



February 12, 2020

TWO SAINTS I'VE KNOWN

I give thanks for my high school chemistry teacher, Mr. Lampe, who diagrammed chemical equations on the board to show every atom always has a place, and spoke with patience and calm, and showed us, every few weeks, fantastic chemical reactions that produced flames and smoke and other cool effects. Mr. Lampe also sang with my grandparents in the choir of a local Catholic parish, and for years after I graduated I would often hear from my grandfather that Mr. Lampe had asked about me.

I also give thanks for Rev. Sanders, a retired minister in the church where I grew up. After I began to attend seminary, my home church invited me occasionally to preach at a small communion service in the chapel Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. Since I was a student and not yet ordained, I could not celebrate the sacrament of communion on my own, so Rev. Sanders would join me and lead just that small part of the service. You read that right. After an entire career in ministry, this good man left his house early on Sundays to patiently listen as a twenty-three year old kid struggled through the prayers and sermon, and afterward said that I'd done well, even when I hadn't.

My grateful memories inspire questions:

What saints of the church have shown kindness to you?

What can you do now to nurture the faith of young people in our midst?

I'll see you in church.

Peace,

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster
Senior Minister