

**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:**

**William's Home Church**

**Monday Afternoons**

61 N. Evans St. Pottstown, PA 19464

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

**King St Commons Home Church**

**Thursday Afternoons**

King St. Pottstown, PA 19464

12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

**Hanover St. Home Church**

**Tuesday Evenings**

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown, PA 19465

7:00 to 9:00

**This Year's Theme:**

hearing God in 2008

**Announcements:**

We are starting Dinner and a Movie Night at Still Waters in May. We will show relevant movies to our pilgrimage over a pot-luck dinner with discussion and prayer afterward. Look for further information.

**Prayer Requests:**

**The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.**

Please pray that God would bless our endeavors as we ready the shelter for the fall.

Pray for those who do not have homes yet.

Please pray for Helen Hankins who is having trouble with her legs, and has also begun treatment for asthma.

Please offer prayers on behalf of Vinnie Ronto, who suffered a mini-stroke on Friday.

**Next Week's Scriptures:**

May 4, 2008

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Year A)

psalm 68.1-10, 32-35, john 17.1-11,

acts 1.6-14, & 1 peter 4.12-14, 5.6-11

Get in touch with us at: i. [www.besidestillwaters.net](http://www.besidestillwaters.net) e. [Info@besidestillwaters.net](mailto:Info@besidestillwaters.net)  
256 South Hanover Street, Pottstown, PA 19465-7022 Phone: (610) 970-2444 Fax: (484) 363-4017

**Ministry:**

**The Table**

**Every Wednesday Evening**

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm



6:00 to 8:00

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday Evening**

Each Month – Check with Church for Transportation Arrangements

**Consumer Center Church**

**Thursday Evenings**

249 High Street Pottstown, PA 19464

7:00 to 8:00

**Norman's Game Night**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Evening** Each Month

Locations to be announced

**still waters** of Pottstown  
home churches & worship center  
"He restores my soul . . . surely goodness and mercy will follow me" Psalm 23

April 27 = 2008

Easter 6

Ready,.. or Not  
Living in a New Pentecost



**Worship**

psalm 66:8-20

john 14:15-21

acts 17:22-31

peter 3:13-22

**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...

Worship Film ::

“ Psalm 66.1-9 ”

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

“ Psalm 66.8-20 ”

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture: Acts 17.22-31

Focus Films ::

“ Spiritual Poverty ”

The Scripture ~

## Ready,.. or Not Living in a New Pentecost

even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, ...

1 Peter 3.13-16a

This week's Lectionary:  
psalm 66.8-20, john 14.15-21,  
acts 17.22-31, & 1 peter 3.13-22

Reflection Film ::

“ Give me Jesus ”

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13



[Journaling Worship] your discussion notes...

¥ losing hope

¥ Continually Finding Jesus

¥ today's advocate... ?

“

**Meditation:**  
*For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit,...* (1 Peter 3.18)

**Reflection:**

Love of God, obedience to the way of Jesus, and the presence of the life-giving Spirit are inter-dependent realities - and, contrary to the ideas of the Epicurean philosophers whom Paul confronts in Acts 17, God cares very much about our lives in this world.



# still waters

home church studies

## Psalm 66. 8-20

[Worship]

8 Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, 9 who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip. 10 For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. 11 You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; 12 you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place. 13 I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows, 14 those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble. 15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. 16 Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. 17 I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue. 18 If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. 19 But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. 20 Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

### Consider:

[Think & Pray...]

To speak of the love of God for the poor and yet to act otherwise is to take God's name in vain. To love people as God loves them is to provoke a reaction, because such love destroys all the barriers, definitions, and stereotypes that keep us captive and enslaved to the old world order.

Being loved is the most powerful motivation in the world. Our experience to love is often shaped by our experience of love. We usually love others as we have been loved.

In John 14:21, Jesus said that his followers show their love by obeying him. Love, however, is more than lovely words. It is commitment and conduct. The demand that we love is more than a call for charity or sloppy sentimentalism. It is to care so deeply that there are things we are simply not willing to live with.

This is a boundless love that reaches out to all. It is an active love—not from a distance, but close at hand. It means opening ourselves up to each other, to be touched and to become vulnerable. It is weeping together, walking together, and witnessing together.

To speak to those living in poverty about the love of God, one must embody the words in action that give answers to the questions arising out of the life they are living now. To speak of the love of God and to act otherwise is to take God's name in vain. To preach good news to the poor is to say by word and deed that God will not leave them in the condition of poverty. Charity is not sufficient; the demand is for justice-based love in which the "first" are to take last place in our consideration, and the "last" first.

In the fourth gospel, when Jesus finishes instructing his disciples, he doesn't give them a law; he gives them a gift of new space, rooted in relationship and covenants. He says, "Love one another." Then he says that when you do so, you had better know that the world is going to hate you. The world cannot tolerate people freely loving each other, because it destroys all the barriers, definitions, and stereotypes that keep us captive and enslaved to the old world order.

Reflection Questions: What do you need to let go of in order to proclaim God's love? To risk loving is to experience vulnerability at deep levels. How can this vulnerability be celebrated rather than feared? --Yvonne V. Delk

[The Scripture]

John 14.15-21

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17 This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 18 I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21 They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."