

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

Ministry:

The Table

Every Wednesday Evening

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

Home Churches:

Hanover St. Home Church

Tuesday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19456

7:00 to 9:00

Home Church

Thursday Afternoons

TBD

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm



Community Table, 1st Tuesday Evening

Each Month - Check with Church

for Transportation Arrangements

6:00 to 8:00

Norman's Game Night

3rd Saturday Evening Each Month

Locations to be announced

This Year's Theme:

hearing God in 2008

Your Prayer Notes:

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

Please pray that God would bless our endeavors as we ready the shelter for the fall, and as we begin plans for the mobile shelter season. Also remember the host churches that will be extending the love of Christ to our friends

Praise God! Neil has found a place to live. He also will have meaningful contact with his daughter and grand daughter! To God's glory!

Remember those who have lost everything in the High Street fire on Friday. Pray as to what our role is in Christ's grace toward them.

Please pray for our brother Mike Pearson who is sick and has suffered a loss recently.

Remember those who "rule over us" as they navigate a terrible election year in the midst of financial turmoil. Let them find humility and the grace to truly serve.

Pray that Frances can quit smoking.

Merciful LORD, please help us to walk humbly before you, seeking to be instruments of righteousness in the furtherance of your kingdom; to those who love you, and those who will, according to your mercy. Amen.

Next Week's Scriptures:

October 5, 2008 Proper 22 (Year A)

exodus 20.1-4, 7-9, 12-20, psalm 19,

matthew 21.33-46, & philippians 3.4b-14

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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

September 28 :: 2008

An Uncomfortable Kingdom

Or, freedom from a comfortable selfishness



Worship

exodus 17.1-7

psalm 78.1-4, 12-16

matthew 21.23-32

philippians 2.1-13

Benediction

Tabernacle Worship

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465

Every Sunday Evening at 9:30, 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...

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16

Worship Film ::

“Psalm 25”

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Exodus 17.1-7

Focus Film ::

“Where is Jesus?”

The Scripture ~

An Uncomfortable Kingdom

Or, Freedom from a Comfortable Selfishness

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Philippians 2.5—8

This week's Lectionary:

Exodus 17.1-7, Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16,
Matthew 21.23-32, & Philippians 2.1-13

Reflection Film ::

“Surely We Can Change”

Benediction ::

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



[Journaling Worship
your discussion notes...
for this Week's Church Discussion]

✧ welcoming a harsh wilderness?

✧ plucking grapes

✧ heartbreaks & crosses



Meditation:
The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

Exodus 17.2—4

Reflection:

Desperate people faced with annihilation, the Hebrew people were not just whiners to ask whether God was with them in the wilderness. But perhaps only in the land of hopelessness could God hope to see a people let Pharaoh go and embrace the God of life.

still waters

home church studies

Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16 [Worship]

1 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, 3 things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us. 4 We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

12 In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan. 13 He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap. 14 In the daytime he led them with a cloud, and all night long with a fiery light. 15 He split rocks open in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep. 16 He made streams come out of the rock, and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

Consider:

[Think & Pray...]



It is hard to overcome fear sufficiently to follow God's call in the first place; it is even harder to persevere with this call when the going gets tough. In Exodus, the Israelites began to waver almost immediately. They had just crossed the Red Sea, but began to wish that they had not left Egypt: "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt" (Exodus 16:3). They doubted whether God was with them at all: "Is the Lord among us or not?" (Exodus 17:7). They quickly

became discouraged when things did not go as expected, and began to doubt God's presence.

Human nature does not change much. We so easily believe that immediate success will meet us when we follow God's call. Worldly success and godly success work on different principles and timescales. By worldly standards, Moses was a disastrous leader; he led the Israelites out of slavery only to wander around with them in the desert for 40 years. He died before he reached the promised land. Yet Moses is one of the great heroes of our faith. This surely tells us that godly success is judged by very different criteria than we might expect. It challenges us to revisit those things we consider to be a success or a failure and to ask on whose criteria they succeed or fail. —Paula Gooder

[Scripture]

Matthew 20.23-32

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" 24 Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' 26 But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." 27 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' 29 He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."