

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

On Summer Hiatus Until November

Fund raising and shelter cleanup efforts are beginning this month

Norman's Game Night

3rd Saturday Evening Each Month

King St Commons, 7:00 pm

Announcements:

Shenkel UCC in North Coventry, in their attempt to host our shelter for 2 years now, might be coming to the end of a long road, legally with North Coventry. The ACLU has filed a law suit on their behalf. Our friends at Shenkel have done this reluctantly, not wanting conflict with the Township, but when the world's kingdoms come into conflict with Christ's kingdom and following Him, we must be obedient to our King. Keep them in prayer!

Your Prayer Notes:

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

2008/2009 Season has come to an end and the work of fund raising, laundry, and storage are beginning. Please pray to see where God would have you to help!! See Ron Cauk for details, and remember to thank God for the host churches!!

Remember in prayer, those requests from last week:

Pray for our shelter friends, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation, remember Bruce Heller who is in Manor Care Nursing Home, but doing very poorly; Also, pray for Patrice's mom, for renewed health.

Pray for Michael's friend who's family is enduring a very difficult time, and are in danger of losing their farm, pray for Bob & Lois too, as they seek God revealing in their housing situation. Remember Donna who is lost in the confusion of religion and the thoughts of her mind.

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:

May 31, 2009: Pentecost (Year B)
psalm 104.24-34, 35b, john 15.26-27; 16.4b-15,
acts 2.1-21, & romans 8.22-27

Get in touch with us at:

i. www.besidestillwaters.net e. Info@besidestillwaters.net

256 South Hanover Street, Pottstown, PA 19465-7022

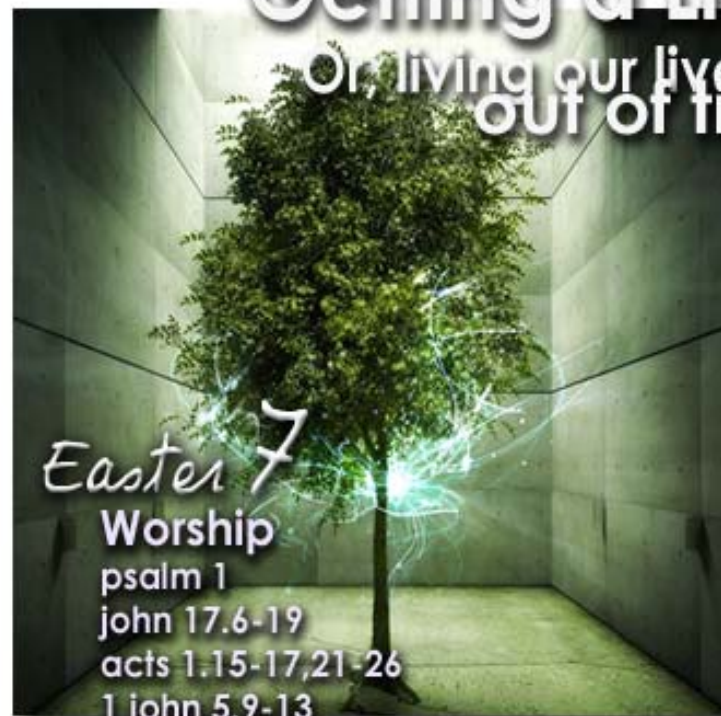
Phone: (610) 970-2444

Fax: (484) 363-4017

still waters
home churches & worship center

May 24 - 2009

Getting a Life
Or, living our lives
out of time



Easter 7
Worship
psalm 1
john 17.6-19
acts 1.15-17, 21-26
1 john 5.9-13

Benediction

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

[Service]

Tonight...

Focus Film ::

“Jesus Prayed”

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 1

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Acts 1.15-17, 21-26

Focus Film ::

“Christ’s Ascension & Supper”

The Scripture ~

Getting a Life

Or, living our lives, out of time

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5.9—13

This week’s Lectionary:

EASTER 7 (Year B)

psalm 1, john 17.6-19,

acts 1.15-17, 21-26, & 1 john 5.9-13

Focus Film ::

“Your Love Is”

Benediction ::

Romans 16.25-27

[Journaling Worship

your talking points notes...

for this Week’s Church Discussion]

✚ more than a name

✚ creating a kingdom epidemic

✚ living forever vs Eternal Life



Meditation:
So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” Acts 1.12—22

Reflection:

“The careful, ritualized attention given to replacing Judas in the circle of 12 ... is care applied to a wound in the body. His replacement is not an issue of hierarchy and authority; it bears on the wholeness of a body that has been invaded. Matthias will be a ‘witness to the resurrection.’”

--Bill Wylie-Kellermann



still waters

home church studies

Psalms 1

[Worship]

1 Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; 2 but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. 4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; 6 for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Consider:

[Words]

The replacement of Judas with Matthias in the first chapter of Acts is not administrative busywork for the idle days between ascension and Pentecost. Something more poignant feels at work. In the absence of the Lord, Judas' empty place at the table must be an ache too much to bear, like a branch lopped from the vine, or an open wound in the body. Judas was "numbered" among them. Now their number is incomplete.

Lots are cast to replace him. With credentials only that he was with them from the beginning, Matthias fills an ache and a place and a ministry—an opposite number of austere anonymity—never to be mentioned again in scripture. But the prayer of election falls upon him.

Let us venture to suggest that the prayer of Jesus in John 17 falls upon him as well. It is certain that, even at a distance of time, those in the community of the beloved disciple (see verse 20) experienced this as an intercession for themselves in a dark hour. In the same way, in the mystery of time, we know ourselves prayed for in this passage. The words of Jesus

wash over us in love and also in sober warning: The world will hate them as it has hated me.

Scholars agree that *kosmos* here is not so much the universe or the planet, but the "world" of human social existence and especially that world as fallen, a realm of alienation estranged from God. Walter Wink has suggested "system" as a translation for this special meaning, as in, "My kingdom is not of this system," or, as in the present case, "The world system has hated them because they are not of the system, even as I am not."

Judas is alluded to in the prayer as one lost. His place is already empty. The infiltrator at the table, the agent of the authorities, representative of this world system, has already fled to his work. But the prayer avails nonetheless. Even now we pray it washes over us, pray to know its power.

[Scripture]

John 17.6-18

6 "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9 I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11 And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13 But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. 14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 15 I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. 16 They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.