



 **Palestine**
Lutheran Church

June 22nd, 2025

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Reaching Out in Christian Love to All

1375 Highway 210

P.O. Box 189

Huxley, IA 50124

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Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 22, 2025

This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

*=Stand as you are able **Bold Print** = congregation responds

ELW=Red Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Prelude

Ring of the Bell

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

page 211

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of

your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG**

“Gather Us In”

ELW 532

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Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth,
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name,
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***KYRIE**

setting 4 page 147

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

The first staff of music is written on a five-line treble clef. It begins with a whole rest on the first line (F4). This is followed by a half rest on the second line (G4). Then, there is a quarter note on the third line (A4), followed by an eighth rest on the third line (A4). The next two eighth notes are on the fourth line (B4) and the fifth line (C5). This is followed by a quarter note on the fifth line (C5), an eighth rest on the fifth line (C5), and finally a quarter note on the fourth line (B4). The staff ends with a double bar line.

For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

A musical staff with a treble clef. The melody consists of six notes: a quarter note on G4, an eighth note on A4, a quarter note on B4, an eighth note on A4, a quarter note on G4, and a half note on F#4. A slur is placed under the first three notes (G, A, B).

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord.

A - **men.**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

setting 4 page 148



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

WORD *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 65:1-9

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

¹ I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"
to a nation that did not call on my name.

² I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;

³ a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;

⁴ who sit inside tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat swine's flesh,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

⁵ who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.

⁶ See, it is written before me:

I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their laps
⁷ their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;

because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,
I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.

⁸ Thus says the LORD:

As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, "Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,"
so I will do for my servants' sake,
and not destroy them all.

⁹ I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;
my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 22:19-28

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, be not far away;

O my help, hasten to my aid.

²⁰ Deliver me from the sword,

my life from the power of the dog.

²¹ Save me from the lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

²² I will declare your name to my people;

in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.

²³ You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴ For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;

but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸ For dominion belongs to the LORD,

who rules over the nations.

SECOND READING: Galatians 3:23-29

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong

to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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***GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

²⁶ Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for

many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

REFLECTION HYMN: "Awesome God"

W&P 13

AUTHORS Rich Mullins; **CCLI SONG #41099**; **COPYRIGHTS** 1988 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.).

Our God is an awe - some God, he
 reigns from heav - en a - bove with wis - dom,
 pow'r, and love— our God is an awe - some God!
 Our God is an awe - some God! Our God is an awe - some God!

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” ELW 611

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889; Music: English folk tune; Reprinted under OneLicense.net 1-708142 All rights reserved.

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

*APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Clothe us in Christ, shower us in mercy, send us in love. Strengthen the faith and witness of Christians across the planet and Christians in our community.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for creation. Deliver the earth from disaster, bring forth life amid uncertainty, inspire wonder at all you have made.

Sustain all people who delight in the well-being of your creation: farmers, agricultural workers, gardeners, birdwatchers, conservationists, scientists, advocates, and policy makers.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the nations. Pave a way to justice, drown the forces of oppression, bring peace on earth. Give leaders the will to turn from war and violence. When people must flee their homes, guide them to safety.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for people in need. Satisfy all who are poor, soothe those in pain, accompany all who are sick (*especially*):

Kristy Brownfield, Sam Engler, Betsy Johnson, Gemma Lynch, Judy McKinney, Esther Orn, Cindy Peterson, Larry Pote, Havanna Roelfs, Jean Sandquist, Tim Shoemaker

Give perseverance to each of us living with mental illness, and shield us from discrimination due to race, class, gender, or any other human distinction.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this assembly. Listen to our cries, come to our aid, make us one. Weave among us the fabric of belonging so that we rejoice in each person gathered here, and enliven our proclamation of how much you have done for us.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Bless us, O God, as we seek to learn from your Word and to share your love. As you gather us in for vacation Bible School, send us out beyond this place to show the world what we have come to know: that your grace and welcome and wonder are for all.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith, especially:

