

Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it... Psalm 127:1a

Worship:

Tabernacle Worship Service

Every Sunday Evening

St. John's Parish House

75 East Main St. South Pottstown 5:30 pm

Home Churches:

Hanover St. Home Church

Tuesday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19465

7:00 to 9:00

King St Commons Home Church

Thursday Afternoons

King St. Pottstown, PA 19464

12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Ministry:

The Table

Every Wednesday Evening

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm



6:00 to 8:00

1st Tuesday Evening

Each Month – Check with Church

for Transportation Arrangements

Consumer Center Church

Thursday Evenings on hold

249 High Street Pottstown, PA 19464

7:00 to 8:00

Prayer Requests:

Pray for Zenona's health. She received word this week that she needs additional surgery. The prognosis is very good for a full recovery. Also pray that she knows that she is loved by God, and his children.

Pray for Mary Toney's health. We received a phone call that she is being tested for breast cancer.

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

The Code Enforcement Officer is trying to make the road to opening difficult. Please pray that God would bless her, or remove her from offending the poor.

The Moyer Home is under construction due to a break in the upstairs main drain. Please pray that the construction completes quickly.

Thanksgiving to God:

Shenkel UCC has Approved their building for use in rotation as the MAIN Street Shelter. Their board has agreed unanimously to host the shelter. We are currently looking for drivers and overnight staff to begin.

Buzz has finished chemotherapy. Should you wish to send him a card or write him, his address is; **Buzz Saylor, 811 Highland Ave, Boyertown, PA 19512.**

Next Week's Scriptures:

November 11, 2007 Proper 27 (Year C)

psalm 145.1-5, 17-21, haggai 1.15b - 2:9,

luke 20.27-38, & 2 thessalonians 2.1-5, 13-17

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still waters of Pottstown
home churches & worship center

"He restores my soul . . .
surely goodness and mercy will follow me" Psalm 23

November 4 :: 2007

Visions & Verdicts
oracle of judgment & the
end of days...



Worship

psalm 119.137-144

habakkuk 1.1-4; 2:1-4

luke 19.1-10

2 thessalonians 1.1-4, 11-12

Benediction

proper 26 (Year C)

Tabernacle Worship

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465

Every Sunday Evening at 5:30, St. John's parish

[Service]

Tonight...

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 119.137-144

Worship Film ::

“ Rise ”

Scripture Reading ::

Habakkuk 1.1-4, 2.1-4

Congregation Song Worship ::

~ offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds

Focus Films ::

with songs of joy

“ Who is Invited? ”

The Scripture ~

Visions & Verdicts
oracle of judgment & the end of days...

Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham.' Luke 19. 8 & 9

This week's Lectionary:

psalm 119.137-144, habakkuk 1.1-4; 2:1-4,
luke 19.1-10, & 2 thessalonians 1.1-4, 11-12

Reflection Film ::

“ Learning to Fly ”

Benediction ::

revelation 22.12-14, 16-17, 20-21

[Journaling Worship] your discussion notes...

✚ perverted justice

✚ coming to Your house

✚ the end of pride!

Meditation:

Why do you make me see wrong-doing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous-- therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time;...

(Habakkuk 1.3 & 4, 2-2.2 & 3a)

Reflection:

Reflecting on voluntary and involuntary poverty, we find that no one wants to be around the indignity or the precarious hold on life that poverty represents. Yet such precariousness is also God's good gift, a spiritual value which Christians neglect to their loss. Zacchaeus' response is a glorious picture of the blessing of this precariousness revealing God, when poverty visits our home.

still waters

home church studies

psalm 119.137-144

[Worship]

137 You are righteous, O LORD, and your judgments are right. 138 You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness. 139 My zeal consumes me because my foes forget your words. 140 Your promise is well tried, and your servant loves it. 141 I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts. 142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and your law is the truth. 143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me, but your commandments are my delight. 144 Your decrees are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.

Consider:

Prophets are funny people. They complain and warn. They are the ones who seem to always be on the wrong side of the mainstream. They are the unofficial people who disrupt the order of what is agreed upon by the official folks. They also are the ones who tell the most passionate story of prodigals returning home, and the Father's immeasurable love for those who are far off. They point the way to the heavenly kingdom, where justice is fulfilled.

These are unpopular stories, but they are God's heart and soul in wooing us back to himself from exile in this world, an exodus. Walking with him will change everything.

It would be far more comfortable to do this institutionally. After all, who wants to be different? Who wants to be the first to take a dangerous stand in this world that will crucify you for being different?

[Think & Pray...]



It is uncomfortable. However, as God's representatives (Christ's Body), this is where we are called, when we notice wrong doing in the "order of things," and even more so, in our suffering, a credibility emerges that points God-ward.

Individually we covenant with God in this way (that was His desire even from Jeremiah's time), and as a collective body, He shines forth as king, when this new covenant is expressed together. We are given strength to move forward as brave ones, risking to be God-like and different. We see a radical example and believe, making it okay for us to risk. A very Zacchaeus message indeed, and a mark of leadership.

The evidence of growth in us, is when we, individually, become Christ-like, in our love for each other—sacrificially. We would like to think that the smartest, most learned among us are those who lead. After all, they have the credentials. Not so in an upside-down world of the kingdom. What is valued here, is a steadfastness in sacrificial love, and a holy longing for God's justice to prevailed.

What we do for each other in, and for the world matters, and changes everything.

[The Scripture] 2 thessalonians 1 .1-4, 11-12

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.

4 Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring. 11 To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, 12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.