

Worship:

Tabernacle Worship Service

Every Sunday Evening

St. John's Lutheran Parish House
75 East Main St. South Pottstown 5:30 pm

Hanover St. Home Church:

Tuesday Evenings

256 South Hanover Street Pottstown
7:00 to 9:00

Announcements:

The Ministries at MAIN Street Shelter.

The 2012/2013 Season is quickly drawing to a close, and we are still working at fund raising, laundry, and cleanup. Please pray to see where God would have you to help, and that God would bless our endeavors as we plan moving toward a year-round shelter.

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.



On the Thursday before Easter, we again, hold our Maundy Thursday Service at the Moyer's. This will be a meal, and our Stations of the Cross remembrance service, and communion. Please try to attend this meaningful time of worship.



REMEMBER: Please invite some friends to Easter Service next Sunday!

Remember those prayer requests from last week and:

Please pray for Jim, as his brother John walks through this last stage of liver cancer; for Robert's mother who is in the hospital (she is 104); and for our friend Sue, who is struggling with cancer. Pray also for "Gummy" as she settles into her new routine with Arterial Fibrillation, for employment for Bonnie, for Jeremy, his children, and his girlfriend Anita, and for Ray regarding 'personal matters.' Continue to pray for those who suffer, due to addictions, and seek rest and grace for those who misunderstand us. Please keep our church in prayer, while trying to remain faithful to God's calling to the least around us, the comfortable Church, and as we make difficult decisions about the future of the church and shelter ministries.

Gracious LORD, we glory in your appearing, and the gift of our unique King. Thank you for His gift to us, of your Holy Spirit, to proclaim justice in our land; to announce release from bondage, and to become your pleasure. Help us LORD, to see you as you are, to walk in your Way, as we journey our Lenten deserts. Work in us to become your peculiar people to those needing to know you and your kingdom, both in the Church and outside. May your will be done. Amen.

Your Prayer Notes:

Next Week's Scriptures: March 31, 2013 Easter Sunday (Year C)

psalm 118.1-2, 14-24, acts 10.34-43, john 20.1-18, &
1 corinthians 15.19-26

Get in touch with us at:

i. www.besidestillwaters.net e. Info@besidestillwaters.net
256 South Hanover Street, Pottstown, PA 19465 Ph: (610) 970-2444

MAIN Street Shelter:

We are Open to Receive Guests!

The Welcome Center Every Evening

75 East Main St. South Pottstown 9:00 pm

Mobile Shelter March's Host Church:

St Paul's UCC

N Franklin & Grace Sts., Pottstown 10:00 pm

There are still many volunteering opportunities



March 24, 2013

Deliver & Save

Or, the Cost and Joy of Discipleship

Worship
psalm 31:9-16
isaiah 50.4-9a
luke 22.14 - 23.56
phillippians 2.5-11

Benediction

Tabernacle Worship

75 East Main Street, Pottstown, PA 19465
Every Sunday Evening at 9:00, St. John's Parish House

© 2013 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...

Worship Film ::

"A Profound Mystery"

Scripture Reading & Call to Worship ::

Psalm 31.9-16

Congregation Song Worship ::

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

Scripture Reading ::

Isaiah 50.4-9a

Focus Films ::

"The Reliever"

The Scripture ~

Deliver & Save
Or, the Cost and Joy of
Discipleship

Let the same mind

be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

Philippians 2.5-8

Focus Films ::

"Fuel for Forgiveness"

Benediction ::

Romans 16.25-27



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

✚ dressing our wounds

✚ who will deliver me?

✚ painful gifts

Meditation:

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." Luke 22.14—15

Reflection:

Today's lection is easily the longest—and arguably the richest—of the year. The gospel reading recounts the whole passion story, from the Last Supper to the burial of Jesus. Many churches, of course, choose the Palm Sunday focus on the triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Luke 19:28-40 and parallels), and save the story of Jesus' betrayal, crucifixion, and death for Holy Thursday and Good Friday services.

—Jim Rice

still waters

home church studies

Psalm 31.9-16

[Worship]

9 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also. 10 For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away. 11 I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. 12 I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. 13 For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!—as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. 14 But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." 15 My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. 16 Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Consider:

Lent is a time for "following." The narrative about Jesus' suffering and death provides a way in which we are able, in an act of disciplined imagination, to situate (or resituate) our lives in the story of Jesus. We become aware that the story of Jesus requires and permits a new version of our own story of life and faith.

Lent is a time for fresh decision-making about reliance upon the God of the gospel. Such decision-making in Lent is commonly called "repentance." It's a time to reflect on the way in which God gives new life that is welcome when we recognize how our old way of life mostly leaves us weary and unsatisfied.

[Words]

Lent is a time to face the reality that there is no easy or "convenient" passage from our previous life to a new joyous life in the gospel. The move is by the pattern and sequence of Jesus' own life, an embrace of suffering that comes with obedience, which comes inevitably when our lives are at odds with dominant social values.

Lent is a time for life with God. While Jesus' suffering and death are quite public events in the Roman Empire, his prayers—echoing the Psalms—evidence that his primary focus was on life with God. In Lent we may draw away from public life enough to give energy to this defining relationship with God who hears and answers, who summons, forgives, and saves **Walter Brueggemann**

[Scripture]

Isaiah 50.4-9a

4 The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens--wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

5 The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was



not rebellious, I did not turn backward. 6 I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. 7 The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; 8 he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. 9 It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Question:

What has Lent meant to you?

How can we respond to this call?

Indeed, it is at the point of facing not only death but the less ultimate tragedies of failure and disillusionment that the call comes again. It is then that our discipleship journey, like our LORD's story, our journey either truly ends or truly begins.

Also, read for yourself this week, **Luke 22.14 – 23.56**