

***Tokyo Union Church
Confirmation Sunday
May 16, 2004 at 8:30 & 11:00 am***

PRELUDE "Prelude in C Major" by J. Krieger

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

(8:30) INTROIT Sanctuary Choir

(Please Stand; ** Late Seating)*

*CALL TO WORSHIP - *Psalm 67 (OT p. 529), in unison*

**OPENING HYMN 482 "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we are a people who dwell in darkness. We have turned from your ways to walk our own paths. We have not made the cause of the poor our own. We have not made your love known to the world in our words and our lives. We have waited for the right time and have missed our chance to act in your time. All this we bring before you now, and we ask you, in love, to speak the word of forgiveness. *(Silent prayers)* Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn 579 "Glory Be to the Father"

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE

STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS The Stewardship Ministry Team

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Acts 16:9-15 (NT p. 136)

Lectors: (8:30) Dennis Schneider (11:00) Jeff Hayman

**GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS (Through Grade 4) 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 whole service.)

HYMN 379 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 14:23-29 (NT p. 109)

SERMON "Keep My Word" Pastor Bruce Sloan

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Praying today for **Confirmation Class**)

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

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(8:30) Anthem

“Joy in the Morning” by N. Sleeth

Sanctuary Choir

(11:00) Music

“Agnus Dei” by Mozart

Michiko Sunamura, soprano

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings - Doxology (Hymn 592)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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

During Communion

Hymn 515 “Now to Your Table Spread”

(11:00) THE RECEPTION OF THE 2004 CONFIRMATION CLASS

PRESENTATION OF THE CONFIRMATION CLASS

RENUNCIATION AND AFFIRMATION

Pastor: Now, as you publicly declare your faith, I ask you to reject sin, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we are baptized.

Do you renounce evil and its power in the world, which defies God’s righteousness and love?

Confirmand: I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce the ways of sin that separate you from the love of God?

Confirmand: I renounce them.

Pastor: Who is your Lord and Savior?

Confirmand: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Pastor: Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love to your life’s end?

Confirmand: I will, through God’s grace.

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

WELCOME

Pastor: Today the confirmands are received into the global Church of Christ through profession of faith. In order to enable them to fulfill the covenant commitments that they have made and share with us in the responsibilities and joys of Christian discipleship, they are now presented to witness to their membership in Tokyo Union Church.

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 He is offered in the gospel?

New Members: 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 Members: 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 Members: I will.

Pastor: Will you be loyal to the Church of Christ, wherever you are, and will you, so far as able, support this church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service?

New Members: 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. We welcome you into this fellowship to share the joys and trials, the responsibilities and rewards of Christian discipleship. We pledge to you our support and Christian love, to the end that we may all increase in the knowledge and the love of God, and grow toward the stature of Jesus Christ our Lord. With you we dedicate our lives and our church to the work of the Kingdom of God.

THE BLESSING AND ANOINTING

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

We welcome the following Confirmands who have declared their faith in Jesus Christ and been received into the membership of Tokyo Union Church by action of the church Council. We rejoice with them and their families, and we give thanks for God's abundant grace in their lives!

Rebecca Hayman

Joseph Sinnott

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 service, so we can greet you personally.

*CLOSING HYMN 357 "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

*BENEDICTION

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

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

POSTLUDE

"Fugue in G Major" by J. L. Krebs

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

Today's Communion: (8:30) Bill Hibbard, Jane Sinnott **Altar Guild:** (8:30) T. Mukasa (11:00) Joy Albrecht **Ushers:** (8:30) Sumbung family (11:00) Jody Fuller, Anita & Russell Gesling, Ken Inkster, David Mutekanga **Nursery:** (11:00) Kaoru Hirano
Coffee Hosts: The Evangelism Team **Flowers:** Marie Oshima & Sota Yamamoto, who had a wedding on May 15.

THE NEW MEMBERS' CLASS: **Today** at 12:30 pm in the 2nd Floor Classroom. All persons interested in membership at TUC are invited to attend. For more information, please contact Membership Elder, Alan Sorba (070-5089-4862).

