

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

Bright Hope Community Home Church

Thursday Afternoons

Myrtle Street, Pottstown

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

MAIN Street Shelter

On Summer Hiatus Until December

Fund raising and shelter cleanup

efforts are underway.

Norman's Game Night

3rd Saturday Evening Each Month

King St Commons, 7:00 pm

Announcements:

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

2009/2010 Season is beginning to ramp up and we are still working at fund raising, laundry, and storage, in order to begin. We are dangerously low on overnight staff. We are scheduled to open December 1st.

Please pray to see where God would have you to help!! See Pastor Kork for details, and remember to thank God for the host churches!!

Your Prayer Notes:

Remember in prayer, those requests from last week:

Please remember all of our friends, who are not able to believe that the Church is the place to share our failures, the place where hiding in no longer needed.

Pray for Mark Butler who has been released from treatment. He is back in the same situation that brought him here and is in need of deliverance. We are seeking family reconciliation.

Pray for our friends in Lower-Bucks County, who are beginning to shelter their suburban homeless friends this winter.

Also, pray for our shelter friends, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation; remember.

Please, also keep all of us in prayer; as we seek rest, and to be graceful to those who misunderstand us, our mission, and judge us out of ignorance.

Next Week's Scriptures:

November 8, 2009: Proper 27 (Year B)

psalm 127, ruth 3.1-5, 4.13-17,

mark 12.38-44, & hebrews 9.24-28

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still waters
home churches & worship center

November 1 - 2009



Holy Places
Or, Your Kingdom or Mine

Worship
psalm 146
ruth 1.1-18
mark 12.28-34
hebrews 9.11-14

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...

Focus Film ::

“Mystery”

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 146

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Ruth 1.1-18

Focus Film ::

“Re-Member”

The Scripture ~

Holy Places Or, Your Kingdom Or Mine

But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption." Mark 12. 11—12

This week's Lectionary:
psalm 146, ruth 1.1-18,
mark 12.28-34, & hebrews 9.11-14

Focus Film ::

“The Orthodox Heretic”

Benediction ::

Romans 16.25-27

[Journaling Worship
your talking points notes...
for this Week's Church Discussion]
✚ uncovering the obvious?

✚ words gone wild

✚ agreeing with God



Meditation:
Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Mark 12.29—31

Reflection:

"Jesus summarized all the teachings as 'Love God and love your neighbor.' Our neighbor, we know, isn't just found in our family, workplace, or apartment. It's the kid flashing gang signs, the smelly homeless man who lives in the park, the transgender prostitute who works the downtown corner, the crazy old woman who lives alone outside of town, and the immigrant family that doesn't speak English. Jesus gives us the strength of God's love so that we can learn to be allies with those whom society has pushed to the margins."

—Rose Marie Berger, from *The Revolution: A Field Manual for Changing Your World*

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Psalm 146

[Worship]

1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! 2 I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long. 3 Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. 4 When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish. 5 Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, 6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; 7 who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; 8 the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. 9 The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. 10 The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

Consider:

[Words]

Ruth is a book meant to be read in its entirety—Goethe called it the most beautiful "little whole" in the Old Testament. The whole story, told over four chapters, ought to be related as a piece rather than split into two parts as our lectionary stipulates.

It's remarkable that a narrative that radically overturns so many cultural mores became part of the canon. The people of Israel made a clear distinction between those who were God's people and those who were the "other," the foreigner. Yet the hero of this story is Ruth, a Moabite, who by the conclusion is shown to be the forebear not only of King

David but of Jesus himself. The story certainly illustrates a theme from today's psalm, "God protects the stranger"(146:9).

But welcoming the stranger isn't the most significant way that the story turns tradition on its head. The patriarchal order is clear: The value of a woman, even her identity, comes from her connection to a man. Naomi assumes her own worthlessness because she can provide no husband for her daughters-in-law (1:11). But Ruth rises above the ethos of her time. She is determined to stick with Naomi through thick and thin, abandoning her people, her country, even her god. Most commentators see this as loving kindness; "sisterhood" is perhaps a more apt description! Her pledge of commitment (1:16) echoes that found in the All Saints reading: "They will be his people, and God will be...their God" (Revelation 21:3).

God, through Boaz, rewards Ruth's loyalty. The writer, and subsequent commentators, casts this as a story of God's loving faithfulness, but as Jesus points out in the Mark passage, the love of God is intrinsically connected to love of our neighbors (Mark 12:28-31).

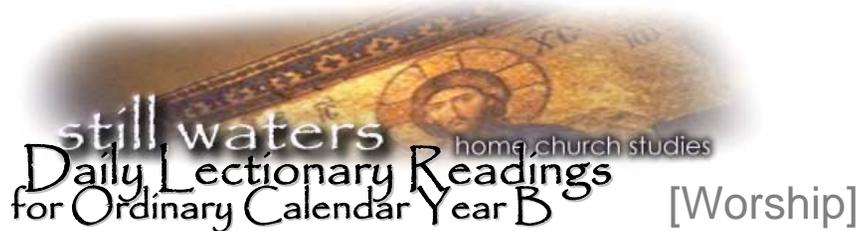
Because of Ruth's fidelity, and because she chose to accept and serve God, she was worth "more than seven sons"—extraordinary praise, even if we can't ignore the irony.



