

## Welcome, Visitors!

We are delighted that you are here! We hope this visit will be a great blessing to you in your journey of faith. Please fill out one of Connection Cards found in the back of the pews, so that we know you were here. Find out what's going on in and around St. James at [www.sjpres.org](http://www.sjpres.org).

### Our Mission and Vision

The mission of St. James is to ignite a contagious passion for Jesus Christ, becoming God's instruments of transformation, here and in the world. To fulfill this mission, we are striving to be a church that is Christ-centered, inwardly strong and outwardly focused. We are a congregation that joyfully chooses to see ourselves and one another through the lens of God's Grace.

### Children

We **love** having children in worship and we want parents to feel comfortable while they worship with their children.

- Worship bags with age appropriate activities are available for kids during service. These can be found in the Narthex (our lobby).
- The Prayground is for children and their families to remain in worship during the service and engage in sensory activities, as well as learn about what it is like to be in worship.
- The Wiggle Room located in the back of the sanctuary is intended for babies and their parents.
- If nursery (ages 0-5) would be a blessing to you during worship, please reach out to [Becky@sjpres.org](mailto:Becky@sjpres.org) to arrange care.

### Youth Group

We are a group of middle and high schoolers who are head-over-heels excited about how Jesus has ignited unending joy in our hearts. We meet weekly on Sunday evenings from 5-7pm.

### Discipleship Hour: **The CHOSEN**

Our Fall and Spring Discipleship Hour will focus on the ground-breaking TV show about the life of Jesus. The study guide called "What Does It Mean To Be Chosen?" parallels each episode, connecting readers to the Bible in a brand- new way, including a deeper look at Isaiah 43 and its fulfillment in Jesus and the lives of his followers. Every other week we will watch the episodes together in the sanctuary. The following week we will break into our small groups to discuss. If you miss an episode there are many ways to catch up including on the St James App! This is a church-wide study happening each week after worship from 10:30 - 11:30am. Please check out our website or visit the Welcome Desk in the Narthex for more information.



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# Welcome to ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN



**JANUARY 8, 2023**

3601 W Belleview Ave., Littleton, CO 80123  
303-794-6851 [www.sjpres.org](http://www.sjpres.org)

# Scripture

## Jesus Teaches Nicodemus

**1** Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. **2** He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

**3** Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

**4** "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

**5** Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. **6** Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. **7** You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' **8** The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

**9** "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

**10** "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? **11** Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. **12** I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? **13** No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. **14** Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, **15** that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

## Prayer of Confession

Giver of Life:

You are the vine and we are the branches. We praise you for creating and sustaining us. Thank you for giving our lives purpose and meaning. You are more precious even than the air we breathe.

Yet, even while planted and rooted in your love, we have broken our branch free from your vine. We have come to believe we can support and justify our own lives. To bolster this untruth, we paint false fruit on our withering branches and stand tall as our roots thirst for you. Forgive us for pretending as if we don't need you every moment of every day. Forgive us for producing too little fruit that reflects your glory and goodness. You chose us out of your mercy and grace and we have believed we deserved it. We confess we do not deserve your love but we desperately desire it.

Graft us back onto your vine. Bury our roots once more in your soil. Let our branches once again produce the fruit of the Spirit. And may our lives once again bring the shade and protection of your peace to our world.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Pastor Wayne Darbonne

\*Opening Praise

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise  
Goodness of God*

Welcome & Announcements

Liz Kuykendall-Kunz

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Eugene Scott

\*Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Eugene Scott

*\*Gloria Patri*

#815

Sharing Faith With Our Children

Marie Casias

Offering

Pastor Wayne Darbonne

Offertory

*Living Water*

*\*Doxology*

#814

Hearing The Word of God

Scripture:

John 3:1-15

Sermon: "Invitations - Born Again"

Series: **The CHOSEN**

Pastor Wayne Darbonne

\*Closing Song *This Is a Day of New Beginnings*

\*Benediction

Pastor Wayne Darbonne

Postlude

\* Please rise in body or in spirit