

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

PRELUDE

"Canon" by R. Schumann

(11:00) INTROIT

Sanctuary Choir

(Please Stand; ** Late Seating)*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let God's people be joyful. Sing to God; sing praises to God's name.

People: Sing to God; sing praises to God's name.

Leader: The heavens open at the presence of God.

People: Sing to God; hear God's mighty voice.

Leader: God gives power and strength to all God's people. Let us worship God.

****OPENING HYMN 143**

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Spirit of the living God, rest upon us this day. Forgive us those times we have failed to see you as the one true God. Forgive us for the bargains we make with you as we weaken in our resolve to serve you. Help us speak the truth to one another in love, putting aside our petty irritations. Remind us again that we are your witnesses, witnessing to your work of loving one another, even loving our enemies. Fill us anew with your love. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn "Glorify Thy Name"**

**Father, we love You; we worship and adore You. Glorify Thy Name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy Name. Glorify Thy Name. Glorify Thy Name in all the earth.**

**Jesus, we love You; we worship and adore You. Glorify Thy Name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy Name. Glorify Thy Name. Glorify Thy Name in all the earth.**

**Spirit, we love You; we worship and adore You. Glorify Thy Name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy Name. Glorify Thy Name. Glorify Thy Name in all the earth.**

****SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

(8:30) MOTHER'S DAY RECOGNITION - Litany of Praise of our Valiant Women

On this Mother's Day we give thankful praise for women who have led our church.

We honor God by giving praise for valiant women of faith, who are a living testimony that God is God in all.

We praise valiant women whose lives give hope to us.

Eve,

the first woman, mother of all the living, soul of the human race.

We praise valiant women.

Sarah,

heart of the covenant, mother of nations, who conceived laughter in her old age.

We praise valiant women.

Rebecca,
woman of ingenuity, achieving her own purposes in a patriarchal world.
We praise valiant women.

Rachel,
who waited seven years, seven days, waited for love, waited for life.
We praise valiant women.

Nefertiti,
Queen, co-ruler of Egypt, who, with her husband, introduced into Egypt the revolutionary
notion of worshipping only one God.
We praise valiant women.

Mary,
mother of Jesus of Nazareth, a woman, one of us.
We praise valiant women.

Elizabeth,
who proved one is never too old to have her dream come true.
We praise valiant women.

Anna,
prophet at prayer in the Temple when Jesus was offered to God, who from that moment
preached Jesus, proclaiming salvation to all.
We praise valiant women.

Who shall find a valiant woman?
Look! We are all around you.

(11:00) MOMENT FOR MINISTRY - The Alpha Course

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 5:6-11 (NT p. 235)

Lector: (8:30) Jean Pengosro

**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 361

“How Firm a Foundation” (verse 1)

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:6-14 (NT p. 118)

SERMON

“Gazing Into the Clouds”

Pastor Bruce Sloan

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Praying today for **Sanyukai, Japan**)

Yugo Suzuki

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

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(8:30) Meditative Music

Junko Sasaki, organ

(11:00) Anthem

“The Lily of the Valley” by Whalum

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 510 "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"

BAPTISM - (8:30) Meg, Sara, Shion, James Simms (11:00) Ken Takagi

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 "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" (Sing 3 times)

**Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;
From the cross to the grave, From the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.**

*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 "Concertino Spirituale" by A. Soresina

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

Sanyukai: Sanyukai seeks to relieve the hardships experienced by the increasing numbers of homeless people and day laborers in Tokyo by providing medical care and welfare programs. They currently offer a free clinic, soup kitchen, counseling, and a shelter for the homeless.

Pastor Craig is away from the office for vacation until 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) 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 **Nursery:** (11:00) Toshiko Carroll **Childcare:** (8:30) Adelfa Mabines **Coffee Host:** Haruno & Tsuyoshi Akiyama **Flowers:** Chika Eto, donated by Anita & Russell Gesling, in celebration of Sarah's 2nd birthday.

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 - June/July/August) Deadline: **May 15.** Sunday Bulletin Deadline: **Every Tuesday.**

PENTECOST SUNDAY- **Next 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 **next 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) Maggie Yamasaki **Altar Guild:** (8:30) Yong Lee (11:00) Junko Takahashi **Ushers:** (8:30) Hibbard family (11:00) Pamela Bishop, Jody Fuller, Ken Inkster, Hitomi Yokote **Lectors:** (8:30) Paul Fukuda (11:00) Taketo Maeda
(Readings: Acts 2:1-21 or Num. 11:24-30; Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Cor. 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39) **Nursery:** (11:00) Kaoru Hirano **Childcare:** (8:30) TBA (11:00) Amy Dunkle **Coffee Hosts:** The Evangelism Ministry Team **Flowers:** Aya Uda (arrangement), TBA (donation)

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

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.

