

Tokyo Union Church
January 1, 2006 at 11:00 am

PRELUDE "Of the Father's Love Begotten" by W. Held

We welcome you to Tokyo Union Church. Please sign the pew registry.

(Please Stand; ** Late Seating)*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: God meets and blesses all who gather here.

People: God offers us peace and nurture with God's holy word.

Pastor: Let us worship this God of care and compassion, this God of steadfast love.

People: Praise God of wind and wave, keeper of us all.

**OPENING HYMN 22 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and Eternal God, we begin a new year with such good intentions. We are courageous in our resolutions. Yet we know our weaknesses and bring them before you this day.

Forgive us our failure to love enough, our failure to be strong enough to fulfill all that we promise to do. Forgive us when we stumble. Lead us in your path once again. Forgive us when we offend others and help them to forgive us.

We ask all these things in the name of Christ. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

**SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Lector: Sam Mchombo Psalm 148 (OT p. 550)

**GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS Pastor Bruce Sloan

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

HYMN 66 "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-12 (NT p. 1)

SERMON "Wisdom Seekers" Pastor Bruce Sloan

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Praying today for **AGAPE, Japan/Asia**)

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

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Special Music "Come, Blessed Cross" by J. S. Bach Kazunori Higuchi, solo
Junko Sasaki, piano

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings – "Give Thanks"

Give thanks with a grateful heart; Give thanks to the Holy One;

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His son. (Repeat)

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong;" Let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us. (Repeat) Give thanks!**

HOLY COMMUNION - *Please turn to Hymnal p. 13.*

(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 elect to stand together to commune.

聖餐式はクリスチャンのための式典です。

クリスチャンでない方はご自分の席でお待ちになるか、または参列してサーバーの前で腕をXに組み祝福の言葉を受けて下さい。)

During Communion Hymn 302 "I Danced in the Morning"

EXPRESSIONS OF FELLOWSHIP

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

MOMENT FOR ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

David Stuchbury, elder

*CLOSING HYMN 280 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

*BENEDICTION

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

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

POSTLUDE

"In Thee is Gladness" by J. S. Bach

AGAPE, Japan/Asia: Agape serves the needs of disabled persons in Japan and throughout Asia. Their ministries include: Agape Center in Japan, a nursing home for severely disabled clients; Agape Exchange Program which provides training for those working with the disabled in other Asian countries; and centers for the disabled established by former trainees in their home countries such as Agape Rehabilitation Center in India.

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

Jan. 1 (Sun)	11:00 am	Worship
Jan. 2 (Mon)		Church office closed
Jan. 3 (Tue)		Church office closed
Jan. 5 (Thu)	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Balcony)
	7:30 pm	Prayer Group Mtg. (2F)
Jan. 8 (Sun)	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship
	4:00 pm	Evening Praise Service - John Visser

<Next New Members' Class: January 22 at 12:30 pm in 2F classroom>

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