

HOLY COMMUNION

Introit Hymn 130ii (CHISLEHURST, *NEH*)

Sequence Hymn 128ii (GONFALON ROYAL, *NEH*)

Offertory Hymn 132 (REX GLORIAE, *NEH*)

Recessional Hymn 134 (ST MAGNUS, *NEH*)

Communion Anthem, sung by the choir

A Choral Hymn (Henry George Ley, 1685-1750)

Postlude: *Toccata* from Symphony No.5 (Charles Marie Widor, 1844-1937)

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray that we may follow more closely the steps of our Lord.

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The First Reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles,

Chapter 1, beginning to read from the 1st verse

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he

said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Gradual Psalm: Psalm 67 (Chant: DAVY)

Sung by the choir, the congregation seated

1. O clap your hands together, all ye people :
O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
2. For the Lord is high, and to be feared :
he is the great King upon all the earth.
3. He shall subdue the people under us :
and the nations under our feet.
4. He shall choose out an heritage for us :
even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.
5. God is gone up with a merry noise :
and the Lord with the sound of the trump.
6. O sing praises, sing praises unto our God :
O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
7. For God is the King of all the earth :
sing ye praises with understanding.
8. God reigneth over the heathen :
God sitteth upon his holy seat.
9. The princes of the people are joined unto the people
of the God of Abraham:
for God, which is very high exalted,
doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

**The Second Reading is taken from the Letter to the Ephesians,
Chapter 1, beginning to read from the 15th verse**

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;
I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia, alleluia.

**The Holy Gospel according to St Luke,
Chapter 24, beginning to read at the 26th verse**

Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay

with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.