Maundy Thursday 9 April 2020

Zech.8, 21: "Come, let us go to entreat the favour of the LORD of hosts; I myself am going."

Mk.14, 26: "When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives."

Zech.8, 21 is a prophecy, speaking of a time when God will be in the midst of his people such that the blessings received will call others seeking to share in these blessings to come. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that this coming together is for worship.

Between this prophecy and its fulfilment lies the coming of Christ, his passion, death and resurrection. He is the pathway to it through his atoning death and through his resurrection by which God's presence with his people is established in mercy, grace and faithfulness: "Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Mt.28, 20)

The prophecy is fulfilled at Pentecost, in the coming of the Holy Spirit, and event that sees people from many nations and languages repent of their sins and come to Christ, because they hear in the gospel of Christ's cross and resurrection "God is with you". (Zech.8, 23)

This is why, as it has often been pointed out, we must immerse ourselves meditatively in the life of Jesus, engaging heart and mind and taking time over it, for it is in him we are alive to the fulfilment.