

**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

**Announcements:**

Pray for the Cox & Twaddell families at the loss of Kim. These family are heartbroken through this terrible loss. Pray for God's grace as they look for answers in this tragedy.

Please pray for Gary Allan and his family at the loss of their grandchild this week. Kim was in her 1<sup>st</sup> trimester and lost the baby last Sunday in the hospital. Keep them in your prayers.

**Your Prayer Notes:**

**The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.**

2009/2010 Season is beginning to ramp up and we are still working at fund raising, laundry, and storage to beginning. Please pray to see where God would have you to help!! See Ron Caulk 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.

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:**

September 6, 2009: Proper 18 (Year B)

psalm 125, proverbs 22.1-2, 8-9, 22-23,

mark 7.24-37, & james 2.1-10, (11-13), 14-17

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



August 30, 2009

**Defiled by Purity**  
Or, freedom from self importance

**Worship**  
psalm 45.1-2, 6-9  
song of solomon 2.8-13  
mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23  
james 1.17-27

**Benediction**



© 2009 still waters home churches & worship center

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 ::

“Slow To Anger”

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 45.1-2, 6-9

Congregation Song Worship ::

~ offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his

Scripture Reading ::

deeds with songs of joy

Song of Solomon 2.8-13

Focus Film ::

“No Game”

The Scripture ~

**Defiled by Purity**

**Or, freedom from self importance**

So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.” *Mark 7. 5—8*

This week’s Lectionary:

psalm 45.1-2, 6-9, song of solomon 2.8-13,  
mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23, & james 1.17-27

Focus Film ::

“Betraying the Message”

Benediction ::

Romans 16.25-27

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

¥ lip service

¥ a dead giveaway

¥ actions speak louder than words

“

**Meditation:**

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.” *Mark 7. 14-15, 21—23*

**Reflection:**

It’s easy to think we are being religious when we focus on debates about doctrinal purity - but what God actually demands is that we be fervent about justice, compassionate to the needy, and committed to non-exploitative relationships. - **Elaine Storkey**, *Meditating on Isaiah 58 and the present-day global economy*

# still waters

home church studies

## Psalm 45 .1-2, 6-9

[Worship]

1 My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe. 2 You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.

6 Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity; 7 you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions; 8 your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad; 9 daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

### Consider:

[Words]

"God's saving justice is never served by human anger" (James 1.20). This text should be inscribed on the hearts of all who seek for peace and justice in our world. True religion should be marked by an eagerness to listen, a slowness to speak, and a tight rein on the tongue. There is no room for lip service or human traditions that are used to avoid dealing with the real evil intentions that are found in the human heart (Mark 7.21-23).

In essence God's saving justice is marked by simplicity of faith and expressed by helping widows and orphans in their hardships and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world



(James 1.27). The word for world here is better translated as "systems," the powers and principalities (Ephesians 6.12) that impede both the saving justice of God and the springtime of hope, poetically described in Song of Songs as an awakening of love. May our prayer and our desire be that the seasons of glad songs will come (Song of Songs 2.12).

### Reflection and Action

What are you doing to welcome the seasons of glad songs?

[Scripture]

## James 1. 17-27

17 Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. 19 You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. 21 Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. 23 For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; 24 for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. 25 But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act--they will be blessed in their doing. 26 If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.



still waters home church studies  
**Daily Lectionary Readings**  
 for Ordinary Calendar Year B [Worship]

These readings are adapted from *The Book of Common Prayer*, Daily Readings for Year One.

