

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

Home Churches:

Hanover St. Home Church
Thursday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown
7:00 to 9:00

Ministry:

The Table

Suspended until the end of Shelter Season in April
Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

MAIN Street Shelter

We have begun the 2010/2011 Shelter Season!

Host Church is Christ Episcopal on High St
There are many volunteering opportunities.

Announcements:

Norman Vanderlick has moved to a group home in Harleysville. Please consider writing him a note of 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.

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

New Home Church Series every Tuesday evening at The Moyer's

The Story of God

The Story of Us.



Your Prayer Notes:

Remember those prayer requests from last week and:

Please pray for Bruce who fell and broke his hip on Thanksgiving day—for a fast recovery from his surgery, Ron's health, to keep him strong; for Patrice's thyroid treatments; for Diana's family to be reunited; for Roxy who was diagnosed with cancer, for those who have fallen away, due to addictions and cultural narcissism; and 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.

Please keep our church—the future of Still Waters, in prayer during yet another time of upheaval and difficulty while trying to remain faithful to God's calling to the least around us. Please, also, pray for those in the shelter, that they would find love and grace during their struggle, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation.

Next Week's Scriptures:

December 5, 2010 **Advent 2 (Year A)**

isaiah 11.1-10, psalm 72.1-7, 18-19,
matthew 3.1-12, & romans 15.4-13

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still waters
home churches & worship center

November 28 - 2010

The Sleepy House
Hospitality; Inviting God Home

Worship
psalm 122
isaiah 2.1-5
matthew 24.36-44
romans 13.11-14

Benediction

Advent 1 (Year A)

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

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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 and Call to Worship ::

Psalm 122

Focus Film ::

"Oh Come Emmanuel"

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Advent 1 :: HOPE Candle Lighting

Focus Film ::

"No One Knows"

This week's Lectionary Text:

*psalm 122, isaiah 2.1-5,
matthew 24.36-44, & romans 13.11-14*

The Scripture ~

The Sleepy House

Or, Hospitality; Inviting God

Besides this,

Home

you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near.

Romans 13.11

Reflection Film ::

"Signs of HOPE"

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13

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

¥ same ole, same ole

¥ the kingdom that never was...

¥ new designs for... HOPE

¥ who HE is... who we is...

Meditation:

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.... Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Matt. 24. 36—37, & 4

Reflection:

"Jesus calls us to be awake to God's active work of deliverance for the people of this world - to scan the horizon incessantly for signs that the suffering are rising up to new life." - *Bonnie Greene*



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 122

[Worship]

1 I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" 2 Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. 3 Jerusalem built as a city that is bound firmly together. 4 To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. 5 For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. 7 Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers." 8 For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you." 9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

Consider:

[Words]

We know the schedule: four Sundays ... the second one for a "church tea," the third one for "choir concert," and then the pageant for culmination. We may have a schedule—but in fact the new world is coming at "an unexpected hour" (Matthew 24:44). The rush of God's rule is impending, and Christians are "on the alert." This is not Orange Alert in fear; it is rather glad expectation. These readings ponder both preparation and expectation.

The preparation is delineated in Romans 13. Paul urges the avoidance of "reveling, drunkenness, debauchery, licentiousness, quarreling, and jealousy" (verse 13). The mad rush of "Christmas preparation" drives us to self-indulgence and enough fatigue to make us edgy and quarrelsome. The alternative for Paul is to be unlike the world and not consumed by our "desires."

The preparation may match the expectation. It is expected, with the coming of God's rule, that there will be disarmament and no "learning of war" (Isaiah 2:4). Along with the big arms race there are

many lesser "wars"—in church, family, and community—that require disarmament. The psalm invites a yearning for peace: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" and Baghdad, and Kabul, and Canterbury (for Anglicans), and Geneva (for Presbyterians), and Wittenberg (for Lutherans), and Azusa (for Pentecostals). And Rome, maybe above all for Rome. Waiting for peace means preparation for peaceableness. Advent is a chance to receive a world quite unlike this one. It will be given!

—Walter Bruggemann

[Scripture] **Matthew 24:36-44**

36 "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, 39 and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. 40 Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. 41 Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. 42 Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. 43 But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. 44 Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Question: How prepared are we for the "coming of the Son of Man? I mean truly prepared for an unexpected hour, when all could go terribly wrong for you, me, or someone. When Jesus refers to himself in this way, he is *NOT* referring to his deity, but his commonality to our fallenness. At any moment we could be called upon to "ACT" like Him... to cloth ourselves in Him. Are we really ready?

Reread Romans 13:11-14