

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

Is discontinued until Spring 2010

Washington & Chestnut Sts.

Home Churches:

Hanover St. Home Church

Tuesday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown

7:00 to 9:00

MAIN Street Shelter

Begins January 4th

Fund raising and shelter cleanup efforts are still needed, along with many volunteering opportunities.

Announcements:

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

2010 Season begins tomorrow, January 4th. We are still working at fund raising, laundry, and storage, and we are still dangerously low on overnight staff.

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:

Pray for our friends in Lower-Bucks County, who have begun to shelter their suburban homeless friends.

Remember Helen's knees and her ability to come to Tabernacle; employment for many of us; Ron's health difficulties and his daughter's pregnancy; Norman's life changes and understanding of his health problems, the Moyer family during difficult decision times, our Grater family, who's elderly father has been diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer, for those who have fallen away, due to addictions and cultural narcissism, and the future of Still Waters.

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

Please, also keep all of us in prayers; 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:

January 10, 2010: 2nd Sunday After Epiphany (Year C)

psalm 29, isaiah 43.1-7, luke 3.15-17, 21-22 & acts 8.14-17

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January 3 - 2010

Daddy's Shoes
Or, all dressed up, and
Nowhere To Go



Worship

psalm 147:12-20

jeremiah 31.7-14

john 1.1-18

ephesians 1.3-14

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...

Focus Film ::

“ the WORD Became Flesh ”

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 147.12–20

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Jeremiah 31.7–14

Focus Film ::

“ Are You Living? ”

The Scripture ~

Daddy's Shoes Or, all dressed up, and Nowhere To Go

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will,...

Ephesians 1. 3–5

This week's Lectionary:

psalm 147.12-20, jeremiah 31.7-14,
john 1.1-18, & ephesians 1.3-14

Focus Film ::

“ Culturally Developed ”

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13

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

✚ qualified children

✚ clothed with _____?

Meditation:

“ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ” John 1.11–14

Reflection:

"When that timeless Word 'moved into the neighborhood' (John 1:14, The Message) his manner of doing so invited shame and ridicule, not material bounty. He lived among us as a child of poverty (born in a barn); political refugee (in Egypt); social pariah (survivor of unmarried pregnancy, a capital crime); ghetto immigrant ("What good comes from Nazareth?"); and blue-collar subject (carpenter) of an imperialistic colonizer (Rome). He was a friend of prostitutes (such as the woman who anointed his feet with perfume), crooked bureaucrats (tax collectors like Matthew and Zacchaeus), and terrorists (including his disciple Simon, the Zealot, a card-carrying member of a first-century Palestinian terror organization)." - Jeremy Del Rio and Louis Carlo.



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 147.12-20

[Worship]

12 Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion! 13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you. 14 He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat. 15 He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. 16 He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes. 17 He hurls down hail like crumbs—who can stand before his cold? 18 He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow. 19 He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel. 20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the LORD!

Consider:

[Words]

We may trace the exuberant acknowledgment of God's impact on the world through the prophetic poem, the lyrical epistle, and the psalmic doxology, all of which attend to the way in which God has come in Christ, "full of grace and truth." The poem of Jeremiah is addressed to Israel in exile, assuring a homecoming from Babylon. We notice the double use of "gather" (Jeremiah 31:8, 10); God is the great gatherer who does a sweep of the Near East, and by act of daring sovereignty brings all the lost back to safety. Paul echoes Jeremiah, witnessing to God's "plan" to "gather up all things in him." This is the God who has "blessed," "chosen," "destined," "lavished," and "made known" (Ephesians 1:3-9); now everything is changed and made new. God promises a safe place ("inheritance") in even larger scope than that of Jeremiah (Jeremiah 31:14). It is no wonder that we have in Psalm 147 a great doxology that catalogues the

transformations wrought by God, all on behalf of the people whom God loves (Psalm 147:20).

The news of Christmas is that God gathers home a relationship, a possibility, a belonging. That is a gospel assurance in a world of displacement, alienation, and fearful violence. It is a gift to come down where we ought to be!

Walter Bruggemann



[Scripture]

Ephesians 1.3-14

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. 5 He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, 12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; 14 this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.