

2018

Knowing God through love.

Today Jesus went about doing good; He proclaimed the good news, listened to the sinful pagans, healed the hemorrhaging woman with love and power, raised the Centurion's daughter and brought peace and joy to all of them.

He accomplished all this through involved members of the community. These two miracles of raising and healing, as is today are in their nature and context, are divine invitations for us to partake with gratitude in God's saving power as a community. For God the Father raised Jesus from the dead, so Jesus in turn raised his faithful and all who call on him with sincere heart from both temporal and eternal death.

Jesus knows our nature. For Jesus shared our nature in every way but sin. So he understands our nature; our fears and strengths, our failures and the anxiety which comes with failure as well as our joy of victory and success. He knows pain and sorrow, as well as the temporal happiness we celebrate when we overcome temptations.

Jesus knows that we look to him, to our communities and to one another for hope, healing, forgiveness and the resurrection. We pray to and through Jesus because His mercy heals, and His healing restored us to the image of God.

Do you know that Jesus is our way of peace, the redeemer and the eternal physician for our body, spirit and soul? When a community partners with Jesus, healing and restoration comes faster and more joyful. In the two healings of today, none of the subjects come on her own. Jarius the Centurion pleads for his daughter and the hemorrhaging woman came because someone told her about Jesus and his passing through that way.

A scriptural passage on the healing activities of Jesus will shed light on the role of the community in the healing power of Jesus: First, Matthew witnesses to a story where Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came into his own town. Some men brought to him a paralyzed man lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the sick man "Take heart son, your sins are forgiven". Matthew 9:1-2. He was healed. Luke's story on Jesus restoring a person because of other's faith is more compelling. Luke 5:17-26

Brothers and sisters, we are imperfect people living in a world of fragility, broken by fear, disappointment and rejection, to which we all have contributed. Sometimes, our world, culture and personal ambition have drawn us to a corner we never believed that we would find ourselves. We are all witness to sickness, tears and fears.

The tendency is to lay where we fall. But that is not why Jesus came. He came that we may have life and have it in full. He came to give peace beyond the world's imagination.

We may live in a challenging world, but it is a world that seeks healing and restoration with people who yearn for wellbeing, upliftment, joy and peace. A broken system which seeks justice.

This is where and how the mission of the Church is very relevant. Our church is a community of healing. Our united primary goal is to be one with Christ Jesus. We do this by fostering forgiveness, healing reconciliation within and outside our community. In many ways, God has empowered each and every one of us to bring healing and wholeness.

Some He has called to be farmers, lawyers, teachers, doctors, carpenters, garbage cleaners, engineers, priest and police. Others He has empowered to fight for peace, pilots, first responders, law makers, workers of justice, leaders of the people. We are blessed with our family, parents, friends, neighbors and enemies, children and strangers. These we are and more.

We all need healing, and we all bring healing.

This church unites in two main ways:

- First, we work together in the name of Christ to bring hope to each one of us, to everyone. We use our areas of competence to heal. There is no lazy, indifferent person in the church. Our Father goes on working, and so do we.
- Second, a community of healing must also be a community of prayer. We are connected with one another only through prayers. Prayer heals exclusivism and self-isolation. Love conquers all things. The healing we give and receive is only a foretaste of our glory in the Lord – which will come to fruition when we enjoy eternal divine nature.

ARE YOU PART OF THIS HEALING COMMUNITY?

MISSION: Just heal someone this week. You can because you have been empowered.