

***Tokyo Union Church***  
***September 25, 2005 at 8:30 & 11:00 am***

PRELUDE "Legend" by L. Vierne

(11:00) INTROIT Sanctuary Choir

*(\* Please Stand; \*\* Late Seating)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: Listen to the voice of God; listen to God's teaching.

**People: Tell of God's glorious deeds, God's wonders and might.**

Pastor: God splits open rocks in the wilderness and gives drink.

**People: God causes waters to flow like rivers.**

Pastor: Let us worship this God of plenty, God of peace and joy and love.

**\*\*OPENING HYMN 361** "How Firm a Foundation"

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of wonder and might, we come to you now to confess our failing. We fall short of your will for us. We complain and doubt your presence with us. We doubt that you will provide for us as we need it. We grumble. Forgive us our failure of faith. Forgive us our lack of nerve to stand up for you when we know it is the right thing to do. Forgive us our failure to believe enough in your unfailing love to trust that you are with us. Fill us with your love so we may witness to your goodness and mercy in all of life. Amen.**

**\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - "Cry of My Heart" (See insert)**

**\*\*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 Matthew 21:23-32 (NT p. 23)

Lectors: (8:30) Tom Postema (11:00) Paul Robotham

**\*\*GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS** Ryan Jade

*Preschool-kindergarten ages may go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor classroom at this time.*

*Nursery care for children ages 0-2 is provided on the first floor throughout the entire service.*

HYMN 387 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 2:1-13 (NT p. 197)

SERMON Pastor Bruce Sloan

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Praying today for **Philippine Self Help Foundation, Philippines**)

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

**GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

(8:30) Meditative Music

Junko Sasaki, organ

(11:00) Anthem

"Praise and Laud and Honor" by J. C. Till

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 391

"Take My Life"

(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.*

\*CLOSING HYMN 427 "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

\*BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn "May You Run and Not Be Weary" (See next page)

*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

"Postlude" by A. Ridout

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**Philippine Self Help Foundation (PSHF), Philippines:** The mission of PSHF is to empower the poor with credit assistance. PSHF provides poor families with micro-loans which enable them to develop a wide range of livelihood projects such as handicrafts, raising livestock, vending, furniture making, fishing and farming.