

Bible reading Matthew 28:16-20

Hymn 663- Singing-The Faith- *I the Lord of Sea and Sky*

The Great Commission

<sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

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

### **Reflection**

Michael Jackson's song "Heal the World" says it all.

*"There is a place in your heart and I know that it is love. And this place could be much brighter than tomorrow, and if you really try you will find there is no need to cry. In this place you will feel there's no hurt or sorrow. There are ways to get there, if you care enough for the living make a little space, make a better place. Heal the world and make it a better place for you and for me and the entire human race"*

Upon his resurrection Jesus commanded the disciples with the authority that he got from heaven and earth, to go and make nations of all disciples and baptise them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...". What did Jesus mean by making disciples of all nations and baptise them and everything I have commanded. During his ministry in Matthew 22 Jesus' response to the Pharisees said love your God with all their hearts, minds and souls. Love your neighbour as you love yourself. Jesus is talking about love this is what Michael Jackson is talking about that there is a place in our hearts and that is love. Love changes the way we see things, love brings joy, peace, love and hope. Love gives confidence to the less confident and love brightens the world. All we have to do is to make a little space in our hearts and heal the world. One of Mother Theresa's quotes says "if you judge people you

won't have time to love them". Love takes away the difference in people. Love does not see colour, race, ability or disability. No one chooses to be who they are and no one is better than the other before God's eyes. This week I watched videos and photos on media of protests in America about George Floyd's death. Some of them very disturbing as they turn into violence and destruction. We are allowed to express our feelings but violence, destruction and hate is not the way. Let us be peaceful remembering that two wrongs do not make a right. Let us make disciples of nations by warming the hearts of others and find a space in our hearts to make this world a better place for the coming generations. The onus is on us as children of God let us start the fire to draw people closer. Exodus 3 says Moses drew closer to God through a burning bush. The burning bush caught Moses's attention and he drew closer to the bush and God spoke to Moses. Likewise let us start fires of God's love, so that people may draw closer to us then we can, sign post them to the Prince of Peace our Lord Jesus Christ. The spiritual fire can only be seen in us if we are obedient to Jesus's commandment. May God help us all. Hallelujah! 🙏🙏

## Prayer

Father we place into your hands the things that we cannot do for we know we can trust in you. We are sometimes burdened with pain and suffering but can only place everything in your capable hands. You are God who knows our pains, fears, joys and anxieties. Give us the strength to go ye out there and make disciples of all nations baptising them in the name of the Holy Trinity. Place in us clean hearts so that we may know what is good and bad. Make us vessels and help us to mend a broken world. Give us the courage to rebuke evil and to know what is wrong. Its only through what we do that we may be able to bring repented souls to you. We say 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!***