

Scripture for Pentecost Sunday, June 7, 2020

Introduction to the Epistle Lesson: Matthew 28:16-20

After the crucifixion and resurrection, there are only 11 disciples; Judas is dead. A 12th disciples is added some days later, as recorded in the 1st chapter of the Book of Acts, a new disciple is voted into “The 12.” Matthias is chosen by vote to become Judas’ replacement. That explains the opening line in this text today when in the 16th verse of the 28th and final chapter of the gospel of Matthew, Jesus commissions the 11 disciples to “go...and make disciples of all nations...” Listen to a reading from the gospel of Matthew:

A Reading from Matthew, chapter 28, verses 16-20

The Commissioning of the Disciples

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”^[a]