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 8 (Sun)	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship
	9:45 am	Sunday School/Confirmation Class
	12:30 pm	Celebration Worship
May 10 (Tue)	9:30 am	Preschool Board Mtg. (4F)
May 11 (Wed)	7:00 pm	Israel/Palestine Class (2F)
May 12 (Thu)	9:30 am	WS Monthly Program/Coffee (B1)
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal (3F)
	7:00 pm	Admin. Mtg.
	7:30 pm	Prayer Group Mtg. (2F)
May 14 (Sat)	8:30 am	Men's Ministry Breakfast (B1)
	2:00 pm	Homeless Dinner (B1)
	6:30 pm	Youth Gathering/Junior High Lock-In (~5/15)
May 15 (Sun)		KOINONIA Deadline
	8:30 & 11:00 am	Worship - Pentecost Sunday
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	after 11 am service	Congregational Lunch (B1)
	12:30 pm	Celebration Worship
	12:30 pm	New Members' Class (2F)
	1:30 pm	Council Mtg.

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>

Pastor
Bruce Sloan (pastor@gol.com)
Associate Pastor
Craig Hunter (astpastr@gol.com)
Sanctuary Choir Director
Takamichi Shiozawa
Today's Organist
Junko Sasaki
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)
Women's Society Reception
Tel: (03) 3400-0942
Preschool-Kindergarten Office
Tel/Fax: (03) 3400-1579
admin@tucpreschool-kindergarten.com

(8:30) BAPTISM

Meg Paula Simms, born in Chiba, Japan, on July 12, 1996

Sara Weslee Simms, born in Chiba, Japan, on April 8, 1999

Shion Stephanie Simms, born in Chiba, Japan, on July 9, 2002

James Jiei William Simms, born in Tokyo, Japan, on April 1, 2005

Parents: Stephen & Yumiko Simms

Sponsors: Regina Rogers Doi, Roberto Gomez

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Stephen & Yumiko, what do you ask of God's church for Meg, Sara, Shion and James?

I ask that they be baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ.

In the light of your covenant promise and your request, I ask you: Do you believe that the gospel guides us through life and enables us to walk in the light of Christ?

I do.

PARENTAL VOWS

Stephen & Yumiko, I ask you now to respond to God's graciousness to Meg, Sara, Shion and James by making these solemn promises:

Will you provide for your children a Christian home of love and trust?

With God's help, I will.

Will you set before Meg, Sara, Shion and James the example of a Christian life, and will you pray that your children will learn the way of Christ?

With God's help, I will.

Will you encourage your children to grow within the fellowship of the church so that Meg, Sara, Shion and James may come to full faith in Christ?

With God's help, I will.

PRAYER OVER WATER

We give you thanks, O holy and gracious God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the water, and you created all that is, seen and unseen. By the gift of water you sustain all life. In the time of Noah, by your saving ark, you gave a new beginning. You led Israel through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the Promised Land. In the water of Jordan our Lord was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. By the baptism of his death and resurrection, Christ set us free from sin and death and opened the way to eternal life. We thank you, O God, for the gift of baptism. In this water we are buried with Christ in his death. From this water we are raised to share in his resurrection, reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

ACT OF BAPTISM

ACT OF ANOINTING

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GIVING OF CANDLE

CONGREGATION'S COVENANT AND WELCOME

Pastor: Meg, Sara, Shion and James are received into the holy catholic church. Through baptism, God has made them members of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. I charge you, the people of this congregation, to nurture and to love them, and to assist them to be faithful disciples.

People: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church; for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you, and to help you know and follow Christ.

MUSIC

Junko Sasaki, organ

(11:00) BAPTISM

Ken Takagi, born in Tokyo, Japan, on October 15, 2004

Parents: Ryo & Naomi Takagi

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Ryo & Naomi, what do you ask of God's church for Ken?

I ask that he be baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ.

In the light of your covenant promise and your request, I ask you: Do you believe that the gospel guides us through life and enables us to walk in the light of Christ?

I do.

PARENTAL VOWS

Ryo & Naomi, I ask you now to respond to God's graciousness to Ken by making these solemn promises:

Will you provide for your child a Christian home of love and trust?

With God's help, I will.

Will you set before Ken the example of a Christian life, and will you pray that your child will learn the way of Christ?

With God's help, I will.

Will you encourage your child to grow within the fellowship of the church so that Ken may come to full faith in Christ?

With God's help, I will.

PRAYER OVER WATER

We give you thanks, O holy and gracious God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the water, and you created all that is, seen and unseen. By the gift of water you sustain all life. In the time of Noah, by your saving ark, you gave a new beginning. You led Israel through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the Promised Land. In the water of Jordan our Lord was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. By the baptism of his death and resurrection, Christ set us free from sin and death and opened the way to eternal life. We thank you, O God, for the gift of baptism. In this water we are buried with Christ in his death. From this water we are raised to share in his resurrection, reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

ACT OF BAPTISM

ACT OF ANOINTING

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GIVING OF CANDLE

CONGREGATION'S COVENANT AND WELCOME

Pastor: Ken is received into the holy catholic church. Through baptism, God has made him a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. I charge you, the people of this congregation, to nurture and to love him, and to assist him to be a faithful disciple.

People: **With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church; for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you, and to help you know and follow Christ.**

MUSIC

Junko Sasaki, organ

