

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude: Go Tell it on the Mountain, *The Petersens*

Crown Him, *I Am They*

1. It's not my life to live
It's not my song to sing
And all I have is His
For all eternity
It's not my righteousness
It's not my faithfulness
All I have is His
For all eternity.

Chorus:

And we will crown Him, crown Him
King of Glory
Crown Him, Crown Him
Lord of All
Crown Him, crown Him
King of Glory
Crown Him, crown Him
Lord of All

2. It's not my war to win
It's not my weight to bear
By His mighty hand
He won the victory
He won the victory
3. It's not my blood, but His
That stands in my defense
And though what love is this
That won the victory?
He won the victory!

Confession: Psalm 90 *A PRAYER OF MOSES, THE MAN OF GOD.*

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil. Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

Oh Lord, we are dust and unto dust we shall return. Because of the sin we brought into this world and the sins we have committed our short lives are filled with toil and trouble and then fade like the grass. We freely admit this before you and make bold to plead for mercy for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ who bore in his body our sins upon the cross that we might be his righteousness.

Our God breaks into our short span of existence with his eternal love and grace. He grants us joy and peace within his will and purpose. He enables us through faith in our Savior Jesus Christ to be his forgiven children and find meaning in serving Him and others. He imprints upon us his brand of ownership and he places us within his plan and objectives for our lives.

Absolution

Isaiah 40:21–31 Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? 32 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; 23 who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. 24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

25 To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. 27 Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”? 28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. 30 Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; 31 but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

1 Corinthians 9:16–23 For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! 17 For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. 18 What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. 19 For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews.

To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Mark 1:29–39 And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon’s mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. 31 And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. 32 That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. 33 And the whole city was gathered together at the door.

34 And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. 35 And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. 36 And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, 37 and they found him and said to him, “Everyone is looking for you.” 38 And he said to them, “Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out.” 39 And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Holding onto Hope, *I Am They*

1. Fear has me surrounded
But I feel your love pulling me close
Doubt hides me in darkness
But I know you're here in the unknown
'Cause I've been face to face with defeat
But each time you've brought me the victory

Chorus:

So I'm holding onto hope
When everything around me
Is out of my control
Oh, I know the one who holds my soul
Will never let me down and
Will never let me go
So I'm holding onto hope

2. Peace will be my fortress
And my future is safe in your hands
I believe your goodness
Will find me here right where I am
'Cause I've been face to face with defeat
But each time You've brought me the victory

Bridge:

When my strength has been stolen
When I'm empty and broken in two
When I'm thrown in the fire
I know that you'll carry me through
'Cause you always do
Sermon: Good News? Isaiah 40

Prayers

Benediction

Hear the Call of the Kingdom, *Gettys*

1. Hear the call of the Kingdom
Lift your eyes to the King
Let His song rise within you
As a fragrant offering
Of how God rich in mercy
Came in Christ to redeem
All who trust in His unfailing grace.

2. Hear the call of the Kingdom
To be children of light
With the mercy of heaven
The humility of Christ
Walking justly before Him
Loving all that is right
That the life of Christ may shine through us

Chorus:

King of Heaven we will answer the call
We will follow bringing hope to the world
Filled with passion filled with power to proclaim
Salvation in Jesus' name

3. Hear the call of the Kingdom
To reach out to the lost
With the Father's compassion
In the wonder of the cross
Bringing peace and forgiveness
And a hope yet to come
Let the nations put their trust in Him
Postlude: I Will Wait for You

Postlude: I Will Wait for You