

WEEKLY SERMON

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Jesus says 'Go' – a reflection for Trinity Sunday

And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'
Matthew 28. 18-20

Jesus says "Go!"

The disciples had been called by Jesus, had been following Jesus, and Jesus sends them out, "Go!"

Go – is The Great Commission – we are a church which is sent out.

This week is Trinity Sunday and all our churches are currently experiencing being "sent out" from our buildings. "Go!" (Our church's Patronal Festival – we'll be celebrating over Zoom, but I am still waiting for creative inspiration as to exactly how to celebrate, More IT vicar?)

The Trinity points to God who is a sending and sent God, "Whoever receives one whom I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me." "I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father." "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." We are, as church, both sent and sending. And we are a church under the authority of Jesus, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." Well in that case, shouldn't we really be obedient?

Dare you pray to be sent? "God, what do you want me to send out, and where do you want to send me" and be obedient, in this hurting world in need of God's saving mission?

But the Trinity also points to relationship and community at the heart of the Godhead. Father, Son and Holy Spirit are in the perfect, divine, community of inclusive love. Diversity in unity.

The church is a sent community – it is prayerful togetherness. Pray for yourself, but remember it is likely that God will answer you through someone else, through the church community who have been sent.

Every time I have prayed asking for God's direction for myself, by myself, I have discerned the answer wrong myself. I have learnt that it is through listening to God working and speaking through others alongside me, that I hear the quiet whisper of God to "Go" and "Send."

HEALTHY CHURCHES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

God needs you to pray with others, to be part of the sent, praying, church community, because it might be you God wants to use to give an answer to someone else who is praying "Lord, send me."

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

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