

Glimpses of God

During the next space of time, we will be engaging in a practical exercise that will help to open up a conversation about some of the dynamics of learning in a fiercely visual culture.

Here is the question we will be working with: **Where do I encounter God today?**

Please note: there is no “right” answer to this question. Instead, I hope that this exercise will give you some experience of what it’s like to produce a piece that intends to communicate.

One simple way to do this is to have your phone “ping” you every couple of hours during a day and simply take a photo of the moment, the place you are, the beings you are with, etc.

Here are the rules for your piece:

- you may use no more than three images that you take yourself, it’s easiest to use your phone to do so (or borrow someone else’s)
- you may add no more than three words to your final piece
- your final piece must be only one page

I recommend using a slide deck to create something that is one page, but you could also use other programs like Canva.

How to harvest from this exercise:

When you are doing this with a group of people, ask the creator of the page to share it with the others and then to refrain from explaining it while the others in the group share what they take as the creator’s answer to the question. Once everyone who wants to has spoken you ask the creator to share what they intended, what they heard that surprised them, and so on.

It’s helpful to remind people that the creator of an image never controls the meaning made with it, and that each of us brings our own backgrounds and experience to the process.

(Mary E. Hess / Luther Seminary / fall of 2026)