

Where are you God?- a Sermon on the Church and Community

Sunday, December 28, 2014

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Congregational Church of Needham

This month's topic – hope – Rev. Susan has been asking “where is God...”

When I saw that was the plan for the month, I immediately asked myself...What does it mean to ask “Where is God?”

WHAT is God? Can you see, touch, sense God?

This question can be answered in many ways...

God as external, physical being

God as spirit

God as relationship – interconnectedness – love

There are no wrong answers. My answer to the question... where is God... can be found in a poem, attributed to Teresa of Avila.

Christ has no body but yours

No hands, no feet on earth, but yours

Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world.

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.

Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.

God is here. Because God is in us.

When you see love, you see God.

When you experience relationship, connection, goodness – you experience God.

But I don't want to preach about this this morning. I want us to talk about it. To share our stories.

When have you experienced God as love? When were the hands and feet of God? When has someone else been the hands and feet of God for you. When have you experienced relationship, connection, goodness? When have you seen humanity at its best? In church? In community? In the world? Or maybe you don't agree with me that when you see love, you see God. Let's talk about it!

[Time for discussion]

Imagine if every person, every neighborhood, every community could experience God like this, in anonymous acts of kindness, in love, in good deeds and generosity. These wondrous acts remind us that the world is loved. And that is what Christmas is all about. God is love, and love is real and here and can be seen and felt in all of us. I hope that these acts of love can continue to happen all year round, by all of us, and all around the world. I want all of us to be able to see God, and be the hands and feet of God in this world. May you be loved. May you be love.

Amen.