

Tokyo Union Church
May 1, 2005 at 8:30 & 11:00 am

PRELUDE "Adagio" by J. S. Bach

(11:00) INTROIT Sanctuary Choir
(* Please Stand; ** Late Seating)

*CALL TO WORSHIP Pierce Johnson

Leader: With word and song, we gather to praise God

People: who has blessed us with the gift of life in Jesus Christ.

Leader: We are drawn into God's presence through him,

People: and the burdens we carry he takes upon himself.

Leader: We are truly blessed, for God has listened and responded to our prayers.

People: We worship you, O God, with gladness in our hearts and songs of praise on our lips.

**OPENING HYMN 464 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we pause to confess those times when we have worshiped other gods, gods of money, of time, of things, of worldly distractions. We do not have clear consciences. And yet we are quick to find fault with our neighbor. You ask us to love you and keep your commandments. But we do not do it. We are suspicious and jealous and easily angered. With gentleness, forgive us. You promised us you will not abandon us or leave us as orphans. Hear our prayers of forgiveness and send your Holy Spirit among us. In the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn 306 "Fairest Lord Jesus" (verse 1)

**Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God to earth come down,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY - The Alpha Course John Visher & others

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 66:8-20 (OT p. 528)

Lectors: (8:30) Jiro Hayashi (11:00) Michael Höhn

**GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS Virsa Hurt

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.

HYMN “Jesus, We Are Here” (verses 1-4 in English and then verse 1 in Zimbabwean)

Words & Music: Patrick Matsikenyiri

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:15-21 (NT p. 109)

SERMON

“Love My Commandments”

Pastor Bruce Sloan

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Praying today for **Pony Friends, Japan**)

Elizabeth Suzuki

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

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(8:30) Meditative Music

(11:00) Anthem

“Sing to the Lord a Jubilant Song” by J. Paige

Miwako Horii, organ

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!

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 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 321 “Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”

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.

*CLOSING HYMN 376 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*BENEDICTION - 1 Peter 3:14-15

But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.

*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 "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" by M. Reger

Everyone is welcome to join the Celebration Worship at 12:30 pm.

Pony Friends, Japan: Pony Friends provides horseback riding therapy to severely-challenged children struggling with physical disabilities, mental disabilities or autism.

Pastor Craig will be away from the office for vacation from April 25 to May 10.

Please be careful with your valuables as we have had some problems with theft in the church building.

Today's Communion: (8:30) Jody Fuller (11:00) Russ Bloem, Suresh Kukde, Do Sohn, David Stuchbury, John Visher **Altar Guild:** (8:30) Keiko Hayashi (11:00) Masako Yumiba **Ushers:** (8:30) Jiro & Keiko Hayashi (11:00) Chika Eto, Peilei Fan & Raymond Naseef, Sam Mchombo **Nursery:** (11:00) Kaoru Hirano **Coffee Host:** Alan Sorba, David Stuchbury **Flowers:** Junko Takahashi & Michiko Yaegashi, donated by Jean Wilson, to celebrate her 25th anniversary of coming to Japan.

THE KOINONIA & OPEN CIRCLE NEWSLETTERS are ready! Please pick them up in the lobby **today**, so that we can save on postage.

EVENING PRAISE SERVICE: **Today, at 4:00 pm.** Speaker: Kazunori Higuchi. All are welcome!

CELEBRATION OF OUR MOTHERS will be **next Sunday, May 8, at the 8:30 am service.**

WOMEN'S SOCIETY MONTHLY PROGRAM: **May 12**, in the Fellowship Hall, "The Art of Calligraphy" by Kohei Okamoto, well-known calligraphy artist. Please join us for coffee & sweets at 9:30 am and for the program at 10:30 am. For more information, please contact WS receptionist at 3400-0942 (10 am - 2 pm, weekdays).

