

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 to begin in December. Also remember the host churches that will be extending the love of Christ to our friends.

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

Gracious LORD, please help us to imagine rightly the worship and mission you have entrusted to our care in your world. Help us to see individuals only from your holy perspective and not ours. Work in us to become Your unique image to those needing to know you and your kingdom, both in the Church and outside. That your will be done. Amen.

Next Week's Scriptures:

November 9, 2008 Proper 27 (Year A)

psalm 78.1-7, joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25,

matthew 25.1-13, & 1 thessalonians 4.13-18

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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

November 2 :: 2008

Disconnected Worship
Or, living liturgy, following
the ark



Worship

psalm 107.1-7, 33-37

joshua 3.7-17

matthew 23.1-12

1 thessalonians 2.9-13

Benediction

Tabernacle Worship

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465

Every Sunday Evening at 6:30, 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 107.1-9, 33-37

Worship Film ::

“Psalm 107”

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Joshua 3.7-17

Focus Film ::

“Kingdom Imagination”

The Scripture ~

Disconnected Worship

Or, living liturgy, following the ark

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. Matthew 23.1-4

This week's Lectionary:

psalm 107.1-7, 33-37, joshua 3.7-17, matthew 23.1-12, & 1 thessalonians 2.9-13

Reflection Film ::

“Mission & Worship”

Benediction ::

Revelation 22 .12-14, 16-17, 20-21



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

✚ reminders in worshipful places

✚ misuse of power

✚ word and works



Meditation:

You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless " 1 Thessalonians 2.9—10

The greatest among you will be your servant. 12 All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. Matthew 23.11—12

Reflection:

Why do we find it so difficult to live together without some people abusing power? What is your experience of Jesus' "upside-down" approach to leadership?

still waters

home church studies

Psalm 107.1-9, 33-37 [Worship]

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. 2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble 3 and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. 4 Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; 5 hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. 6 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; 7 he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town. 8 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. 9 For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

33 He turns rivers into a desert, springs of water into thirsty ground, 34 a fruitful land into a salty waste, because of the wickedness of its inhabitants. 35 He turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water. 36 And there he lets the hungry live, and they establish a town to live in; 37 they sow fields, and plant vineyards, and get a fruitful yield.

Consider:

[Think & Pray...]

Abuse of power is one of the greatest temptations for Christian leaders. It is at the heart of more scandals in the church than anything else.



Matthew's churches faced this problem. There were leaders, teachers, and pastors who set themselves above others. Jesus reveals the pernicious misuse of power in his ongoing conflict with the scribes and Pharisees (Matthew 23:1-7). Recounting this conflict,

Matthew exposed the abuse in the churches he knew (23:8-11). Then he reminded people that in the household of God authority means "you have only one Master, and you are all brothers [and sisters!]" (23:8).

Matthew's gospel begins by revealing Jesus as "God with us" (1:23-24), and ends with Jesus asserting, "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time" (28:20). This is the "Master" whose authority is present in each and in all equally, by the Spirit. When some put themselves above the rest in a community of believers, not just misuse of power results, but the loss of a unique corporate authority, achieved by mutual self-giving.

The principle is, "Anyone who wants to be great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be your slave" (20:26-27). It's the very opposite of our conventional understanding! — Peter Price

Reflection and Action

How will you as a group function in the coming weeks? What models of leadership will you adopt?

[Scripture] 1 Thessalonians 2.9-13

9 You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. 10 You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. 11 As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, 12 urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. 13 We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.