

Tokyo Union Church
Easter Sunday
March 27, 2005 at 8:30 & 11:00 am

PRELUDE "Trumpet Voluntary" Tatsuki Kobayashi, trumpet
We welcome you to Tokyo Union Church. Please sign the pew registry. (Please Stand; ** Late Seating)*

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: God is good. God's steadfast love endures forever.
People: Let us give thanks to God our strength and power.
Pastor: God welcomes us to this day of celebration. Find new life here.
People: Let us give thanks to God our strength and power.
O give thanks to God; for God is good. God's steadfast love endures forever.

**OPENING HYMN 123 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, giver of life and breath, we come before you this day asking forgiveness for those times when we have failed to believe in you. You have surprised us with the constancy of your love, yet we confess that we have failed in our confidence in you. Loving God, forgive us when we flee from the empty tombs of our lives in despair. Forgive us for running away when we are confronted with a new experience, a chance to experience new life. Forgive us our past mistakes and failures, our failures, and our disbelief. Bless us and lift us anew by the Easter promise. Through Christ our Risen Savior. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**SHARING OF THE PEACE

MOMENT FOR MISSION - Easter Special Offering (8:30) Jody Fuller (11:00) Ken Inkster

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Acts 10:34-43 (NT p. 129)
Lectors: (8:30) Nancy Pierson (11:00) Josiah

**GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS Pastor Craig Hunter
Preschool-kindergarten ages 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.

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 20:1-18 (NT p. 114)

SERMON Pastor Bruce Sloan

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Praying today for **Ukraine Christian Summer Camps and Haiti Girls Shelter**)

The Lord's Prayer - **Traditional**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Anthem "Gloria" by A. Vivaldi 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!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING IN CHORAL FORM

All: From all that dwell below the skies, Let the Creator's praise arise - Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung; Through every land by every tongue - Alleluia!
Pastor: The night that Jesus was betrayed, He blessed and broke the loaf and said,
People: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Pastor: "This is my body here for you, My gift that frees and makes you new."
People: Alleluia!
Pastor: Then Jesus also took the cup, After those gathered had all supped,
People: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Pastor: "This is my lifeblood shed for you, The measure of my love for you."
People: Alleluia!
Pastor: "Do this," He said, "till time shall end, In mem'ry of your living Friend" -
People: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Pastor: "Meet at my table and record, The love of your triumphant Lord."
People: Alleluia!
All: Jesus, your feast we celebrate. We eat the food you consecrate. Alleluia!
Alleluia!
We glimpse that glad eternal feast, To which you welcome great and least.
Alleluia!
O risen Christ, ascended Lord, All praise to you let earth accord - Alleluia!
Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run, With Creator, and with Spirit one. Alleluia!

DURING THE COMMUNION "Christ is Risen Today"
Christ is risen today. Alleluia, Alleluia. Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia, Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Praying together)

We praise you, O God of Easter joy, that Christ is alive! We celebrate his life-giving presence among us through the holy mystery of bread and cup! Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit with the hope of the empty tomb lifting our hearts to give ourselves to others in the name of the Risen Christ. Amen.

(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.

Please join us for the Coffee Hour after the 11:00 am service, so we can greet you personally.

*BENEDICTION

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

Following the 11:00 am service, the Prayer and Healing Ministry Team will be available in front of the sanctuary for persons desiring prayer.

*POSTLUDE (Please stand as you are able.) "Hallelujah" by G. F. Handel Sanctuary Choir

Today's Acolytes: (8:30) Shimon Umezu, Casey Walker (11:00) Jake Hibbard, Megan Hibbard

EASTER LILIES: You are welcome to take one or more pots home, after the 12:30 service is over (at 1:30pm) **today.**

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION – Next Sunday, April 3, 2005 at 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall:

In accordance with the Constitution of Tokyo Union Church, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held to receive written reports from Council officers, Council ministry teams, and other church organizations for the previous year, review the budget to date, and approve the minutes for all congregational meetings held in the past year. Other business as may properly come before the meeting will also be considered. TUC Members with specific items they would like to bring before the meeting are asked to please notify Bill Hibbard, the President of the Congregation. All persons in the TUC community are invited and encouraged to attend but only those who are members of TUC may vote.

