

“Where I’ve seen God today”

A good question to ask yourself is, “Where have you seen God today?” And if you haven’t been intentionally asking yourself that question, perhaps the corollary would be, “Where have you seen God in the past week, or months?”

I think that most of us understand this question not as a literal seeing of God but as a spiritual question. The assumption in this question is that God is “seeable” and “knowable” on some level.

Sometimes God seems quite hidden and not seeable. But, perhaps, by even asking ourselves that question, we might grow in our faith and better “see” God.

So, “where have I seen God lately?”

- I’ve seen God in people making phone calls to check in on neighbors and family members during this pandemic.
- I’ve seen God challenging us to think about hard issues of social justice around race and economic inequalities.
- I’ve seen God working through the many unnamed researchers who developed vaccines for COVID.
- I’ve seen God in pastors and lay leaders digging deep into their bag of resiliency and trying out new things in their congregations.
- I’ve seen God in people who had never heard of Zoom joining bible and book studies through their church and Lifelong Formation classes offered through our synod.
- I’ve seen God in the generosity of people supporting their local businesses, donating blood, and delivering meals.
- I’ve seen God surrounding those who grieve many losses including the death of loved ones in recent months.
- I’ve seen God challenging us to reevaluate what church truly is as more than a building.
- I’ve seen God in people gathering outside in a church parking lot in lawn chairs and social distancing to find joy in the presence of others.
- I’ve seen God in pastors and parishioners who gather for worship in parking lots even in bitter cold weather.
- I’ve seen people spending more time outdoors and appreciating the beauty of God’s creation.

If I truly stop to think about it, I’ve seen God many times!

Sometimes as a pastor, I would ask people before the start of a committee meeting, “Where have you seen God today or this week?” Some people without would hesitation speak up and name something. Others would be silent. I didn’t push people to say something. Perhaps, they had never considered that question. Perhaps, they didn’t want to say the wrong thing. Perhaps, they didn’t have words for how they “saw” God at work.

I’m convinced that as individuals we benefit from asking ourselves that question about “God sightings.” God is. And God can be known through Christ, our neighbor, and this created world.

Thank you, Lord, for being present, even when we do not “see” you!