Sun Aug 2	am: 93, 96 pm: 34	2 Sam 6:12-23	Rom 14:7-12	John 1:43-51
Mon P13 Aug 3	am: 80 pm: 77, 19	2 Sam 7:1-17	Acts 18:1-11	Mark 8:11-21
Tue Aug 4	am: 78:1-39 pm: 78:40-72	2 Sam 7:18-29	Acts 18:12-28	Mark 8:22-33
Wed Aug 5	am: 119:97-120 pm: 81, 82	2 Sam 9:1-13	Acts 19:1-10	Mark 8:34-9:1
Thur Aug 6	am: 83 pm: 85, 86	2 Sam 11:1-27	Acts 19:11-20	Mark 9:2-13
Fri Aug 7	am: 88 pm: 91, 92	2 Sam 12:1-14	Acts 19:21-41	Mark 9:14-29
Sat Aug 8	am: 87, 90 pm: 136	2 sam 12:15-31	Acts 20:1-16	Mark 9:30-41
Sun Aug 9	am: 66, 67 pm: 19, 46	2 Sam 13:1-22	Rom 15:1-13	John 3:22-36
Mon P14 Aug 10	am: 89:1-18 pm: 89:19-52	2 Sam 13:23-39	Acts 20:17-38	Mark 9:42-50
Tue Aug 11	am: 97, 99, 100 pm: 94, 95	2 Sam 14:1-20	Acts 21:1-14	Mark 10:1-16
Wed Aug 12	am: 101, 109 pm: 119:121-144	2 Sam 14:21-33	Acts 21:15-26	Mark 10:17-31
Thur Aug 13	am: 105:1-22 pm: 105:23-45	2 Sam 15:1-18	Acts 21:27-36	Mark 10:32-45
Fri Aug 14	am: 102 pm: 107:1-32	2 Sam 15:19-37	Acts 21:37-22:16	Mark 10:46-52
Sat Aug 15	am: 107:33-43, 108 pm: 33	2 Sam 16:1-23	Acts 22:17-29	Mark 11:1-11
Sun Aug 16	am: 118 pm: 145	2 Sam 17:1-23	Gal 3:6-14	John 5:30-47
Mon P15 Aug 17	am: 106:1-18 pm: 106:19-48	2 Sam 17:24-18:8	Acts 22:30-23:11	Mark 11:12-26
Tue Aug 18	am: 121, 122, 123 pm: 124, 125, 126	2 Sam 18:9-18	Acts 23:12-24	Mark 11:27-12:12
Wed Aug 19	am: 119:145-176 pm: 128, 129, 130	2 Sam 18:18-33	Acts 23:23-35	Mark 12:13-27
Thur Aug 20	am: 131, 132, 133 pm: 134, 135	2 Sam 19:1-23	Acts 24:1-23	Mark 12:28-34
Fri Aug 21	am: 140, 142 pm: 141, 143	2 Sam 19:24-43	Acts 24:24-25:12	Mark 12:35-44

Sat Aug 22	am: 137, 144 pm: 104	2 Sam 23:1-7, 13-17	Acts 25:13-27	Mark 13:1-13
Sun Aug 23	am: 146, 147 pm: 111, 112, 113	2 Sam 24:1-2, 10-25	Gal 3:23-4:7	John 8:12-20
Mon P16 Aug 24	am: 1, 2, 3 pm: 4, 7	1 Kng 1:5-31	Acts 26:1-23	Mark 13:14-27
Tue Aug 25	am: 5, 6 pm: 10, 11	1 Kng 1:38-2:4	Acts 26:24-27:8	Mark 13:28-37
Wed Aug 26	am: 119:1-24 pm: 12, 13, 14	1 Kng 3:1-15	Acts 27:9-26	Mark 14:1-11
Thur Aug 27	am: 18:1-20 pm: 18:21-50	1 Kng 3:16-28	Acts 27:27-44	Mark 14:12-26
Fri Aug 28	am: 16, 17 pm: 22	1 Kng 5:1-6:1, 7	Acts 28:1-16	Mark 14:27-42
Sat Aug 29	am: 20, 21 pm: 110, 116, 117	1 Kng 7:51-8:21	Acts 28:17-31	Mark 14:43-52
Sun Aug 30	am: 148, 149, 150 pm: 114, 115	1 Kng 8:22-40	1 Tim 4:7b-16	John 8:47-59
Mon P17 Aug 31	am: 25 pm: 9, 15	2 Ch 6:32-7:7	Jam 2:1-13	Mark 14:53-65
Tue Sept 1	am: 26, 28 pm: 36, 39	1 Kng 8:65-9:9	Jam 2:14-26	Mark 14:66-72
Wed Sept 2	am: 38 pm: 119:25-48	1 Kng 9:24-10:13	Jam 3:1-12	Mark 15:1-11
Thur Sept 3	am: 37:1-18 pm: 37:19-42	1 Kng 11:1-13	Jam 3:13-4:12	Mark 15:12-21
Fri Sept 4	am: 31 pm: 35	1 Kng 11:26-43	Jam 4:13-5:6	Mark 15:22-32
Sat Sept 5	am: 30, 32 pm: 42, 43	1 Kng 12:1-20	Jam 5:7-12, 19-20	Mark 15:33-39

**your talking points notes...**