[Scripture]

Hebrews 9.11-14

11 But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), 12 he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. 13 For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, 14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!



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Daily Lectionary Readings
 for Ordinary Calendar Year B [Worship]

These readings are adapted from *The Book of Common Prayer*, Daily Readings for Year One.

All Saints Nov 1	am: 111, 112 pm: 148, 150	Neh 4:1-23	am: Heb 11:32-12:2 pm: Rev 21:1-4, 22-22:5	
Sun Nov 1	am: 24, 29 pm: 8, 84	Neh 5:1-19	Acts 20:7-12	Luke 12:22-31
Mon P26 Nov 2	am: 56, 57, 58 pm: 64, 65	Neh 6:1-19	Rev 10:1-11 pm: Rev 19:1-10	Matt 13:36-43
Tue Nov 3	am: 61, 62 pm: 68	Neh 12:27-31a, 42b-47	Rev 11:1-19	Matt 13:44-52
Wed Nov 4	am: 72 pm: 119:73-96	Neh 13:4-22	Rev 12:1-12	Matt 13:53-58
Thur Nov 5	am: 70, 71 pm: 74	Ezra 7:1-16	Rev 14:1-13	Matt 14:1-12
Fri Nov 6	am: 69 pm: 73	Ezra 7:27-28, 8:21-36	Rev 15:1-18	Matt 14:13-21
Sat Nov 7	am: 75, 76 pm: 23, 27	Ezra 9:1-15	Rev 17:1-14	Matt 14:22-36
Sun Nov 8	am: 93, 96 pm: 34	Ezra 10:1-17	Acts 24:10-21	Luke 14:12-24
Mon P27 Nov 9	am: 80 pm: 77, 19	Neh 9:1-15	Rev 18:1-8	Matt 15:1-20
Tue Nov 10	am: 78:1-39 pm: 78:40-72	Neh 9:26-38	Rev 18:9-20	Matt 15:21-28
Wed Nov 11	am: 119:97-120 pm: 81, 82	Neh 7:73b-8:3, 5-18	Rev 18:21-24	Matt 15:29-39
Thur Nov 12	am: 83 pm: 85, 86	1 Chron 10:1-14	Rev 19:1-10	Matt 16:1-12
Fri Nov 13	am: 88 pm: 91, 92	1 Chron 11:1-25	Rev 19:11-16	Matt 16:13-20
Sat Nov 14	am: 87, 90 pm: 136	1 Chron 13:1-14	Rev 20:1-6	Matt 16:21-28
Sun Nov 15	am: 66, 67 pm: 19, 46	1 Chron 14:1-17	Acts 28:14b-23	Luke 16:1-13

Mon P28 Nov 16	am: 89:1-18 pm: 89:19-52	1 Chron 15:1-29	Rev 20:7-15	Matt 17:1-13
Tue Nov 17	am: 97, 99, 100 pm: 94, 95	1 Chron 16:7-36	Rev 21:1-8	Matt 17:14-21
Wed Nov 18	am: 101, 109 pm: 119:121-144	1 Chron 20:1-8	Rev 21:9-21	Matt 17:22-27
Thur Nov 19	am: 105:1-22 pm: 105:23-45	1 Chron 21:1-27	Rev 21:22-22:5	Matt 18:1-9
Fri Nov 20	am: 102 pm: 107:1-32	1 Chron 22:1-19	Rev 22:6-13	Matt 18:10-20
Sat Nov 21	am: 107:33-43, 108 pm: 33	Isa 65:17-25	Rev 22:14-21	Matt 18:21-35
Sun Nov 22	am: 118 pm: 145	Isa 19:19-25	Rom 15:5-13	Luke 19:11-27
Mon P29 Nov 23	am: 106:1-18 pm: 106:19-48	Joel 3:1-2, 9-17	1 Pet 1:1-12	Matt 19:1-12
Tue Nov 24	am: 121, 122, 123 pm: 124, 125, 126	Nahum 1:1-13	1 Pet 1:13-25	Matt 19:13-22
Wed Nov 25	am: 119:145-176 pm: 128, 129, 130	Obad 15-21	1 Pet 2:1-10	Matt 19:23-30
Thur Nov 26	am: 131, 132, 133 pm: 134, 135	Zeph 3:1-13	1 Pet 2:11-25	Matt 20:1-16
Fri Nov 27	am: 140, 142 pm: 141, 143	Isa 24:14-23	1 Pet 3:13-4:6	Matt 20:17-28
Sat Nov 28	am: 137, 144 pm: 104	Mic 7:11-20	1 Pet 4:7-19	Matt 20:29-34

your talking points notes...