

Bible reading John 17:1-11

Hymn 467- Singing-The Faith- *I need Thee Every Hour*

### **Jesus Prays to Be Glorified**

**17** After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. <sup>2</sup>For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. <sup>3</sup>Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.<sup>4</sup>I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

### **Jesus Prays for His Disciples**

<sup>6</sup>“I have revealed you<sup>[a]</sup> to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. <sup>8</sup>For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that

you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. <sup>11</sup>I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of<sup>[b]</sup> your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

### ***New International Version (NIV)***

### **Reflection**

So many times, I have heard people saying “you are in my thoughts and prayers”. I don’t take that for granted and lightly. I find solace in knowing that someone is praying for me. The disciples were in Jesus thoughts and prayers. Jesus’s heart was troubled, therefore, warned his disciples in John 16:33 that the world will make them suffer but the disciples should be of good cheer as Christ has defeated the world. Jesus knows the importance of communicating with God and the power of prayer. First of all, Jesus prays for himself saying the hour has come and asking God to glorify him and for him to glorify God. It is a powerful prayer that’s giving us a sense of belonging, when Jesus said “I pray for them, I am not praying for the world, but

those you have given me". Jesus is praying for those who are not for the world. What did Jesus mean? In Romans 12:2 Paul encouraged the church of Rome not to conform to the pattern of this world, but to be transformed by the renewing of their mind. How do we renew our mind? We renew our mind by knowing that Christ's death and resurrection has brought us into new life? A new life of honouring and obeying God. We can only renew our mind if we let the Holy Spirit redirect and re-educate us otherwise without that we will remain being of the world by being arrogant, selfish, covetous and stubborn. Our newness in Christ comes with obedience to the spirit of truth that Jesus promised us last week. A renewed mind questions itself before questioning others. Michael Jackson's song "Man in the Mirror" says *I am gonna make a change for once in my life. Its gonna feel really good, gonna make a difference, gonna make it right.....*" Then he goes on to say *"I am starting with the man in the mirror, I am asking him to change his ways"* That change Michael Jackson is talking about does not just happen, it can only happen if we let the Holy Spirit redirect us, re-educate us and learn to pray for others. Jesus's prayer encouraged unity amongst believers as Christ is one with God. Hallelujah! 🙏

## Prayer

We thank you heavenly Father for teaching us how to pray and to pray for others. It is through the life and ministry of Christ that we know what it is to be a believer. As your son Jesus Christ prayed for himself, he also prayed for his disciples. Give us the knowledge, power and courage to pray for ourselves and to remember others in our prayers. Enable us heavenly father that we remain united in love and continue to make you visible in this our troubled world. We cannot do it alone but to be empowered by the Holy Spirit to reach out to the weak and vulnerable. We say all this in Jesus' name. Amen 🙏

*Prepared by **Rev Mary Sachikonye Methodist Minister for (Mile Cross, Costessey, Trinity Thorpe Marriott, Hosford and Drayton) for a time as this. We are a church without walls. We should therefore, continue to proclaim the good news. I will be sending **Words of Hope** every week so that we may continue to nourish our spirits and continue to live in HOPE!***