

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

PRELUDE "Blessed Jesus, Here Are We" by F. Peeters

(11:00) INTROIT

Sanctuary Choir

(Please Stand; ** Late Seating)*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Foster

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

People: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name.

Pastor: Worship the Lord in holy splendor!

People: In God's temple all say "Glory!"

**OPENING HYMN 469

"Morning Has Broken"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you offer us a perfect love in Jesus Christ: forgive us for straying from you. You call us to love and serve as Christ's followers: forgive our unwillingness to hear the cries of others. You invite us to new life, abundant and free: forgive us for persisting in our sinful ways.

In your mercy, O God, redeem us. Cleanse our hearts and minds of sin. Strengthen us with your love, and give us joy in your service, to the glory of your holy name.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn "More Like You")

**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

Genesis 1:1-5 (OT p. 1)

Lectors: (8:30) Russell Gesling (11:00) David Stuchbury

**GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS

Pastor Bruce

Preschool-kindergarten children may go to the 2nd floor classroom at this time. Nursery care for children ages 0-2 is provided on the first floor throughout the entire service.

HYMN 492

"Baptized in Water"

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 19:1-7 (NT p. 130)

SERMON

"Why Baptism?"

Pastor Bruce

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Praying today for **HELP Asian Women's Shelter, Japan**)

Mary Foster

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

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(8:30) Meditative Music

Miwako Horii, organ

(11:00) Anthem "Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him" by R. H. Prichard

Sanctuary Choir

*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!

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

Hymn 341

"Blessed Assurance"

EXPRESSIONS OF FELLOWSHIP

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

*CLOSING HYMN 376

"Love Divine, All Love Excelling"

*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

"Victim Divine, Thy Grace We Claim" by F. Peeters

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

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.

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. 8 (Sun)	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship
	4:00 pm	Evening Praise Service - John Visher
Jan. 9 (Mon)		National Holiday (Church office closed)
Jan. 10 (Tue)		Early Learning Center reopens
		Sunday Bulletin Announcement Deadline
Jan. 12 (Thu)	9:00 am	WS Class Registration (Library)
	10:30 am	WS Monthly Program (Coffee at 9:30 am)
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (Balcony)
	7:00 pm	Admin. Mtg.
	7:30 pm	Prayer Group Mtg. (2F)
Jan. 13 (Fri)	6:45 pm	VIP Alpha (B1)
Jan 14 (Sat)	8:30 am	Men's Ministry/Breakfast (B1)
	2:00 pm	Homeless Dinner
	3:30 pm	Youth Meeting (Ice Skating)
Jan. 15 (Sun)	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	after 11 am service	Special Congregational Meeting
	2:00 pm	Theology Reading Group (Library)
	4:00 pm	Evening Praise Service - Ken Owusu

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