



February 13, 2022 Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

“We Should Stop Zoom Church Services!”

Recently I’ve read two articles in the NYT about remote and zoom services in churches and why we should stop them. To summarize: “It’s time for them to go! We lost out on an important part of our lives – human contact that accompanies worship services in all traditions.” That is a fair point, but like it or not, we really don’t know how much longer “COVID Lockdown” will be in effect. And I doubt remote services will go away entirely, as we have come to realize the effects of COVID on people with susceptible immune systems.

We know that feelings of isolation and loneliness are widespread. In a recent poll 94 percent of respondents agreed with the statement “Nobody really knows me.”

In a time of economic volatility, increasing threats of violence, and political instability in certain regions around the globe, and at home, more and more North Americans are feeling vulnerable and uncertain about the future. Psalm 139 affirms that we are known and are always accompanied ... by God, known intimately and completely.

In such times is it possible that Psalm 139 can point us to and instill in us its Wisdom?



Psalm 139:1-6

- ¹ You have searched me, LORD,
and you know me.
- ² You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.
- ³ You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.
- ⁴ Before a word is on my tongue
you, LORD, know it completely.
- ⁵ You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.
- ⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

Psalm 139: The Presence of God

Psalm 139 should erase any of our thoughts that we are alone: God is Present in ways we probably don’t think about, or even understand:

Vs. 1-6, on the left, the Psalmist illustrates how God permeates all time, past, present, and future.

Vs. 7-12 tell us God is present in all aspects of space: here, down there, up there, out there, everywhere.

Vs. 13-18 reveal the presence of God in the “creation mystery.”

What “Wisdom” is found in this Psalm? Does it enhance our “fear of the Lord?” We recognize these three actions outlined for us: (1) rely on God to lead us and keep us; (2) trust in God concerning things we do not know; and (3) be convinced that God will do all things well.

Special prayers this week: for Bill’s battle with disease and comfort and support for his family; comfort for Mark’s grieving family; healing for Victoria and support for her family; first responders who have met with violence this past week; those suffering in the pandemic. Hear our prayers O Lord!