

# Clippings

*Newsletter of Good Shepherd  
Lutheran Church  
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## GOD IS NOWHERE.

That is the main assertion of atheism. That's kind of funny, because their PR campaign says that they value "Reason" above faith, which they call "superstition." But logically, it's pretty much impossible to prove that something doesn't exist.

Try it with something that isn't God, and you'll see why. Suppose the assertion is, UNICORNS DO NOT EXIST. How do you prove that? "Well, nobody can find one." Yeah, but all that means is that no one has yet looked in the place where they may be hiding. You would have to be looking everywhere at once to be able to report with certainty that there is, at this time, nowhere that has unicorns.

So here they are, people who claim to value Reason, making a blanket statement that is really a statement of faith. It's too funny! (Or it would be, if it didn't have eternal consequences for them.)

There is atheistic faith, and there is Christian faith. Take the atheist credo and just make a space, and

## GOD IS NOW HERE.

There is a "where" where God is, and this is it! Planet Earth has been visited by God, and what's more, *He's still here!*

Now! At this time! Here! At this location!

"But we can't see him." Well, all that means is that He's not visible at this time. Doesn't mean He doesn't exist, or that He has vacated the premises (not Here) or will return shortly (not Now).

You can't see the wind either, but you can observe its effects when you look out the window. Step outside where the wind lives, and you can hear its sound and feel its invisible touch on your face. Christians hear the voice of the unseen God, and feel His effects. They are visible in the lives of Christians, who have found joy and meaningful life in His promise: "I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Just make a space. Make a space in your life for God's call to have its effect. That's the meaning of the third commandment, the one about the Sabbath: *make time for God*. Come to God's house, a sacred space that we have set aside (in space), and join us on Sunday (a space we have set aside in time) to hear His voice and rejoice with others who also experience His effects in their lives. Good Shepherd has the holy Here and the holy Now. Be encouraged that God is near, that God is here, and know that He goes with you into the rest of your week and the rest of your life. Join us on Sundays, and this month also on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm to give thanks for His blessings (bring a food blessing to share with the food bank). Remember Jesus' promise: "Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

If you don't do any of these things, you might be what they call a "functional atheist": someone who is living his life like there's no one home upstairs, no God; trusting in his own efforts to get along in life, acting like he's on his own. Gathering to hear God's Word makes a space for Him to reassert His rule over us, and for Him to grace us with His free gifts to make us His own. Just make a space!

~Pastor Fremer