

Christ Church Freemantle Thursday 13th May – Ascension Day

We are now forty days after Easter Day, coming to the feast of the Ascension. I have long loved the end of Matthew's gospel, which to me sums up our faith quite beautifully. We are here to go out into the world and tell others of God's love. In that commission we are also reassured that we are never left alone:-

'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.'

This reminds me a little of a beautiful saying of Julian of Norwich, whose feast day was last week. She reassures us that 'All shall be well for there is a force of love moving through the universe that holds us fast and will never let us go'.

Malcolm Guite writes beautifully of the Ascension, an event that links heaven and earth, where we are taken with him into heaven whilst his light still abides with us on earth.

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory
Whilst we were rooted still in time and place
As earth became a part of Heaven's story
And heaven opened to his human face.
We saw him go and yet we were not parted
He took us with him to the heart of things
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted
Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,
Whilst we our selves become his clouds of witness
And sing the waning darkness into light,
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,
Which all creation waits to see revealed.



Liz Coe