

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

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

This Year's Theme:

hearing God in 2008

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 Patrice's brother in North Carolina for recovery after having undergone hip replacement surgery.

Please keep Helen Hankins in prayer for leg, and breathing problems.

LORD, make us merciful people to those who are easy to love, and especially those that we don't want to.

Next Week's Scriptures:

June 29, 2008 Proper 8 (Year A)

genesis 22.1-14, psalm 13,

matthew 10.40-42, & romans 6.12-23

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Ministry:

The Table

Every Wednesday Evening

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm



1st Tuesday Evening

Each Month – Check with Church

for Transportation Arrangements

6:00 to 8:00

Norman's Game Night

3rd Friday Evening Each Month

Locations to be announced

still waters of Pottstown
home churches & worship center
"He restores my soul . . . surely goodness and mercy will follow me" Psalm 23

June 22 :: 2008

Paradox & Jazz
Drowning in Christ's melody



Worship

genesis 21:8-21

psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

matthew 10:24-39

romans 6:1b-11

Benediction

Tabernacle Worship

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465

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

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Still Waters is a member church of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, P.O. Box 384 Winona Lake, IN 46590



[Service]

Tonight...

Worship Film ::

“God, knowing our Drowning”

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Romans 6.1b-11

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Genesis 21.8-21

Focus Film ::

“Competing for Notice”

The Scripture ~

Paradox & Jazz

Drowning in Christ's melody

Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water.

Genesis 21.16-19a

This week's Lectionary:

genesis 21.8-21, psalm 86.1-10, 16-17
matthew 10.24-39, & romans 6.1b-11

Reflection Film ::

“Harmony in diversity”

Benediction ::

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



[Journaling Worship] your discussion notes...

¥ Many Nations

¥ competition or Accompaniment

¥ to die on center stage

“

Meditation:

24 "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; 25 it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! 26 So have no fear of them; ..

34 Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; 36 and one's foes will be members of one's own household. "

Matthew 10.24-26a, 34-36

Reflection:

To be baptized into death, as Paul describes it in Romans 6, is a serious thing (the Greek baptizestai literally means "to drown"); Jesus' warnings and assurances in Matthew 10 underscore how radical a new life we are called to.

still waters

home church studies

Psalm 86.1-10, 16-17 [Worship]

1 Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. 2 Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; 3 be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long. 4 Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. 5 For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. 6 Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. 7 In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me. 8 There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. 9 All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. 10 For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. 16 Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving girl. 17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Consider: Shelley Douglass [Think & Pray...]

These are frightening readings. They prepare us for the Holy Spirit and for God's movement, a movement of mercy and compassion that will put us in conflict with our world.

When we have experienced God's mercy and love, we see those around us with God's loving eyes. We are forced to speak words of justice, words of peace. We have to act on those words.

Somewhere in this process we walk smack into a brick wall: our fear, our friends' opinions, our family's security. Something is too important to risk. A choice: We can be silent

and feel our very bones burn with the fire of God until we are misshapen, or we can endure the burning of truth in our selves.

These readings are meant to reassure us, but they fail: Who wants to lay down their life? Baptismal death is comfortably symbolic; we'd prefer to leave it that way.

To *really* lay down our lives, we risk what is most precious to us. It is a real risk. Marriages end, parents and children are estranged, livelihoods are lost or damaged—not to mention jail sentences served, beatings endured, lives lost. Jesus doesn't promise to keep our lives comfortable. He promises just the opposite: We will walk into the wall.

The comfort is not that we won't die, but that if we die for his sake we will live again. Like Jesus we will live a transformed life. We cannot know as we begin to act what the outcome will be. We can only know that as we respond to the mercy shown us by showing mercy, we invite the death of our former selves. And we believe—sometimes barely—that when the dust has settled we will be acknowledged by Jesus, and will regain our lives.

[The Scripture]



Romans 6.1b-11

1b Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For whoever has died is freed from sin. 8 But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.