

Tokyo Union Church
Third Sunday of Easter
May 8, 2011 at 8:30 am & 11:00 am

PRELUDE

"Christ Lay in the Bonds of Death "

R. Proulx

(* Please Stand; ◇◇ Late Seating)

(11:00) INTROIT

Sanctuary Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Pastor: Today is a new day, a precious gift from the Creator of the universe!

People: We come with the past behind us, and the future open before us. We come to celebrate the new life that the Risen Christ brings.

Pastor: The Living Christ is with us!

People: Christ is with us indeed!

All: Let us worship the God of resurrection power who fills us with hope!

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION – No. 108 (verses 1, 2, 5) "Christ Is Alive!"

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Praying together)

Magnificent God of Resurrection Life, your love is boundless, and your grace exceeds our imaginations. You keep finding ways to be among us, even when our hearts are hidden, even when the doors of our souls are locked. You seek us out. We cannot hide, but we confess that sin has us in its grip. It has led us from your ways, and corrupted even our best intentions. Correct our vision, Merciful God, and cleanse our hearts. By your Spirit, enable us to open the doors of our hearts to receive the fullness of new life that is available in the Risen Christ. In his holy name we pray. (silent prayers of confession) Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (Please remain standing to sing the Congregational Response.)

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*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS - (Tune: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee")

**You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing, let your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.**

GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS

Pastor Matthew Hardin

◇◇

Preschool-kindergarten ages 3-7 may go to the 4th floor classroom at this time.

Nursery care for children ages 0-2 is provided in the first floor nursery throughout the entire service.

SHARING NEWS OF OUR CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

EXPRESSIONS OF FELLOWSHIP

*In the name of the Lord, we warmly welcome all visitors and newcomers to Tokyo Union Church.
Visitors, please fill out a visitor's card and place it in the offering bag.*

(8:30) SAYONARA BLESSING – Frank & Bonnie Henry

(11:00) RECOGNITION OF 10 YEARS OF SERVICE AT TUC – Masanori Hara

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 90:1-6;10-12

(Pew Bible, OT, p. 517)

Lectors: (8:30) Jiro Hayashi (11:00) Virasakdi Futrakul

*HYMN OF DEDICATION – No. 272 “God of the Sparrow”

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn 586: **Amen, Amen, Amen.**)

*Following the 11 am service, the Prayer and Healing Ministry Team will be available
in front of the sanctuary for persons desiring prayer.*

POSTLUDE

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

L. Smith

HELP Asian Women’s Shelter, Japan: HELP provides a multi-lingual counseling hotline and emergency shelter for women and children facing violence and other human rights abuses, regardless of nationality or visa status. HELP also provides children’s programs including play therapy, tutoring, and lectures.

A WARM WELCOME to our newcomers and visitors! We invite you to the coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall after the 11 am service, so we can greet you personally. **NEXT NEW MEMBER’S ORIENTATION CLASS** will be held TODAY (1st session) at 12:30 pm in the 2F classroom. We invite anyone who is interested in joining TUC.

TOPICAL BIBLE STUDY: Get Ready for Milk and Honey - Dan Brandsma will lead a discussion-based class that re-examines the stories of Genesis from the perspective of the Israelites as they prepared to cross the Jordan. The class will address topics that include exploring the character of God, understanding our destiny, and living in community. Come and join us! Dates: March 6 through May 8. Time: 9:45 am in the 2F classroom.

THE ARTS MINISTRY WILL PERFORM MESSIAH- THE PASSION OF CHRIST TODAY at 3 pm in the Sanctuary. Admission is free.

PLEASE CHECK THE OUTREACH BULLETIN BOARD in the lobby for messages of encouragement from our supported missions from around the world!

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET IS RE-SCHEDULED FOR MAY 13 (FRI) & 14 (SAT):

- Please bring your donations (books, clean clothing, house wares, toys, baby goods, baked goods, DVDs) from Monday, May 9 through Wed., May 11.
- Sign up to help (2 - 3 hours on Mon - Thurs) sort and pack, and you will be eligible for pre-sale!! We need help during the regular sale on Friday, May 13th from 10 am – 4 pm, and bag sale on Saturday, May 14th from 10 am – 12 pm Noon, then charity donation packaging 12 pm Noon – 2 pm and clean-up 2 - 4 pm.
- Bring in post-card size furniture photographs for our new furniture sale bulletin! For posting fee of 500 yen, you can advertise your unused furniture!!!
- Lots of help needed. Please sign up at the lobby or email Tomomi (tomomik1@yahoo.com) or Kay (kay@global.t-bird.edu)
- Proceeds go to the Homeless Ministry AND the Earthquake Relief.

GOD WANTS US TO BUILD UP ONE ANOTHER: A small group or cell group carries the idea of strengthening one another, to make one another more able to face the challenges of living for Christ. “*We are in this fight together*” (Philippians 1:30). To succeed, you need the strength supplied by the Body of Christ, just as they need you. Please contact lindalauhirata@gmail.com, if you are interested in leading or participating in small Bible study group.

“BIBLE AS A WHOLE” Class: (52-week course, Tue. evenings from 7 pm - 2F classroom; For May 10 – we will meet in the 3F classroom) will study Lesson 9 this week. ¥2,000 to cover partial cost of course book. A registration sheet is on 1F Lobby bulletin board.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY is just getting started with a new study. Wed. mornings (9:30 - 11:15 am), or Thu. evenings (7-8:30 pm) in the 2F classroom. Text book: *Respectable Sins: Confronting Sins We Tolerate* by J. Bridges. Please join us.

MEN’S MINISTRY BREAKFAST will meet at 8:00 am on Saturday, May 14th. Check out our TUC Men’s Ministry website at <http://holyoldfools.com>.

FLOWERS: Would you like to donate flowers for a specific Sunday (¥3,000)? A sign-up sheet & flower envelopes are in the lobby. Please write your name and indicate the occasion and amount contributed. Flower arrangers are also needed.

THE PRAYER CHAIN is a group of people who are contacted by email, fax, or phone to pray for the leaders & ministries of TUC and for any other prayer requests we receive during the week. Contact Mary Foster at tucprayer@yahoo.com.au with your prayer requests.