KOINONIA Newsletter (Summer issue) Deadline: **May 20.**

PENTECOST READERS: As is the custom on Pentecost Sunday, we will be reading the Scripture lessons in as many languages as possible. If you speak a language other than English, and have a Bible in that language, we need you to read at **either the 8:30 or 11:00 am service on May 30.** Please contact Nancy Pierson (3721-0991, umezu@gol.com).

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (**Aug. 9-13**) is coming! Are you ready to have fun? Teachers and volunteers needed. Stay tuned for registration details.

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY **Communion:** (8:30) John Mullins, Scott Carroll **Altar Guild:** (8:30) T. Mukasa (11:00) Joy Albrecht **Ushers:** (8:30) Postema family (11:00) Naomi Hagiwara, Brock McMunn, Junko Suzuki **Lectors:** (8:30) Scott Carroll (11:00) Tim Wada (**Readings:** Acts 16:16-34; Ps. 97; Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26) **Nursery:** (11:00) Jolanda Blomjous **Childcare:** TBA **Greeters:** TBA **Coffee Hosts:** The Outreach Team **Flowers:** Aya Uda (arrangement), Yasue Kobayashi (donation)

ADULT BAPTISM: If anyone is interested in an adult baptism class, please contact Pastor Bruce at pastor@gol.com.

COUNCIL OPENINGS: We have several vacant positions on our church Council. Those interested in serving TUC as an elder, please call Scott Carroll (3486-2647) or Jean Pengosro (3407-7697), Nominating Team elders.

PART-TIME POSITIONS AT TOKYO UNION CHURCH: **Children's Ministry Director (new position)** - Do you love children and have a heart for the gospel? Were you ever a child yourself? Would you like to see the children of TUC grow in their Christian faith, and do you have the energy and vision to make that happen? Those with patience, imagination, energy and experience working with children are encouraged to get more information. **Youth Ministry Director** - With the assistance of a devoted and talented group of parents and young adults, this person will have the opportunity to plan and implement programs as diverse as the interests of the youth – everything from mission trips to ice-skating to spiritual retreats. *Please speak with Pastor Craig for details.*

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 prayer requests we receive during the week. Contact: Lori Samp (tucprayer@yahoo.com.au)

"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.

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 16 (Sun)	8:30/11:00/12:30	Worship	Pastor Bruce Sloan (pastor@gol.com)
	9:45 am	Sunday School	Associate Pastor Craig Hunter (astpastr@gol.com)
	12:30 pm	Sharing Class (Library)	Sanctuary Choir Director Takamichi Shiozawa
	12:30 pm	New Members' Class (2F)	Organist Miwako Horii
	2:00 pm	Council Mtg.	Student Intern Sang Valte
May 17 (Mon)	7:00 pm	Preschool Board Mtg. (4F)	Office Manager Megumi Naito
May 18 (Tue)	10:00 am	WS Bible Study (2F)	Receptionist/Secretary Miri Shinoda
May 19 (Wed)	7:00 pm	TUC Bible Study (2F)	Financial/Accounting Manager Masanori Hara
May 20 (Thu)		KOINONIA Deadline	Facilities Manager Kazunori Higuchi
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (3F)	Preschool Director Pat Haines
	7:30 pm	Prayer Group Mtg. (2F)	President of the Congregation Bill Hibbard
May 22 (Sat)	6:00 pm	Youth Gathering	Women's Society Reception Tel: (03) 3400-0942
May 23 (Sun)	8:30/11:00/12:30	Worship	Preschool Office Tel/Fax: (03) 3400-1579 admin@tucpreschool-kindergarten.com
	9:45 am	Sunday School	
	2:00 pm	Turkey Class (Library)	

Tokyo Union Church: 7-7, Jingumae 5-chome Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0001
Tel: (03) 3400-0047 Fax: (03) 3400-1942
E-mail: tuc@gol.com URL: http://www.tokyounion.org

