

Worship at NCP meeting - September 22, 2020

We are challenged to remember.

Remember who we are.

In all our beauty as well as our slippery sin.

Remember where we came from.

Our story.

Our best moments and our worst mistakes.

Remember what God has done.

For us, with us, through us.

Remember who we are called to be.

Followers of Jesus.

Makers of peace.

Advocates of justice.

Let us worship God.

Hymn #50 (Glory to God)

“Deep in the Shadows of the Past”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Da2peQ4yfiA> (2:56) w notation.

Remember where we come from:

Deuteronomy 26:5b-10b

“A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place



and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.”

Remember what God has done.

1 John 4:7-12

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Remember what God is calling us to:

Ephesians 2:12-16

¹² [R]emember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body^[c] through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.^[d]

We asked a variety of folks in the presbytery to prayerfully consider the DNA of New Castle Presbytery. What characteristics describe our history, our present, our future? Who are we? When we remember – where we have come from, what God has done, and what we are called into – we can be more aware, more grateful, and more faithful. Here are some of the descriptors: New Castle Presbytery is...

Video montage

Closing Prayer