Title: “You Belong Here”

Target: Today, we examine the pronouncement from heaven over Jesus and discover how these promises give us purpose on this earth.

I. **The Savior Declared**: “But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is **fitting** for us to **fulfill** all righteousness." - Matthew 3:15
   
   A. **Fitting**: “fitting for us” - Pointing to the Gospel
   B. **Fulfilling**: “fulfill all righteousness” - Portraying the Gospel

II. **The Sky Divided**: “Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the **heavens** were opened” - Luke 3:21

   A. **Heaven’s Affirmation**: “the heavens **opened**, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” - Acts 7:56
   B. **Heaven’s Access**: “he saw the heavens being **torn** open” - Mark 1:10
      (i.e. Matthew 27:51: “And behold, the curtain of the temple was **torn** in two, from top to bottom.”)

III. **The Spirit Descended**: “he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to **rest** on him” - Matthew 3:16

   A. **Symbolism of the Dove**: “like a dove” - Matthew 3:16
      1. “wise as serpents and **innocent** as doves” - Matthew 10:16
      2. “Spirit of God **hovered** over the face of the waters.” - Genesis 1:2
      3. “And the **dove** came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked **olive** leaf.” - Genesis 8:11
   
   B. **Spirit Dwells**: “rest on him” - Matthew 3:16
      1. **Anointing**: “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has **anointed** me…” - Isaiah 61:1
      2. **Qualifying**: “I have put my Spirit upon him; **he will bring forth** justice to the nations.” - Isaiah 42:1
      3. **Empowering**: “Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.” - Zechariah 4:6

IV. **The Statement (Defined) or (of Delight)**: “and behold, a **voice from heaven** said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - Matthew 3:17

   A. **Prized by God**: “You are my beloved Son” - Luke 3:22
   B. **Pleased by God**: “with **you** I am well pleased.” - Luke 3:22

Take Away: Allow the reverberation of what has been spoken over Jesus not to just be a faint echo to you, but a foundational truth for you.