



Reflections from Pastor Brooke for June 5, 2020

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? ~ Psalm 8:3-4

Yesterday I was walking in my yard and noticed the peonies in bloom in our yard. We have two different kinds: the traditional pink that I grew up with in our family yard and a newer white that is beautiful in its complexity. I look at them and marvel at the work of God's hand. And then I look at the mailing list — both electronically and United States postal service — and I marvel at God's hand. If I expand that list to my friends' list, it becomes even more amazing.

When I look at those lists, I see people who are octogenarians or older. I see mothers and fathers. I see widows and widowers. I see people with disabilities that we can see and people with invisible disabilities. I see youth and children. I see people who are heterosexual and people who are homosexual. I see people with a broad range of skin pigmentation. But when I look at that list, the first thing that comes to mind is that everyone is a beloved child of God.

You may have noticed that I use that term often. I will tell you that when I hear someone tell me that I am a beloved child of God, I immediately become tearful because that is an overwhelming idea to me: Me, a white, cis-gender, daughter of a college professor, lesbian is overwhelmed that I am a beloved child of God. Imagine what it would be like if **we** looked at each other as beloved children of God.

Yes, God cares for us — all of us. But we are also called to care for each other, far more than we are called to care for the flowers in our yards. That is not to say that we are not called to care for our earth, but if you read the rest of this Psalm, you will see that the Psalmist states that we “are made a little lower than God” and have dominion over the rest of creation. I hope you will join me for worship this week as we explore what it means to have dominion.

Until then, remember that you are a beloved child of God and that God is mindful and cares for you.

Blessings,

Pastor Brooke