

**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

**Announcements:**

**Christmas Eve Service**

We will be having our Christmas Eve Service tomorrow (Monday) at 7:00, followed by our hosting our joined Christmas Party with St. John's. We would like to show them our appreciation for all that they do for us.

Next week we will not be hosting any events or Home Churches. We will resume Churches in January. The Table Ministry will continue on December 26<sup>th</sup>.

Pastor will be on vacation until Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup>.

The mobile MAIN Street Shelter will begin Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, hosted by our friends at St. John's United Church of Christ. Remember to pray for them.

**Prayer Requests:**

**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.

**Please pray for Shenkel UCC.** The Norco Board of Supervisors has placed limits such that were unable to host the shelter for a month. This *overreaching* by these people has placed church ministry in jeopardy of being proscribed by government. There are legal arguments about to begin.

**Next Week's Scriptures:**

December 30, 2007 1st Sunday After Christmas (Year A)

**psalm 148, isaiah 63.7-9,**

**matthew 2.13-23, & hebrews 2.10-18**

Get in touch with us at: i. [www.besidestillwaters.net](http://www.besidestillwaters.net) e. [Info@besidestillwaters.net](mailto:Info@besidestillwaters.net)  
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**Ministry:**

**The Table**

**Every Wednesday Evening**

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm



6:00 to 8:00

**1<sup>st</sup> 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

**still waters** of Pottstown  
home churches & worship center

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

December 23 :: 2007

Spirit of Holiness  
To ALL of God's Beloved...



**Worship**

psalm 80.1-7, 17-19

isaiah 7.10-16

matthew 1.18-25

romans 1.1-7

**Benediction**

Advent 4 (Year A)

**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 80.1-7, 17-19

Worship Film ::

“ Oh Come Emmanuel ”

Congregation Song Worship ::

~ offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds  
with songs of joy

Advent 4 :: LOVE Candle Lighting

Focus Films ::

“ Foretelling LOVE ”

The Scripture ~

**Spirit of Holiness**  
*To ALL of God's Beloved...*

All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,' which means, 'God is with us.' " Matthew 1.22-23

This week's Lectionary:

psalm 80.1-7, 17-19, isaiah 7.10-16,  
matthew 1.18-25, & romans 1.1-7

Reflection Film ::

“ From Now On ”

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13

[Journaling Worship] your discussion notes...

✚ a spirit of prophesy

✚ wearying God & man

✚ God's Son: fulfilling the spirit of LOVE



“

**Meditation:**

*When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly." (Matthew 1.18b—19)*

**Reflection:**

Matthew's account highlights that Jesus, like us, is adopted royalty - but the kingdom we will inherit is the upside-down kingdom, where serving, not being served, is our birthright.

"God with us" is neither practical nor sentimental nor distant - it is messy and infinitely promising.

Jesus' birth - biological surprise, political threat, evangelical invitation - leaves our world unglued and urges us to confess that the Holy One is now with us.