#### 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:

William's Home Church Monday Afternoons

61 N. Evans St. Pottstown, PA 19464 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

#### **King St Commons Home Church** Thursday Afternoons

King St. Pottstown, PA 19464 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

#### Hanover St. Home Church

Tuesday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19465 7:00 to 9:00

#### 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

249 High Street Pottstown, PA 19464 7:00 to 8:00

## **Norman's Game Night**

3rd Friday Evening Each Month

Locations to be announced

#### This Year's Theme:

#### Announcements:

We are starting Dinner and a Movie Night at Still Waters in May. We will show relevant movies to our pilgrimage over a pot-luck dinner with discussion and prayer afterward. Look for further information.

#### **Prayer Requests:**

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

Please pray that God would bless our endeavors as we ready the shelter for the fall.

Pray for those who do not have homes yet.

Please pray for Our friend and co-laborer, Jeff Reifsnyder of Cocalico Creek **Fellowship** in Reamstown, PA, Jeff just received a donor liver this past Sunday, April27<sup>th</sup>, The operation was successful and Jeff is recovering on schedule. Please consider providing a benevolent contribution. There is a genuine need of financial help for some prescription medications, hospital expenses and travel expense.

Please pray for Zenona as she struggles to find peace with God, and where her place is in His world.

Please offer prayers on behalf of Vinnie Ronto, who suffered a mini-stroke on last week. He is recovering in a rehab near Reading, PA.

Please keep Howard's family in prayer.

#### **Next Week's Scriptures:**

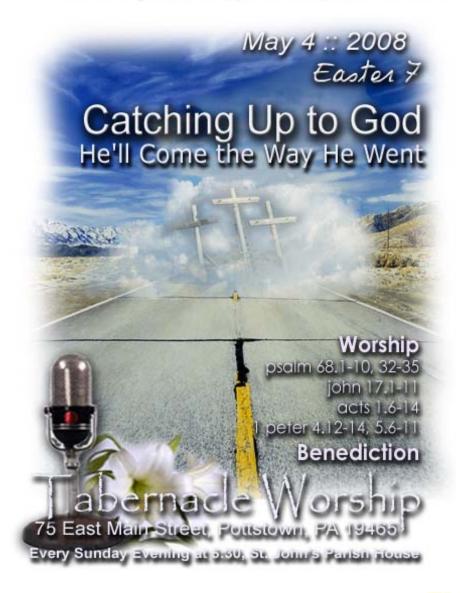
May 11, 2008

Pentecost Sunday (Year A)

psalm 68.1-10, 32-35, john 17.1-11, acts 1.6-14, & 1 peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11

Get in touch with us at: i. www.besidestillwaters.net e. Info@besidestillwaters.net 256 South Hanover Street, Pottstown, PA 19465-7022 Phone: (610) 970-2444 Fax: (484) 363-4017







## [Service]

# Tonight...

Worship Film::

"Rise"

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35

Congregation Song Worship::

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

1 Peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11

Focus Films ::

hristian Music "

The Scripture ~

Catching Up to God He'll Come the Way He Went

And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

John 17.3, 10-11

This week's Lectionary:
psalm 68.1-10, 32-35, john 17.1-11
acts 1.6-14, & 1 peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11

Reflection Film ::

"The Ascended | OF

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13

[Journaling Worship] your discussion notes...

¥ what's in a name

¥ restore the kingdom of Israel?

¥ when Jesus comes...

#### **Meditation:**

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. " (Acts 1.6-8)

#### Reflection:

In Acts 1, Jesus' followers are told that he will return from heaven as he went there. But in contrast to the apostles' obsession with kingly power, wasn't Jesus "taken up into heaven" on the cross?

Jesus teaches us that God was glorified by the way Jesus walked on earth in complete unity with the God, even into suffering for righteousness; victimized for others - and now Jesus is glorified by our union with him and with each other. Therefore, Christians must be reconciled across national, racial, cultural, and economic barriers. John 17.10-11

Jesus is not just giving good advice when he tells his disciples to be witnesses: He is telling them what is already happening to them and what will happen to us once we follow Jesus' radical call.

# still waters home church studies Psalm 68.1-10, 32-35 [Worship]

1 Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him. 2 As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God. 3 But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy. 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—his name is the LORD—be exultant before him. 5 Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. 6 God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land. 7 O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, 8 the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel. 9 Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; 10 your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

32 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord, 33 O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice. 34 Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; and whose power is in the skies. 35 Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

# Consider: [Think & Pray...]

Power from the Holy Spirit involved taking the resurrection to the streets. Before the Pentecost experience, the disciples were in the upper room. After, they were in the streets. The Spirit of God was breathing through them and moved them. Acts 1:8 describes an ever-widening circle. The gospel was to spread from the upper room to the streets of Jerusalem, into Judea and Samaria, and finally to the whole world.

The ministry of Jesus was clearly not private, confined to households or even temples. It was in the streets, on the hillsides, in the marketplaces, and all public places where people lived, moved, and had their being. For the most part, Jesus' public ministry was to the crowds and the multitudes of the society—the poor, the diseased and afflicted, tax collectors, and sinners.

We are called to come out from behind our stain-glassed walls and dwell where mothers are struggling, children are hungry, and fathers are jobless. As long as innocent children continue to die in tenement fires; as long as families have to live in winter without heat, hot water, and food; as long as people are forced to live in poverty, the gospel must be heard in judgment against the inhumanity of society.

To be alive to the Spirit is to experience personal and public freedom.

Reflection Questions: How are you going public with your faith commitments? What streets are in need of your witness?

## [The Scripture]

Acts 1.6-14

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." 9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 While he



was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11 They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. 13 When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14 All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.