



January 4, 2026

“Jesus Says, ‘Come and See’”

John 1:35-51

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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

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Seth Thomas

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jenny Sue LeSchander

Before the foundation of the world,

**God destined us for love.**

Through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,

**God adopted us into her own family.**

From the farthest edges of the earth,

**God shepherds their family home.**

#### GODLY PLAY

Tracy Caruso

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE

“Make a Joyful Noise to God!”

- GTG 54

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gather us,  
your children who run and hide,  
ashamed, afraid, apathetic.  
We trade your goodness for ashes.  
We trade your peace for control.  
We trade your promise for certainty.  
Gather us to you  
and return us to your abundant mercy;  
may it flow over us,  
renewing our weary souls.

## **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**

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66:1-5 pg. 528

#### **SERMON READING**

John 1:35-51 pgs. 92-93

#### **SERMON**

“Jesus Says, ‘Come and See’”  
Rev. Dr. Seth Thomas

#### **\*HYMN OF RESPONS**

“Down Galilee’s Slow Roadways”  
- GTG 164

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

### **JOYS & CONCERNS**

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

Leah Bruno

## \*DOXOLOGY

## **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## 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**

## "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" - GTG 418

## 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, January 11, 2026**  
**Wedding at Cana**

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## **GODLY PLAY:** Epiphany

This story extends our Advent series with more about the Magi. Everyone will begin in the worship service for our Godly Play story. Kids will be taken downstairs for work time and then will return for communion.

## **CHILDREN'S CHOIR - REHEARSAL AFTER SERVICE**

Leah is hosting a Children's Choir 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.

## **NEW 4 WEEK CLASS STARTING SUNDAY, JANUARY 18**

Please join us for a 4 week class entitled, 'Who Am I Becoming?' We 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.

## **KARAOKE TIME!**

Join us for a fun evening of food, fellowship and singing! Friday evening, January 16th from 6:00-8:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite dish to share and come sing with us!

## **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.

## **PUB THEOLOGY**

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

## **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 8:30-9:30am at St. James in the Lounge.

## **LECTIONARY TEXTS**

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary texts for this week,  
January 4th:

Psalm 66:1-5 (worship)	Psalm 147:12-20
John 1:35-51 (sermon)	Ephesians 1:3-14
Jeremiah 31:7-14	John 1:10-18

## **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, 1/5	4:00pm, St. James Fitness - if interested, speak with Mark Beaty
Tuesday, 1/6	5:00pm, Building & Grounds
Wednesday, 1/7	8:30am, Toddler Time 10:00am, Grief Support group 5:00pm, Finance
Thursday, 1/8	8:30am, Coffee & Conversation at St. James 4:00pm, St. James Fitness - if interested, speak with Mark Beaty 6:00pm, SJPC Bell Choir 7:00pm, SJPC Choir Rehearsal
Next Sunday, 1/11	10:30am In-person and streamed Sunday Worship Service <a href="https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/">https://www.facebook.com/saintjamespres/</a> 11:30am, Children's Choir Rehearsal 12:00pm, Session

## 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.....	Fridays
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
Linda's Tai Chi.....	Mondays
Little Sapling Music.....	Wednesdays/ Thursdays quarterly
Overeaters Anonymous.....	Saturdays
The Table Church.....	Sundays

## ST. JAMES STAFF

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

Children & Family Director: Tracy Caruso, [cfm@saintjamespres.org](mailto:cfm@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 general  
offering:



Give to  
St. James Online:

[Click Here](#)

*Stay current on activities and happenings [@saintjamespres](http://www.saintjamespres.org)*