EVENING PRAISE SERVICE: **Next Sunday, April 3, at 4:00 pm**, with Holy Communion. Speaker: Pastor Craig Hunter.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES: "Celebrating our Diverse Christian Heritage at TUC" by Richard Hostetter **from April 3**, "Introduction to Celtic Christianity and Spirituality" by Jean Wilson **from April 10**. "Isaiah Class" recommences on **April 3**.

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST: Saturday, **April 9**, 8:30-10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Brock McMunn (Tel/Fax: 03-3582-7463) to reserve **by Tuesday, April 5**.

"SUPPORT IN GRIEF" is available for anyone in the congregation who is having a hard time facing a loss or dealing with grief. They will provide a sympathetic ear. Contact April Morito at 046-273-1289, and you will be matched with someone you can call.

Pastor: Bruce Sloan (pastor@gol.com) **Associate Pastor:** Craig Hunter (astpastr@gol.com)

Sanctuary Choir Director: Takamichi Shiozawa **Organist:** Miwako Horii **Student Intern:** Sang Valte

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Women's Society Reception: Tel: (03) 3400-0942

Tokyo Union Church Outreach Ministry

Easter 2005 Special Offering

Please read about the following two projects selected by the Outreach Ministry Team which focus on the needs of children in two very poor regions of the world.

Humanitarian Aid Response Team (HART)
Ukraine Christian Summer Camps

A wonderful project that happens every summer is to send under privileged children to summer camps. At these camps the children receive 3 meals a day. For most children this is a luxury and it allows them to experience life outside of their homes which have various issues of abuse from lack of money. They have a wonderful time at these camps by going through a busy program of fun and games. Most importantly they are witnesses to loving care givers and get they hear about the love that Jesus Christ has for them. This is a great opportunity to make an impact on the children of Ukraine and raise up a new generation of Christian workers. Letters from last years campers are available on the bulletin board near the church entrance.

Haiti Girls Shelter

Pierre St. Vistal's concern for the girls he heard crying n the street led to the creation of a shelter for girls in Haiti 's capital.....

Pierre St. Vistal began his struggle to protect girls living on the streets when he was a student at the monastery of St. Gerard, Port-au-Prince. There were several little girls sleeping on the steps of the church that were repeatedly being abused sexually and physically. After physically beating off abusers Brother St. Vistal sought to provide shelter to these girls and others living in a similar situation. He currently provides food, shelter and education to 60 girls ranging from 3 - 16 years old in the center located in Village de Dieu, one of the worst slums of Port-au-Prince. There are still not enough beds for each of the children but their home is infinitely better from where they were living and each child has an opportunity to attend school and build a better life for themselves.

Please prayerfully consider how we at TUC can help the children in Haiti and the Ukraine. Special offering envelopes are provided or you may mark your offering envelope as Easter 2005 Special Offering.

Easter Lilies 2005

Akiko Adachi, in memory of Fusa & Toku Amaha

Jessie Banno, in memory of her husband

Bob Connelly, in memory of Jane Williams Connelly & Mary-Jane Connelly

Elizabeth Foley, in memory of Marian Foley

Jody Fuller, in thanksgiving to God

Tomoko & Takuya Furusawa, to the glory of God

Alison Harada, in memory of Sally Rutter Birch

*Mary Hetzel, in honor of Jesse Banno and
in memory of Kimiko Kajiyama's sister.*

*Richard Man, in memory of a dear colleague and friend,
Katie McGarry who perished in the 9/11 attack*

*Brock & Carol McMunn, in memory of parents - Herbert Conklin &
Marianne Conklin, sister - Barbara Catalano*

April & Osamu Morito, in memory of Lemuel Niguidula, April's brother

Keiko Sasaki, in memory of Gordon Van Wyk

Do Yeon Sohn, to the glory of God

Sajevee & Premoj Thomas, Alleluia to the Almighty!

Michiko Yaegashi, in thanksgiving to God

*Tsuneko Yamaguchi, for the glory of God and
in memory of Tatsuro & Mitsuko Yamaguchi*