

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 **On Hold until May**

Ministry:

The Table

Every Wednesday Evening

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

MAIN Street Shelter

April @ Christ Episcopal Church

316 High Street, Pottstown

10:00 pm to 8:00 am

Norman's Game Night

3rd Saturday Evening Each Month

King St Commons, 7:00 pm

Announcements:

Your Prayer Notes:

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

Please pray that God would bless our endeavors as we draw to a close, the operation of the 2008/2009 mobile shelter. Also remember the host churches that have extended the love of Christ to all of us. Thank God for them!! And remember to pray for Christ Episcopal as they host for the first time this final month.

Remember in prayer, those requests from last week:

Pray for John, Glenn, Mark, Mike, and Jim, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation; pray for Norman's health; for Brenda since she has come home; for Ron's health, and for the Caulk's family in the sadness of their loss; and pray for Howard's cousin Ricky to get back on his feet, and for family trouble. Also remember Bob & Lois during a very trying time. Please, 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.

Next Week's Scriptures:

April 19, 2009: EASTER 2 (Year B)

psalm 133, acts 4.32-35,

john 20.19-31, & 1 john 1.1 - 2.2

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April 12 - 2009

BIG Stones
Or, freeing ourselves from what we are
already Freed

Easter Sunday

Worship

psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

mark 16:1-8

acts 10:34-43

1 corinthians 15:1-11

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 ::

“ Rise ”

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 118.1-2, 14-24

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Acts 10.34-43

Focus Film ::

“ Lost No More ”

The Scripture ~

BIG Stones

Or, freeing ourselves from what we are already Freed

And very early after dawn on the first day of the week, they came at the time of the coming up of the sun to the place where the body had been put. And they were saying among themselves, Who will get the stone rolled away from the door for us? And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; and it was of great size.

Mark 16.2—4

This week's Lectionary:

EASTER Sunday (Year B)

psalm 118.1-2, 14-24, mark 16.1-8,
acts 10.34-43, & 1 corinthians 15.1-11

Reflection Film ::

“ He Is Risen ”

Benediction ::

Romans 16.25-27

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

✧ the great escaping

✧ hollow death

✧ secure life & coming home

“

Meditation:

...Christ underwent death for our sins, as it says in the Writings; And he was put in the place of the dead; and on the third day he came back from the dead, as it says in the Writings; And he was seen by Cephas; then by the twelve; Then by more than five hundred brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, but some are sleeping; Then he was seen by James; then by all the Apostles. And last of all, as by one whose birth was out of the right time, he was seen by me." 1 Corinthians 15.3b—8

Reflection:

Jesus' death was the culmination of several different strands: a political process, a religious clash, a spiritual war, all rushing together. With his resurrection, a new life, a new power, was unleashed upon the world. And the question is: How ought this to work out? -N.T. Wright



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 118.1-2, 14-24

[Worship]

1 O give praise to the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy is unchanging for ever. 2 Let Israel now say, that his mercy is unchanging for ever.

14 The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. 15 The sound of joy and salvation is in the tents of the upright; the right hand of the Lord does works of power. 16 The right hand of the Lord is lifted up; the right hand of the Lord does works of power. 17 Life and not death will be my part, and I will give out the story of the works of the Lord. 18 The hand of Jah has been hard on me; but he has not given me up to death. 19 Let the doors of righteousness be open to me; I will go in and give praise to the Lord. 20 This is the door of the Lord's house; the workers of righteousness will go in through it. 21 I will give you praise, for you have given me an answer, and have become my salvation. 22 The stone which the builders put on one side has become the chief stone of the building. 23 This is the Lord's doing; it is a wonder in our eyes. 24 This is the day which the Lord has made; we will be full of joy and delight in it.

Consider:

[Words]

The women disciples who have the nerve to stand by, eyes and hearts open at the foot of the cross, are also the ones with the nerve to attend the grave when the Sabbath is over. The legal unreliability of women as witnesses (so the culture had it) is often noted for its irony. (And ironically as evidence of historical veracity, on the premise that no church concocting testimony would begin with women witnesses: Notice, indeed, that Paul and Peter omit them utterly in today's lections.)

The degree of their courage, however, is generally unaccounted. This movement has been targeted and ostensibly crushed. The shepherd has been struck so that the sheep will scatter. But the women hang in. They refuse to go quietly away. Their act of memory and mourning and the freedom of their continuing open association has been

compared to the Mothers of the Disappeared standing watch in one plaza or another.

Isn't the irony that in the stark reversal of Mark's abrupt ending (verse 8) their fear should punctuate the entire narrative as a question mark? They fear neither men nor powers, but an empty tomb? The women fear God alone. Their knees buckle to imagine the transforming power that is here and now being unleashed. What next? A door opens before them at the end.

Thank God, even unacknowledged, Peter and Paul followed the women through that door. Moreover, as these texts have it, they recollect and recite the resurrection in moments of transformation, personal and social: Peter, in his monumental breakthrough to community with Gentiles; Paul, in a letter that summons the healing freedom required by a beloved community fracturing to bits. A door, they both testify, has opened....

The question remains: Will we now, in fear and trembling (not to mention utter joy), walk through? —Bill Wylie-Kellermann

[Scripture]

Acts 10.34-43

34 Then Peter said, Truly, I see clearly that God is no respecter of persons: 35 But in every nation, the man who has fear of him and does righteousness is pleasing to him. 36 The word which he sent to the children of Israel, giving the good news of peace through Jesus Christ (who is Lord of all)-- 37 That word you yourselves have knowledge of, which was made public through all Judaea, starting from Galilee, after the baptism of which John was the preacher, 38 About Jesus of Nazareth, how God gave the Holy Spirit to him, with power: and how he went about doing good and making well all who were troubled by evil spirits, for God was with him. 39 And we are witnesses of all the things which he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem; whom they put to death, hanging him on a tree. 40 On the third day God gave him back to life, and let him be seen, 41 Not by all the people, but by witnesses marked out before by God, even by us, who took food and drink with him after he came back from the dead. 42 And he gave us orders to give news of this to the people, and to give public witness that this is he whom God has made judge of the living and the dead. 43 To him all the prophets give witness, that through his name everyone who has faith in him will have forgiveness of sins.