

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

Thursday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown

7:00 to 9:00

Ministry:

The Table

Suspended until the end of

Shelter Season in April

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

MAIN Street Shelter

We have begun the 2010/2011

Shelter Season!

Host Church is Christ Episcopal on High St

There are many volunteering opportunities.

Announcements:

Norman Vanderlick has moved to a group home in Harleysville. Please consider writing him a note of love and encouragement while he settles in.

His new address is: 140 Crescent Ln, Harleysville, PA 19438

We will be trying to coordinate bringing him to dinner, church, and singing once a month.

Pray and see where you might fit in assuring him of our love for him.

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

Please pray to see where God would have you to help!! See Pastor Kork or Ron Caulk for details, and remember to thank God for our host churches!!

New Home Church Series every Tuesday evening at The Moyer's

The Story of God

The Story of Us.



Your Prayer Notes:

Remember those prayer requests from last week and:

Please pray for Ron's health, to keep him strong; for Patrice's thyroid treatments; for Diana's family to be reunited; for Roxy who was diagnosed with cancer, for health and to be another voice of God in the midst of physical struggle to those around her, for those who suffered the Walnut St fire, including pastor Tom and the "Old Rugged Church;" for those who have fallen away, due to addictions and cultural narcissism; and 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.

Please keep our church—the future of Still Waters, in prayer during yet another time of upheaval and difficulty while trying to remain faithful to God's calling to the least around us. Please, also, pray for those who will be coming to the shelter, that they would find love and grace during their struggle, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation.

Next Week's Scriptures:

November 21, 2010: Proper 29 (Year C)

Jeremiah 23.1-6, Luke 1.68-79,

Luke 23.33-43, & Colossians 1.11-20

Get in touch with us at:

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still waters
home churches & worship center



November 14 - 2010

We All Fall Down



Worship

Psalm 118

Isaiah 65.17-25

Luke 21.5-19

2 Thessalonians 3.6-13

Benediction

Tabernacle Worship

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465

Every Sunday Evening at 5:30, St. John's Parish House



[Service]

Tonight...

Scripture Reading ::

Psalm 118

Focus Film ::

"Rumors of War"

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Isaiah 65.17-25

Focus Film ::

"The Return of Christ"

This week's Lectionary Text:

*Psalm 118, Isaiah 65.17-25,
Luke 21.5-19, & 2 Thessalonians 3.6-13*

The Scripture ~

We All Fall Down...

*Or, Or, The Ashes of War & Perverse
Politics of the Religious*

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; Luke 21.5-8a

Focus Film ::

"Rumors of Hope"

Benediction ::

Revelation 22.12, 14, 16-17, 20-21

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

✚ **Provocative Memories**

✚ **The Church at War**

✚ **What is God's Work?**

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Meditation:

For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right." 2 Thessalonians 3. 10—13

Reflection:

What do apocalyptic passages mean for us? We are encouraged to reject interpretations which say that Christians should sit back from the world and watch the "heathens" self-destruct.

Christian communities today need to pay attention to Paul's advice about becoming people whose attitudes and behavior violate the common good.



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 118

[Worship]

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures for ever! 2 Let Israel say, 'His steadfast love endures for ever.' 3 Let the house of Aaron say, 'His steadfast love endures for ever.' 4 Let those who fear the LORD say, 'His steadfast love endures for ever.' 5 Out of my distress I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place. 6 With the LORD on my side I do not fear. What can mortals do to me? 7 The LORD is on my side to help me; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me. 8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to put confidence in mortals. 9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to put confidence in princes. 10 All nations surrounded me; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! 11 They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! 12 They surrounded me like bees; they blazed like a fire of thorns; in the name of the LORD I cut them off! 13 I was pushed hard, so that I was falling, but the LORD helped me. 14 The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. 15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: 'The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; 16 the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.' 17 I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. 18 The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. 20 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. 24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. 25 Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success! 26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. 27 The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession

with branches, up to the horns of the altar. 28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. 29 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever.

Consider:

[Words]

Either the world is about to crack, according to these texts, or God's rule reigns.

The moment of God's new rule will require the faithful to run risks. Jesus knows that the church will conflict with "the authorities," will be brought into court, and will give testimony about the power of Easter against the force of death. But, says Jesus, those who run that risk will "gain their souls" and not lose a hair on their heads (Luke 21:18-19).

Paul's counsel is more mundane. He urges believers to "hang in" with daily contributions to the life of the community. He is hard on slackers and gossips who go along for a free lunch, but do not contribute.

These texts bespeak great expectation along with great danger. Ours is such a time when the force of market-driven exploitation threatens to undo the human community. In the face of that threat, the church celebrates the rule of God, boldly attests its truth, and daily acts it out. Our time of crisis is indeed "biblical" in urgency and proportion. We are summoned to daring resolve and daily effort for the coming rule of God. – Walter Bruggemann

[Scripture]

Reread Luke 21.5-19

Question: Interestingly, the Church today holds the same bias' as the world with regard to those in poverty, judging everyone without income as lazy. But that is not what St. Paul is talking about in 2 Thessalonians. He is discussing those who are "idle," contributing nothing to God's work, or others, calling them busy-bodies, instead of being about God's work within the community—including those impoverished.

Where have you seen those on the margins step up to God's higher callings in community, and "good people" slack off, merely wanting to talk about others—limiting their "God work?"

Are you/we in danger of idleness?