

Christ's Community Church, Drexel Hill  
September 10, 2023

Text: Exodus 12: 1-14

Introduction

How wide a range of thought, belief, speech and practice do you expect within a Christian congregation in general, and this congregation specifically? *Example: Food*

1. The event of the Passover  
God promised Abraham that his descendants would inherit the land of Canaan. Under Abraham's great-grandson, Joseph, the family relocated to Egypt to survive a famine, but after several generations became slaves there, likely when the ruling dynasty changed. Today's text is the story of the night before Moses leads his fellow Israelites out of Egypt to head back to Canaan, the Promised Land.
2. The enduring celebration of the Passover night  
Ever since that night, every year the Jewish community in every place remembers it.
  - a. In the household
  - b. With words in the language the household uses
  - c. With a script that follows the Scriptural tradition and is fitted to the situation and concerns of the household. The Haggadah.
3. Christian experience of the Exodus
  - a. PC(USA) does not engage in evangelism to Jewish people
  - b. The Lord's Table as an extension of the Passover Meal Jesus shared with his disciples the night before he was crucified. Christ as the Passover Lamb.
  - c. Centered in the sanctuary or communal worship of the Christian Community.

Conclusion

The household-based celebration of the Passover may be a model for maintaining a center in Christ and the Scriptures while respecting a range of interpretations. *Example: Tool Box*

**Questions to take home:**

Do I know and practice the story of Christ well enough to tell it in my own words, in my own way?

Am I able to hear and respect the way other people speak and act out their faith in Christ?

What can I do if I believe that someone's story of Christ is not faithful to the Scripture and Christian tradition?