

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

February's Host Church is

St Paul's UCC

Fund raising and Shelter Intake

Center cleanup efforts provide many volunteering opportunities.

Announcements:

Norman Vanderlick has moved to a group home in Harleysville. Please consider writing him a note love and encouragement while he settles in.

His new address is: 140 Crescent Ln, Harleysville, PA 19438

We will be trying to coordinate bringing him to dinner, church, and singing once a month. Pray and see where you might fit in assuring him of our love for him.

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

We are still working at fund raising, laundry, Intake staffing, and we are still in need of overnight staff. Please pray to see where God would have you to help!! See Pastor Kork, Ron Caulk or Tanya Braken for details, and remember to thank God for the host churches!!

Your Prayer Notes:

Remember in prayer, those requests from last week and:

*The dear people of Haiti and Chile, devastated by the earthquake. Grace Brethren International Missions, in Partnership with Convoy of Hope and The American Red Cross, is working on a plan to assist those hurt by this disaster. They have already begun this work and **YOU can help** in prayer and as we collect monetary gifts to aid our FGBC in emergency relief and recovery efforts. Please, seek God as to your sacrificial involvement of Christ's love to our neighbours in crisis.*

Remember Ron's health difficulties and to keep him strong while running the shelter; Patrice's thyroid difficulties; the 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:

February 28, 2010: 2nd Sunday of Lent (Year C)

psalm 27, genesis 15.1-12, 17-18,

luke 13.31-35, & philippians 3.17 - 4.1

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February 28 - 2010

Jesus' Planner
Or, dying in the land of the Living

Lent 2

Worship
psalm 27
genesis 15. 1-12, 17-18
luke 13. 31-35
philippians 3. 17-4.1

Benediction

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



[Service]

Tonight...

Focus Film ::

“Land of the Living”

Scripture Reading ::

Philippians 3.17–4.1

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Genesis 15.1–12, 17–18

This week's Lectionary Text:

psalm 27, genesis 15.1-12, 17-18,
luke 13.31-35, & philippians 3.17 ~ 4.1

Focus Film ::

“Dying and being Raised”

The Scripture ~

Jesus' Planner

Or, dying in the land of

The Living

... 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! Luke 13.32b–34

Focus Film ::

“Dying and being Raised”

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11–13

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

¥ Day 1: cast out demons

¥ Day 2: perform cures

¥ Day 3: Prove I Mean It!

“

Meditation:

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21 He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

4.1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved" Philippians 3.20—4.1

Reflection:

Faith alone is not sufficient - but then again, the same can be said of "works." The lessons of Abraham, Jesus, and Paul show that these two virtues must be not only symbiotic, but profound.

If nothing else, Abraham's, Paul's, and Jesus' advice make one thing clear for our Lenten journey: We cannot be satisfied with superficial gestures as we make our way back to God. If we truly believe God's mysterious and unmotivated offer of covenant this season, we must live it in both word and deed.

—Michaela Bruzzese

Psalm 27

[Worship]

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh— my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall. 3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident. 4 One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple. 5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. 6 Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. 7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! 8 "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, LORD, do I seek. 9 Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! 10 If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up. 11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. 12 Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence. 13 I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. 14 Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Consider:

[Words]

The gospel reading portrays Jesus in sharp contradiction to the dominant ordering of Herod and Rome. Jesus heals and casts out demons, whereas the dominant order of Herod is itself

wounding and demonic. In his grief over the dominant order of Jerusalem, Jesus anticipates a future that will be ordered in healthy, messianic ways. The theme for the day is *contradiction* and *alternative*.

Paul's word is an echo of the teaching of Jesus. He characterizes "the enemies of the cross" as preoccupied with commodities ("belly") (Philippians 3:18-19). He invites his congregation to an alternative, to remember that there is another "citizenship" (in heaven), so that they are not to be committed participants in the dominant culture of commoditization.

The Hebrew Testament readings readily serve the same themes of contradiction and alternative. Abraham is presented as one who trusts God's promises (for heir and for land), who does not need to grasp for self but can receive what is to be given. The psalmist, finally, sorts out fear and trust, settling for trust in God that counters the conventional fears of the world, awaiting "the land of the living."

The readings converge for a Lenten community that is focused on the demanding, glorious truth of the gospel. Such a community can embrace ample distance from dominant values of violence (killing prophets), serving the belly, grasping for self, and fearing too much. The gospel invites otherwise!

Walter Bruggemann

[Scripture]

Philippians 3.17-4.1

3.17 Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. 18

For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.

19 Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21 He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

4.1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Also, read Luke 4.1-13