, SJPC Choir Rehearsal
Next Sunday, 1/25	9:00am, Sunday class "Who Am I Becoming" 10:30am, In-person and streamed Sunday Worship Service http://www.saintjamespres.org/live 11:45pm, All Church Meeting 12:30pm, Youth Group

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 the 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
Linda's Tai Chi.....	Mondays
Little Sapling Music.....	Wednesdays/ Thursdays quarterly
Overeaters Anonymous.....	Saturdays
The Table Church.....	Sundays
Wild Hearts group.....	TBD

ST. JAMES STAFF

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

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

Music Director: Leah Bruno, music@saintjamespres.org

Treasurer: Stefany Ness, treasurer@saintjamespres.org

Admin: Sharon King, office@saintjamespres.org

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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

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

**You can access online worship through
our website at www.saintjamespres.org/live**

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)

