



5th Sunday of Easter - John 14: 1-10

## **‘Do not let your hearts be troubled’**

The disciples were slowly coming to understand that this was the last supper they would share with Jesus. It was hard to believe because only a few days ago when they had all entered Jerusalem Jesus was hailed as a king. Some of the disciples had been imagining great things for themselves in Jesus’ new earthly kingdom.

But now it was vanishing like a dream in the morning light. Jesus had just told them he was going to leave them. He said they could not follow. All of their expectations were collapsing around them like a house of cards.

Jesus folded his hands in his lap and looked around the room at the sad faces of his closest followers. Some looked away with worried faces. Others had a look of astonishment on their faces. Peter was doubly shocked because he was still wrestling with Jesus having told him

he would deny him three times before that night would end. They were devastated.

Jesus heart swelled with compassion and he told them: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God and faith in me.” He told them he was going to prepare a place for them and that he would come back for them. Jesus said: “You know the way that leads where I go.”

Thomas was quick to question this. He could contain himself no longer and declared he did not know the way. Jesus smiled his reassurance at poor Thomas, knowing that he always needed proof. Then his face became solemn as Jesus declared: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father also.”



In our lives there are times when we may feel like the disciples, worried that Jesus has abandoned us. Even Jesus asked the Father “why have you abandoned me?” But the Good News and the truth is that he has not abandoned us and never will. Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us so that where he is we may also be. That is why Jesus says to each of us: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.”