Dena Bloodsworth, Charles Bowers, Sarah Piper, Helen Miller, Jacob Leedom, Dan Bushaw, Elaine Paradise, Charlize Flick, Lee Briggs, Thomas Noll, Linda Lewis, Roger Larson, Sally Greve, Krisha Barrett, Dick Cast, Cheryl (Ness) Shranklen, Marge Sheldahl, Sandy Wirtz, Shirley Pierce, Ken Larson, Alice Kahler, Harold Rittgers

Keep them in your peace, comfort us in sorrow, raise us to new life. As we remember their faith and witness, may we trust your promise that we are yours forever.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.**

Amen.

SENDING *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

***BLESSINGS**

VBS Blessing

We pray for those who will be part of our Vacation Bible School this summer.

Let us pray,

God of Love, we are excited to learn all about how you released your love into the world through the person of Jesus Christ. Bless our VBS experience today through Thursday, as we press on towards what God has called us to.

Amen.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

*** SENDING SONG “Will You Come and Follow Me” ELW 798**

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Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

[illegible]

your	name?	Will	you	go	where	you	don't
your	name?	Will	you	care	for	cruel	and
your	name?	Will	you	set	the	pris -	'ners
your	name?	Will	you	quell	the	fear	in -
my	name.	Let	me	turn	and	fol -	low

know	and	nev	-	er	be	the	same?
kind	and	nev	-	er	be	the	same?
free	and	nev	-	er	be	the	same?
side	and	nev	-	er	be	the	same?
you	and	nev	-	er	be	the	same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name	be	known,	will	you	let	my	life	be
tract	or	scare?	Will	you	let	me	an	answer
this	un	seen,	and	ad	mit	to	what	I
world	a	round,	through	my	sight	and	touch	and
foot	steps	show.	Thus	I'll	move	and	live	and

grown	in	you	and	you	in	me ⁷⁰⁰
pray'r	in	you	and	you	in	me ⁷⁰⁰
mean	in	you	and	you	in	me ⁷⁰⁰
sound	in	you	and	you	in	me ⁷⁰⁰
grow	in	you	and	you	in	me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Ring of the Bell

Postlude

For streaming and printing:

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Those Serving in Today's Service

Pastor: Eric Klimpel

Accompanist: Mindy DeVries

Youth Liaison: Nels Dovre

Lector: Leonard Larson

Technicians: Brent Emerson, Brayden DeVries, Owen Williams

This Week at Palestine

Sunday, June 22nd, 2025; *Second Sunday after Pentecost*

9:30 a.m. Worship

1:30 p.m. Volunteer @ Gardening for Good

5:30 p.m. Light meal before VBS

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. VBS – Magnify God!

Monday, June 23rd, 2025

5:30 p.m. Light meal before VBS

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. VBS – Magnify God!

Tuesday, June 24th, 2025

10:00 a.m. Area Pastor's Study

5:30 p.m. Light meal before VBS

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. VBS – Magnify God!

No 7 p.m. Bible Study due to VBS

Wednesday, June 25th, 2025

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Light meal before VBS

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. VBS – Magnify God!

Thursday, June 26th, 2025

6:00 p.m. VBS

Community meal following program

Sunday, June 29th, 2025 *Third Sunday after Pentecost*

9:30 a.m. Worship

1:30 p.m. Volunteer @ Gardening for Good

2:00 p.m. Bridal shower for Lexi Krogmann (Zach Larson's fiancé) – all are welcome.

Lectionary texts: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

Thank you for your Gifts for Ministry:

Sunday, June 15th, 2025

General: \$2,945.00

Sound System: \$50.00

Attendance: 63

Benevolence: \$5.00

THANK YOU!!! We celebrate your generosity and thank you in advance for your support.



Palestine will accept your offering!

1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
2. **Mail** check to:
Palestine Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 189
Huxley, IA 50124
3. **Give online through Easy Tithe.**
Go to our website www.plchuxley.com
and click on the bright red ONLINE
GIVING tab on the right located above
our "Reaching out in Christian love to
all" statement. **OR** scan the QR code to
take you right to our tithing page.
4. **Text GIVE** to 515-207-6435.



