*The Redemption of Scrooge* by Matt Rawle

The following notes were taken by Jim Post in preparation for our September worship planning retreat.

p. 23 The Advent season plays with our notion of time – the church gathers in the present to ponder the past for a future hope.

p. 25 Dickens’ “carol” is longer than a parable and isn’t set to music. He uses the power of story to remind us that there is no soul too gruff, too cold, or too cantankerous for God’s redeeming power.

p. 26. Salvation is not a savings account, rather salvation is a healing process that transforms who we are and conforms us into the image of Christ. In other words, salvation happens in a hospital, not a bank.

p. 42

p. 43

p. 56 I’ve heard love described as someone who knows us and loves us anyway, and indeed Christ loves us.

p. 59 The disciples – Christ did not see them for who they were, but who there were called to become.

p. 60 I’m not perfect and e=neither are you, but we are perfectly made to follow Christ.

p. 65

p. 70 God gave humans - who were fallible – his son to raise. God trusted humanity more than humanity has ever trusted itself.

p. 72

p. 74-75

p. 91

p. 93 Equal justice – some need more than others.

p. 99

p. 100 God delivers the good news to the shepherds. How were the shepherds’ situations changed? They went back to being shepherds – still poor, still the lowest on the human chain to most people. What did change? They knew God was with them and that remains constant.

p. 105 God has nothing to give us except himself.

p. 106

p. 115 Darkness seemed to follow Jesus where he went.

p. 116 Why only six jars? Six represents imperfection and incompleteness because creation was completed on the seventh day when God rested.