



February 8, 2026

"Healing Stories"

Psalm 40:1-5, John 4:46-54, 5:1-18

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. Dr. Seth Thomas

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jenny Sue LeSchander

We are salt for the earth.

We are a light for the world.

Just as no one hides a lamp away,

we will offer the world what only we can give.

In shining our lights, we will remember:

We are not the only ones with vital wisdom.

Grateful for mutual enlightenment,

we will not drown out another's beam with ours.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Why Should I Feel Discouraged" - GTG 661

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Patient God,

it is so easy for us to miss the point.

We know how to perform righteousness;

we go to church, we donate, we volunteer,

but we care more about how we are seen

than our faithfulness to you.

We show off our piousness,

instead of actually sharing our food,

our homes, our resources

with those in the most need.

Have mercy on us for the ways we serve ourselves,

and teach us your way,

the way that leads to justice and peace.

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 40:1-5 pg. 513

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"On Eagle's Wings"

Michael Joncas

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

St. James Chancel Choir

SERMON READING

John 4:46-54, 5:1-18 pg. 96

SERMON

"Healing Stories"

Rev. Dr. Seth Thomas

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"Healer of Our Every Ill" - GTG 795

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

“Alleluia”
St. James Bell Choir

***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**

"For the Healing of the Nations"
- GTG 346

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, February 15, 2026
Kyle Anderson preaching

GODLY PLAY: Parable of the Sower

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 10:15am 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.

SAVE THE DATES

Coming up Saturday, May 16th, the **Third Annual Festival of the Arts Fundraiser** raising money for the **All Church Retreat** on August 28-30th. The next planning meeting will be February 12th at 5:00pm in the Lounge.

PUB THEOLOGY

Pub Theology is looking for some feedback! Please take a minute to fill out the form found

here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfDKc35QYYd50DlpCakuurTSXUFq1gMVmSFSpaU1R4bw9X_Wg/viewform. Or talk to Jimmy or Jessica Parks.

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

LECTIONARY TEXTS

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary or worship texts for this week, February 8th:

Psalm 40:1-5 (worship)

Psalm 112:1-9

John 4:46-54, 5:1-18 (sermon)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Isaiah 58:1-9

Matthew 5:13-20

PRAYERS, PRAISES, AND UPDATES

If you have a prayer request or update you would like to share, please email office@saintjamespres.org.

Ash Wednesday

*February 18th, 7pm
St. James Presbyterian*

Maundy Thursday

*April 2nd, 6pm
Cordata Presbyterian*

Tenebrae

*April 3rd, 7:30pm
First Presbyterian*

Lenten
Pilgrimage
2026



THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

Monday, 2/9	4:00pm, St. James Fitness - if interested, speak with Mark Beaty
Wednesday, 2/11	8:30am, Toddler Time
Thursday, 2/12	8:30am, Coffee & Conversation at St. James 4:00pm, St. James Fitness - if interested, speak with Mark Beaty 5:00pm, SJPC Retreat Planning meeting 6:00pm, SJPC Bell Choir 7:00pm, SJPC Choir Rehearsal
Next Sunday, 2/15	10:30am, In-person and streamed Sunday Worship Service http://www.saintjamespres.org/live 11:45am, Children's Choir Rehearsal 12:00pm, Deacons

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

910 14th Street, Bellingham, WA 98225 360-733-1325 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

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)

