

Worship:

Tabernacle Worship Service

Every Sunday Evening

St. John's Lutheran Parish House

75 East Main St. South Pottstown 5:30 pm

Home Churches:

Hanover St. Home Church

Tuesday 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

Every evening at 10:00 pm

St Paul's UCC Grace & Evans Sts.

There are many volunteering opportunities.

Announcements:

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

Recycle Your Faith

Questioning God.



We all see through a glass darkly... Our misunderstandings and questions can make us feel as though we have little, or NO, faith. God is BIG enough to answer our doubts through simplicity and honest questioning. Join us in questioning our faith.

Your Prayer Notes:

Remember those prayer requests from last week and:

Please pray for Hank and Helen Hankens. Hank has been diagnosed with stage four cancer and has tumors in his lungs, and inoperable tumors in his brain. Let's help them all we can! Please pray for Ron's health, to keep him strong; for Patrice's thyroid treatments; for Diana's family to be reunited; for Jeff, who was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease, for Bruce's health, for the folks staying at the shelter, that they would find love and grace during their struggle, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation, for those who have fallen away, due to addictions and cultural narcissism; and keep all of us in prayer, as we seek rest, and to be graceful to those who misunderstand us.

Please keep our church—the future of Still Waters, in prayer while trying to remain faithful to God's calling to the least around us.

Next Week's Scriptures:

February 5, 2011: Epiphany 5 (Year A)

Psalm 112, Isaiah 58.1-12,

Matthew 5.13-20, & 1 Corinthians 2.1-16

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still waters
home churches & worship center

January 30 - 2011

The BE-Suggestions

Or, Becoming Weak... Like God

Worship

Psalm 15

Micah 6.1-8

Matthew 5.1-12

1 Corinthians 1.18-31

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...

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 15

Worship Film ::

"Come to Me and Rest"

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Micah 6.1-8

Focus Films ::

"Routine Sentiments"

This week's Lectionary Text:

*Psalm 15, Micah 6.1-8,
Matthew 5.1-12, & 1 Corinthians 1.18-31*

The Scripture ~

The BE-Suggestions
Or, Becoming Weak...

For since, in the wisdom of God, *Like God*
the world did not know God through wisdom, God
decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to
save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and
Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a
stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but
to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God.

1 Corinthians 1.21—24

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13

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

¥ Good Church, Bad Church

¥ Looking for a Sign

¥ Justice? For Who?

Meditation:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Matthew 5.3—12

Reflection:

When I read the beatitudes, or when I read these passages from Paul, I think of the hard and strange things God asks of us sometimes: going to jail, nursing someone with Alzheimer's or AIDS, accompanying people to court, changing diapers, and cooking meals and washing floors! I think of the blessings that are contained in these tasks, the transformation of suffering into joy, so that we embrace the odious gratefully, and wonder why people are surprised. — Shelley Douglass



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 15

[Worship]

1 O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? 2 Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart; 3 who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors; 4 in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; 5 who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Consider:

[Words]

The appearance of Jesus has demanding ethical implications. Christians are to exhibit the rule of Christ in their lives by conduct that is congruent with God's will and character. Psalm 15 is a recital of behavioral norms expected of those who come to worship YHWH: Act like good neighbors! Depart from the conventional ways of power and control. The poetry in Micah famously commends Israel to justice, mercy, and humility (verse 8). The specifics of the psalm and the large summons of the prophetic oracle of Micah both concern neighborliness. They resist actions that seek power or control at the expense of the neighbor. They remind us both of how radical the summons of faith is, and how ignoble the power practices of common life have become among us.

The "beatitudes" of Jesus in Matthew are fully congruent with these norms of covenant. Israel knows that covenantal obedience results in covenantal blessings. Jesus offers an inventory of

behaviors that will result in blessings of well being. The sum of them attests to faithfulness that matches the faithfulness of God, a way of life that resists self-serving initiatives. Paul radicalizes such conduct by appealing to the wisdom and strength of the cross. The people around Jesus shun worldly strength and worldly wisdom and live out the life that Jesus modeled and to which he summoned his followers. Clearly "life in Christ" is a radically different life in the world. – Walter Bruggemann

[Scripture]

Matthew 5.1-12

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Reread

Micah 6.1-8 & 1 Corinthians 1.18-31

Question: Micah 6 is a courtroom drama - and only steadfast love, not elaborate offerings and rituals, are going to get them out of court. The meek are getting ready to inherit the Earth. "And what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8).