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST: Saturday, **May 14**, 8:30-10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Brock McMunn (Tel/Fax: 03-3582-7463) **by Tuesday, May 10.**

KOINONIA NEWSLETTER (Summer issue) Deadline: **May 15.** Sunday Bulletin Deadline: **Every Tuesday.**

PENTECOST SUNDAY, **May 15:** If you would be willing to read the Scripture (Acts 2:1-21) with others in your mother language during the 8:30/11:00 am services, please contact Pastor Bruce. The Duke's Men of Yale, an all-male a cappella singing group from Yale University will sing at 8:30/11:00 am worship services. After the 11:00 am service, there will be a special Congregational Lunch organized by the Fellowship Team and the Assimilation Team in the Fellowship Hall. Donations for the lunch would be greatly appreciated.

ALPHA COURSE will start at TUC on Sunday, **May 15**, 3-5 pm. The registration is available at <http://www.tokyounion.org>.

THE DUKE'S MEN OF YALE will have an evening concert on **Monday, May 16**, at TUC. Please check the Sunday bulletin for the information.

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY **Communion:** (8:30) Scott Carroll **Altar Guild:** (8:30) Kaoru Shikata (11:00) Nobuko Gaine **Ushers:** (8:30) Postema family (11:00) Pamela Bishop, Peilei Fan & Raymond Naseef, Paul Robotham **Lectors:** (8:30) Jean Pengosro (11:00) John Visher (**Readings:** Acts 1:6-14; Ps. 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11) **Nursery:** (11:00) Toshiko Carroll
Childcare: (8:30) Adelfa Mabines (11:00) TBA **Coffee Host:** Haruno & Tsuyoshi Akiyama **Flowers:** Eiko Motonaga (arrangement), Anita & Russell Gesling (donation)

DIRECTORY for Members & Friends of TUC: Please inform the church office if you have not picked up your copy at TUC.

UPDATE FROM THE EASTER SPECIAL OFFERING: A very special thank you to TUC members and friends for your prayerful response to the needs of the children in Haiti and the Ukraine. TUC members and friends raised a very generous ¥2,127,871.

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.

"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.

SUMMER SCHOOL (**June 13 - July 1**) for children not attending regular classes at the TUC Preschool-Kindergarten opens on **May 10**. Your child may attend one, two or three weeks. With Christian values as the foundation of the program, there will be lots of fun activities such as cooking, music, crafts, games, playing in water and sand. Each week focuses on a different country from a different continent. For more information, contact Jennifer Toyoshima, Director, at 3400-1579.

TUC PRESCHOOL-KINDERGARTEN would like to hire one head teacher (qualifications: Christian, Early Childhood qualifications, native English speaker) and one assistant teacher (qualifications: Christian, Early Childhood qualifications preferred or qualifications in art or music, native or near native English speaker). Please fax your resume to 3400-1579.

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 (*Details on bulletin boards in lobby.*)

May 1 (Sun)	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship
	9:45 am	Sunday School/Confirmation Class
	12:30 pm	Celebration Worship
	4:00 pm	Evening Praise Service
May 3 (Tue)		Church Office Closed (National Holiday, ~5/5) Preschool Break (5/3~5/6)
May 5 (Thu)	7:30 pm	Prayer Group Mtg. (2F)
May 8 (Sun)	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship
	9:45 am	Sunday School/Confirmation Class
	12:30 pm	Celebration Worship

<Next New Members' Class: **May 15, at 12:30 pm in 2F Classroom**>

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

Preschool-Kindergarten Office: Tel/Fax: (03) 3400-1579
admin@tucpreschool-kindergarten.com

Pastor
Bruce Sloan (pastor@gol.com)
(Phone: 090-6142-9646)
Associate Pastor
Craig Hunter (astpastr@gol.com)
Sanctuary Choir Director
Takamichi Shiozawa
Organist
Miwako Horii
Children's Ministry Director
Virsa Hurt
Youth Ministry Director
Pierce Johnson
Celebration Worship Director
Jolanda Blomjous
Student Intern
Sang Valte
Office Manager
Megumi Naito
Receptionist/Secretary
Miri Shinoda
Financial/Accounting Manager
Masanori Hara
Facilities Manager
Kazunori Higuchi
Preschool-Kindergarten Director
Jennifer Toyoshima (Interim)
Assistant to Pre-Kindergarten Director
Ivy Maeda
President of the Congregation
Bill Hibbard (Interim)

