

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

7:00 to 9:00

Home Church

Thursday Afternoons

61 North Evans Street Pottstown

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm



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 for the mobile shelter season. Also remember the host churches that will be extending the love of Christ to our friends.

Pray for Grace Church and Pastor Kenn Cosgrove & family as they seek God's direction in life and ministry.

Please also remember those of us who are struggling to find work in this broken economy.

Patrice has suffered the loss of her cousin on Friday. Please pray for her and for her family in North Carolina as they mourn his passing.

Merciful LORD, please help us to reflect your graciousness in the world. Help us to see individuals only from your holy perspective and not ours. Work in us to become Your unique image to our lost world, both in the Church and outside. That your will be done. Amen.

Next Week's Scriptures:

November 2, 2008 Proper 26 (Year A)

psalm 107.1-7, 33-37, joshua 3.7-17,

matthew 23.1-12, & 1 thessalonians 2.9-13

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

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

October 26 :: 2008

God's Hands
Selfish or selfless law...



Worship
deuteronomy 34.1-12
psalm 90.1-6, 13-17
matthew 22.34-46
1 thessalonians 2.1-8
Benediction



Tabernacle Worship
75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465
Every Sunday Evening at 5:30, St. John's Parish House



[Service]

Tonight...

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Deuteronomy 34.1-12

Worship Film ::

“Psalm 90”

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8

Focus Film ::

“Your Neighbor”

The Scripture ~

God's Hands

Selfish or selfless law...

Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Matthew 22. 36-40

This week's Lectionary:

deuteronomy 34.1-12, psalm 90.1-6, 13-17, matthew 22.34-46, & 1 thessalonians 2.1-8

Reflection Film ::

“This Hand”

Benediction ::

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



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

¥ superseded law?

¥ stump the Pharisee

¥ the 'Other' neighbor

“

Meditation:

What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer," **Matthew 22.42—46a**

Reflection:

Jesus' scandalous redefinition of "neighbor" shows that the promised land - for him, and for his followers such as Martin Luther King, Jr. - is not a matter of nationalism but of a transformed people.



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 90

[Worship]

1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. 3 You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals." 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. 5 You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; 6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

13 Turn, O LORD! How long? Have compassion on your servants! 14 Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. 15 Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. 16 Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. 17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands—O prosper the work of our hands!

Consider:

[Think & Pray...]

I was religious-channel surfing a couple of weeks ago and stopped at a televangelist whose hair and make-up were mesmerizing. She was talking about how Christianity has only one law - the law of love - and how everything else comes afterward. I was pleasantly surprised at her emphasis but cringed when, to stress her point, she described Judaism as a religion of hundreds and hundreds of laws and Christianity as a religion that is no longer enslaved by the law.

This brand of supercessionism is nothing new. Very early in Christian history, Judaism was depicted as a religion of enslavement in which the law existed as an end in itself, rather than as a gift from God that ordered and directed the people's life and faith. As enlightened as I like to think my

upbringing was, I still remember the shock at realizing that Jesus did not write the great commandments he cites. The primacy of love for God that the TV preacher touts comes straight from Deuteronomy and Jesus' "golden rule" in Matthew is a quote from Leviticus.

In many ways, the same desire to distinguish one's beliefs on the backs of another has characterized inter-Christian relationships as much as it has interfaith ones. Many Protestants still harbor a suspicion that Catholics worship Mary and are saved by works, while official Catholic teaching continues to insist that Protestants are deficient in their faith, at best.

We forget that the law that norms all others - the phrase God repeats throughout Leviticus 19 - is "I am the LORD." Our task is to give thanks and praise - and love one another.

— Kari Jo Verhulst

[Scripture]

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8

1 You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, 2 but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. 3 For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, 4 but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. 5 As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; 6 nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, 7 though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. 8 So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

