

# From the Pastor

August 22, 2017

People from all over the world traveled to the United States to witness a rare and spectacular astronomical event. A total eclipse passed across the entire length of the United States Monday August 21st. Some referred to it as "The Great American Eclipse."



We held a brief service in the chapel of St. Mark's at 11:30 just before the eclipse began. We read Psalm 8 and prayed. Theologians who belong to St. Francis' Order of Friars Minor are known for saying creation is "the first bible." They believe God has been speaking through the wonder and majesty of creation for over 13 billion years.

The eclipse we observed on August 21st reminded us of the awesome gift of creation, of life and light. As our entire country looked up toward heaven, I prayed that we would experience God's love through the revelation of the "first" bible and be led to experience the grace God offers to us through the revelation we discover in the "second" bible through faith in Jesus Christ.

As one of our staff members shared in a meeting recently, "just as we know the sun was still there as the moon temporarily blocked it out, we also know God's love will always be present in our world and in our lives.

Thank you for all the ways you have help me experience the love and grace of God as we serve together here in "one of the great churches of our community!"

Blessings,

Craig