

Worship:

Tabernacle Worship Service

Every Sunday Evening

St. John's Lutheran 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

Announcements:

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

Recycle Your Faith

Questioning God.



We all see through a glass darkly... Our misunderstandings and questions can make us feel as though we have little, or NO, faith. God is BIG enough to answer our doubts through simplicity and honest questioning. Join us in questioning our faith.

Your Prayer Notes:

Remember those prayer requests from last week and:

Please pray for; Joyce Allan and her family. We lost our brother and friend Gary on Monday due to a massive heart attack. We are less in his absence, and mourn his loss; Andrew, Kerri and their grandmother who is diagnosed with terminal cancer, for a glorious and rich time preparing for her home-going. She also fell this week and we pray for her comfort; for Toni in her break-up, for Lynn—a 20 year old who is diagnosed with a tumor on the pituitary gland, for April's broken heart, and some tough family decisions, Hank and Helen Hankens. Hank has been diagnosed with stage four cancer and has tumors in his lungs, and inoperable tumors in his brain. Let's help them all we can! Please pray for Ron's health, to keep him strong; for Patrice's thyroid treatments; for Diana's family to be reunited; for Jeff, who was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease, for Bruce's health, for the folks staying at the shelter, that they would find love and grace during their struggle, for fulltime employment, apartments, and strength during temptation, for those who have fallen away, due to addictions and cultural narcissism; and keep all of us in prayer, as we seek rest, and to be graceful to those who misunderstand us.

Please keep our church—the future of Still Waters, in prayer while trying to remain faithful to God's calling to the least around us.

Next Week's Scriptures:

April 17, 2011: Palm Sunday (Year A)

Isaiah 50.4-9a, Psalm 31.9-16, Matthew 26.14-27.66, & Philipians 2.5-11

Get in touch with us at:

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Ministry:

The Table

Suspended until the end of

Shelter Season in April

Washington & Chestnut Sts. 7:00 pm

MAIN Street Shelter

Every evening at 10:00 pm

Christ Episcopal High & Charlotte Sts.

There are many volunteering opportunities.

still waters
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April 10 :: 2011

Lazarus, Come Out

Or, How to Talk to
The Dead

Worship

Psalm 130

Ezekiel 37.1-14

John 11.1-45

Romans 8.6-11

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...

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Romans 8.6-11

Worship Film ::

"Psalm 130"

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

John 11.1-45

Focus Films ::

"You Shall Live"

This week's Lectionary Text:

*Psalm 130, Ezekiel 37.1-14, John
11.1-45, & Romans 8.6-11*

The Scripture ~

Lazarus, Come Out!

*Or, How to Talk to
The Dead*

Therefore prophesy

and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live..."'

Ezekiel 37.12-14a

Focus Films ::

"Lost, No More"

Benediction ::

1 Thessalonians 3.11-13

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

✠ Vampire Christians

✠ I See Dead People

✠ A Very Public Truth

Meditation:
“The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry.” Ezekiel 37.1-2

Reflection:

In Ezekiel's vision and in Lazarus' healing, it is despairing, dried-up people to whom resurrection comes. In John 11, Lazarus gets a temporary reprieve from death; on Easter, Jesus arrives on the other side of death, where there is no more dying, and ushers in a world order in which God gives abundant life.



still waters

home church studies

Psalm 130

[Worship]

1 Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord; 2 Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. 3 If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? 4 But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared. 5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope. 6 My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning—yes, more than those who watch for the morning. 7 O Israel, hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption. 8 And He shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Consider:

[Words]

The faithful receive new life in the power of God. The dramatic presentation of that claim is the gospel narrative wherein Jesus summons his dead friend, Lazarus, to new life in the face of death. He says to him: “Lazarus, come out!” (John 11:43). And he is released for new life. This gift of new life is the bottom line and the scandal and the wonder of the gospel – the power of God.

That narrative (and others like it in the orbit of Jesus) has an Old Testament antecedent. In Ezekiel 37, the prophet is offered a vision of the “dry bones” of Israel brought to new life by the spirit of God. The imagery refers to the homecoming and restoration of Israel, but the rhetoric concerns resurrection of the dead! In context, resurrection is the power and will of God to restore this defeated, displaced, despairing people to real life in the world after it has been routed and humiliated by the force of empire. “Resurrection faith” is lined out variously in the Bible physically, literally, historically, symbolically, and metaphorically. We can

see in the Lazarus narrative how the literal report shades over into the theological (verses 25-27). We need not quibble, however, because the narrative claim in any case runs well beyond our explanatory categories.

The psalm suggests that God’s power for life takes the form of forgiveness that frees from the burdens of sin and guilt that immobilize. As is evident in the Jesus stories, the gift of life and readiness to forgive are synonymous (see Mark 2:9). The power of death enslaves; the power of guilt immobilizes. And God, in these texts, manifests the power to liberate the enslaved and reconcile the alienated. It is no wonder that Paul becomes lyrical about the resurrection that is a continuing force as God’s spirit “dwells in you” (Romans 8:11). Resurrection is not only an event; it also a continual state of empowered living. – Walter Bruggemann

[Scripture]

Romans 8.6-11

6 To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law-- indeed it cannot, 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reread

**Ezekiel 37.1-14 &
John 11.1-45**

Question: Do we believe in the depth of faithful love necessary to bring life out of the decomposing corpse of my own life, country, and world? Jesus questions Martha, whether she believes that he is the resurrection. Do we believe this?
