

Tokyo Union Church
February 26, 2006 at 8:30 & 11:00 am

PRELUDE "Fugue in D minor" by J. S. Bach

(11:00) INTROIT

Sanctuary Choir

(Please Stand; ** Late Seating)*

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 50:1-6)

Kazunori Higuchi

Leader: The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Leader: Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him.

People: He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

Leader: "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

All: The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. Selah

**OPENING HYMN 143

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, give us grace to hold onto you when all is weariness and when fear and sin abound within, when love itself is tested by the doubt that love is false or dead within the soul – when every act brings new confusion, new distress, new opportunities, new misunderstanding, and every thought new accusations. God, give us grace that we may know that in the darkness pressing around it is in the mist of sin that hides your face, that you are the creator and you do know we love you still, and that our dependence and endurance in your will is still our gift of love. Forgive us in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior and transform us into the works that you desire for your kingdom. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The good news is that all who trust in Christ will have their sins forgiven and receive eternal life. As you hold this faith, I declare that you are set free from all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

Thanks be to God.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE

We welcome you to Tokyo Union Church. Visitors, please fill out a pew card and place it in the offering bag.

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

2 Kings 2:1-12 (OT p. 317)

Lectors: (8:30) Scott Carroll (11:00) Jean Wilson

**GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS

Jane Brown

Children ages 4-7 may go to the 2nd floor classroom at this time.

Nursery care for children ages 0-3 is provided on the first floor throughout the entire service.

HYMN 454

"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9:2-9 (NT p. 41)

SERMON

"Transfiguration"

Pastor Bruce Sloan

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Praying today for **Chakhesang Women Welfare Society**, India)

Kazunori Higuchi

The Lord's Prayer – **Ecumenical** (Hymnal p. 16)

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(8:30) Meditative Music

Miwako Horii, organ

(11:00) Anthem "Who Shall Abide in the Tabernacle" by G. B. Pergolesi

Sanctuary Choir

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – Doxology (Hymn 591)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

(8:30) HOLY COMMUNION - *Please turn to Hymnal p. 13.*

During Communion

Hymn 502 "Bread of the World in Mercy Broken"

(All Christians are invited to come forward for Communion.

Communion will be served by 'intinction'. Please take the bread, dip it in the cup and then eat.

Those not receiving communion may come forward for a special blessing. Families may stand together to commune.)

(11:00) THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRESENTATION & QUESTIONS TO NEW MEMBERS

Pastor: Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of sinners, and do you depend upon Him for salvation as it is offered in the gospel?

New Member: I do.

Pastor: Do you promise that, relying on the help of the Holy Spirit, you will endeavor to live as a follower of Christ?

New Member: I do.

Pastor: Will you continue to grow as a Christian and seek to know and do the will of God as taught in the Bible?

New Member: I will.

Pastor: Will you be loyal to the church of Christ, wherever you are, and will you support this church by your prayers, presence, gifts, and services?

New Member: I will.

COVENANT OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Do you, the members of this congregation, welcome these disciples who have witnessed to their faith in Jesus Christ, and promise by your fellowship to strengthen their ties with the household of God?

Congregation: We do. With joy and thanksgiving we renew our covenant with God and with each other, as we welcome you into this Christian fellowship. With you we dedicate our lives and our church to the work of the Kingdom of God.

EXPRESSIONS OF FELLOWSHIP

In the name of the Lord, we warmly welcome all visitors and newcomers.

*CLOSING HYMN 313 "Come Down, O Love Divine"

*BENEDICTION (in unison) - 2 Corinthians 4:6

Now God is shining in our hearts that the world may know that God's glory is seen in Jesus Christ.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - "Shine, Jesus Shine"

**Lord, the light of Your love is shining In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus, Light of the World shine upon us Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me**

(Chorus) **Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory**

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy

Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light

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

POSTLUDE

“Postlude in D Major” by H. Willan

Everyone is welcome to join the Evening Praise Service at 4 pm.

Chakhesang Women's Welfare Society, India: The Society provides vocational training programs for women and young adults and operates a food-canning factory that enables poor farmers to prepare their produce for sale. The Society also supports rural development programs by conducting vocational training and health seminars in remote villages.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE: Wednesday, March 1 at 7:30 pm.

TOKYO UNION CHURCH was founded in 1872 and is an ecumenical and international congregation of English-speaking Christians. The word “union” is used to indicate that the membership is composed of Christians from many churches and nationalities who are united through a common faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The members of Tokyo Union Church bring the richness of their own Christian heritage and experience into our worship, study, fellowship, and service. Tokyo Union Church is independent and financially self-supporting; it is a member of the National Christian Council of Japan. **Our Vision: A diverse community of growing committed Christians in the heart of Tokyo, sharing the light of Christ with all nations.**

THIS WEEK AT TUC

Feb. 26 (Sun)	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	9:45 am	Confirmation Class (Pastor Bruce's Office)
	10:00 am	Assimilation Mtg. (4F Library)
	12:00 pm	Shukyo Hojin Mtg. (Pastor Bruce's Office)
	12:15 pm	Meet-New-Members Luncheon (B1)
	12:30 pm	Stewardship Mtg. (Library)
	4:00 pm	Evening Praise Service - Jolanda Blomjous
Feb. 27 (Mon)		Koinonia Deadline
		Annual Report Deadline
	10:00 am	WS Bible Study (Nishiyama room)
Feb. 28 (Tue)	10:00 am	WS Bible Study (2F)
		Sunday Bulletin Announcement Deadline
Mar. 1 (Wed)	7:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Mar. 2 (Thu)	10:30 am	WS Monthly Program - “World Day of Prayer”
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Balcony)
	7:30 pm	Prayer Group Mtg. (2F)
Mar. 3 (Fri)	7:30 pm	VIP ALPHA Prayer & Planning (2F)
Mar. 5 (Sun)	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship - 1 st Lent
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	9:45 am	Confirmation Class (Pastor Bruce's Office)
	4:00 pm	Evening Praise Service - Pastor Bruce (with Holy Communion)

<Next New Members Class - March 19 at 12:30 pm in 2F Classroom>

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