



April 19, 2026

“Paul’s Conversion”

Acts 9:1-19a

**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

Jesus the Christ has freed us from death
and brought us into new life.

Through Christ, we have faith and hope in God.

In genuine, mutual love,

let us worship with one heart and one voice.

In reverence and joy, we praise God’s holy name!

***HYMN OF INVITATION**

“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”

- GTG 688

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternally patient God,
we ask again and again,
“What should we do?”
And again and again, you tell us,
“Repent and return to me.”
Yet we have not changed our ways.
We fall into old habits,
cling to our own ways,
and take for granted the grace you have given us.
Once again, we ask you for forgiveness.
Show us the way forward
and help us return, once again, to you.

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

Matthew 7:7-11 pg. 7

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

“You Say”

Lauren Daigle, arr. Heather Sorenson
Grace Girls

SERMON READING

Acts 9:1-19a, pg. 127-128

SERMON

“Paul’s Conversion”

Fred Hartsook

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” - GTG 69

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

"Come to Jesus"
Chris Rice, arr. Mark Hayes
Grace Girls

***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. *Easter time is here.*

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

"Take My Life" - GTG 697

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, April 26, 2026

“Paul and Silas”

Acts 16:16-34, Luke 6:18-19, 22-23

GODLY PLAY: Knowing Jesus in a New Way

The season of Eastertide extends Easter for six weeks and helps prepare for Pentecost. This period is a time of transition between Jesus' early ministry and the oncoming of the Holy Spirit. It is a time when the disciples, and others, began to know Jesus in a new way.

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

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, April 21st in the Horizon Room at 10:30am. We will discuss lesson seven, "The Woman Who Was Bent Over".

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. Purchase tickets here:

<https://saintjamespres.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3520478>.

We are looking for performances and art donations for the Festival of the Arts. If you are wanting to donate a piece of artwork please let us know here: <https://tinyurl.com/stjamesart>.

If you have a performance please let us know here:

<https://tinyurl.com/StJamesperformance>. The performance deadline is Sunday April 19th.

BOOK CLUB-TOMORROW

St. James book club is currently reading *Little Fires Everywhere*, a 2017 novel by Celeste Ng about two families in the planned community of Shaker Heights, Ohio, whose lives intertwine and clash, exploring themes of motherhood, race, class, and the tension between rules and rebellion. Copies of the book are available in the office. We will meet, tomorrow evening, Monday, April 20th, at 7:00pm via Zoom. Contact Tracy cfm@saintjamespres.org for the Zoom link.

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.

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 with any questions or if you are interested in volunteering.

LECTIONARY TEXTS

For anyone wishing to study the lectionary or worship texts for this week, April 19th:

Matthew 7:7-11 (worship)	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Acts 9:1-19a (sermon)	1 Peter 1:17-23
Isaiah 51:1-6	Luke 24:13-35
Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Psalm 34:1-10

PRAYERS, PRAISES, AND UPDATES

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



VBS

Registration is open! Join us as a camper or a volunteer as we travel through time and find God in all times.

<https://fpcbellingham.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3549540>

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

- Monday, 4/20 4:00pm, St. James Fitness
 - if interested, speak with Mark Beaty
 7:00pm, SJPC Book Club
- Tuesday, 4/21 10:30am, Women's Bible Study
- Wednesday, 4/22 8:30am, Toddler Time
- Thursday, 4/23 8:30am, Coffee & Conversation at St. James
 4:00pm, St. James Fitness
 - if interested, speak with Mark Beaty
 5:00pm, SJPC Choir Rehearsal
 6:00pm, SJPC Bell Choir
- Next Sunday, 4/26 10:30am, In-person and streamed Easter Sunday
 Worship Service <http://www.saintjamespres.org/live>
 11:45am, Children's Choir Rehearsal

PROGRAMS SHARING OUR ST. JAMES FACILITY

AA Fairhaven Group
AA Grateful Hearts
AA Men's Book Study Group
AA SOS Men's Group
AA Meditation Group
Bayside Co-op Preschool
Bellingham Community Chorus
Bellingham Ukulele Group (BUG)
Boy Scouts Troop 7

Happy Hour Al-Anon
Linda's Tai Chi
Little Sapling Music
Overeaters Anonymous
The Table Church
Wild Hearts Group

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)

