

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

Tuesday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown

7:00 to 9:00

Bright Hope Community Home Church

Thursday Afternoons

Myrtle Street, Pottstown

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Ministry:

The Table

Every Wednesday Evening

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

MAIN Street Shelter

March @ Trinity Reformed UCC

King & N Hanover Streets, Pottstown

10:00 pm to 8:00 am

Norman's Game Night

3rd Saturday Evening Each Month

King St Commons, 7:00 pm

Your Prayer Notes:

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

Please pray that God would bless our endeavors as we operate the mobile shelter this season. Also remember the host churches that will be extending the love of Christ to our friends. Thank God for them!! And remember to pray for Trinity Reformed UCC as they host for the first time this month.

Remember in prayer, those requests from last week:

Pray for Brenda, as she recovers in the hospital; Jerry for recovery in rehab; Ron's health; John and Glenn, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation; Please, also keep John's health in prayer; and for us all, as we seek rest, and to be graceful to those who misunderstand us, our mission, and judge us out of ignorance.

Please pray for Jeff & Sandy Reifsnnyder, their family and Cocalico Creek Fellowship, and Pastor Kenn Cosgrove, his family and the people from Grace church since their churches closings. There are very good and God honoring people who are valuable to Christ in His ministry!

Next Week's Scriptures:

March 15, 2009: Third Sunday of Lent (Year B)

psalm 19, exodus 20.1-17,

john 2.13-22, & 1 corinthians 1.18-25

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home churches & worship center

March 8 - 2009

Faith & Reluctance
Or, You want me to do what?!

Second Sunday of Lent
Worship

psalm 22.23-31

genesis 17.1-7, 15-16

genesis 22.1-2, 9-13, & 15-18

mark 8.31-38

romans 4.13-25

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 ::

“Psalm 22”

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 22.23-31

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Genesis 22.1-2, 9-13, & 15-18

The Scripture ~

Faith & Reluctance

Or, You want me to do What?!

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, ‘Abraham!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ He said, ‘Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt-offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.’

Genesis 22.1—2

This week's Lectionary:

First Sunday of Lent (Year B)

psalm 25.1-10, genesis 9.8-17,
mark 1.9-15, & 1 peter 3.18-22

Reflection Film ::

“Mark 8”

Benediction ::

Romans 16.25-27

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



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Meditation:
He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?" **Mark 8.34—36**

Reflection:

In Mark 8, Jesus first predicts his death and resurrection. He spells out the costliness of following the path of God's justice, yet calls on all of us to follow him.

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Psalm 22.23-31

[Worship]

23 You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! 24 For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him. 25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. 26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever! 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. 28 For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. 29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. 30 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, 31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Consider:

[Words]

There is an awesome inevitability about the cross for Jesus. Mark's gospel has offered a raft of Jesus' encounters with the authorities where he has declared for justice over against injustice, demonstrating that through exorcism, miracle, and story. Predicting his condemnation, trial, and judicial murder at the hands of the authorities he has challenged, Jesus nevertheless presages the triumph of God's saving justice by announcing that after three days he will rise again (Mark 8:31).

Few who had witnessed Roman executions could do anything but turn cold at the thought of crucifixion. Peter's scolding

reaction is as much born out of horror and fear as anything else. Jesus cannot now softpedal; he has asked the disciples for their perception of who he is (Mark 8:27-30); he has revealed the implication of being identified as the Son of Man, the figure in apocalyptic literature who will overthrow the powers (Daniel 7). Now, he must test who is for him—who will follow.

Calling the disciples and the crowds to listen, he publicly spells out the costliness of choosing the path of declaring the justice of God: deny yourself, take up your cross, follow me. The remainder of the gospel is an account of how this choice was to impact upon Jesus—his refusal to compromise with the imperial and religious authorities; his loyalty to the call to seek first the rule of God and God's saving justice (Matthew 6:33). Here is one who has not despised or disregarded the poverty of the poor, nor turned away his face, but has listened to the cry for help (Psalm 22:24).



[Scripture]

Mark 8.31-38

31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." 34 He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. 36 For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? 37 Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? 38 Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."