Thank you. Continue to pray and know God is with us.



VBS SUMMER 2025

**We were made to
magnify God!**

**Join us June 22-26, 2025 from
6-8 pm at Palestine Lutheran
Church.**

Light suppers at 5:30 p.m.

Open to children entering K-6 grade in Fall 2025.

Register at: bit.ly/VBSatPalestine

Volunteers are also needed!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050445A4A82EA0FA7-57135684-vbsvolunteers#/>

Donations Opportunities: For use in craft activities, we are asking for your donations of:

- empty paper towel rolls
- empty toilet paper rolls
- empty milk jugs (cleaned out) gallon or half gallon!

Please drop off to the church in north fellowship hall.

Food donations are also needed for the light meals before VBS each evening. See the sign up in the fellowship hall to help with our Tuesday evening meal.

Volunteer Opportunities: See the sign-up link above for available days/times. We're currently seeking volunteers to assist with the following:

- Craft assistants. Having more hands always helps!
- Group leads. Chaperone kids around and engage in small group!
- Thursday meal. Servers and clean up.

Mission Project Donations: Please help VBS with their mission project this year by providing the items needed (see next page).

Please help VBS with their mission project this year by
providing the items needed:

MAGNIFIED!

DISCOVERING THE BIGNESS OF
GOD IN THE SMALLEST OF THINGS



Vacation Bible School Mission Project

Central Iowa Shelter & Services is a 24/7/365 emergency shelter for men and women experiencing homelessness.

Their mission is to provide shelter, meals and support services at no cost to adults experiencing homelessness. Central Iowa Shelter & Services needs toiletries. If your family is able are, we are asking for donations of toothpaste and toothbrushes, bars of soap, travel-size shampoo, and deodorant.

DONATIONS REQUESTED



ToothBrush and
Tooth Paste



Bars of Soap



Travel Size
Shampoo



Deodorant

PLEASE BRING ITEMS IN A SANDWICH BAG



Please check your mailboxes!



UPDATE



Picture directories are in! If you had your photo taken and haven't picked up your directory, see Lesa after worship service today.



Thank you for being part of our 45th Wedding Anniversary celebration.

All the congratulations and best wishes for many more happy years together are appreciated. It was a very special day and brought joy that will remain for a long time!

David and Jean Saveraid

Welcome to Worship! We're glad you're here (physically or virtually), guests and members alike, and pray that you will find in our worship an opportunity to praise God and hear God's Word.

Real Healing (based on Luke 8)

Today we resume our journey through the Gospel of Luke. Luke has a clear agenda: to share the gospel to the ends of the earth—to whomever, however, and whenever the opportunity presents itself! Luke boldly declares that the gospel is the gift of healing offered for all creation.

It is with this evangelical and healing bias that we approach this scripture passage. The nakedness, the tombs, and the swine speak to a reality of a lack of ritual purity. The world is not perfect. Demons in turn remind us of the various pressures and temptations that surround and distract us from God's presence and holiness. The swineherds are confused. On one hand, a man is healed; on the other, they lose their livelihood when the swine throw themselves over a cliff. And all of this happens in Gentile land: Jesus shares the good news in non-Jewish lands and to non-Jewish people. Jesus is willing to enter the reality of life. Jesus is willing to enter the reality of *our* lives.

What better message for Luke to share than that Jesus meets this broken human being right where he is. No need to clean up beforehand. No need to be someone he is not. No need to play any games or wear different hats. He simply gets to be himself. Jesus meets him and shows him that he is seen, not only in his truth of the moment, but also in the fullness of his humanity.

Demons, be gone. Confusion, be gone. Peace enters. Love enters. God enters and envelops each of us in true healing. To know we are enough with God is the heart of healing. Then comes an invitation to share news of the healing Jesus does each day.

What has Jesus done for you today?