

The 6th Sunday Rite of the year

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Worship Service

《Sunday Morning Divine Liturgy》

【Entrance Part】

- Prelude (Silent Prayer)

“Our Father in Heaven”

From the Preludes of the Crebus Chorale

- Greeting
- Hymn 21-56
- Opening Prayer
- Reading Psalms 129

【Worship of the Word】

- Scripture
- Exodus 20:1-7
- Matthew 4:1-11
- Response Hymns 21-38
- Lecture Pastor Takaaki Inoue "The Devil's Temptation"
- Apostles' Creed

【Communion Worship】

- Consecration Hymns 21-72
- Church Prayer (Litany)
- Peace Greetings
- Hymns 21-83
- The Lord's Prayer
- The Supper

【Response, Dispatch, and Blessing】

- Hymn 21-549
- Offering of Thanksgiving
- Hymns of Glory Hymns 21-24
- Words of Dispatch
- Prayer of Blessing
- Aftermath (Silent Prayer)
“God Is My Strong Defender”
(Hymn 21, No. 455)
Composed by H. Peter

【Today's Worship Service】

- Assistant Presider: Hideo Okumiya
- Musician : Masako Iida
- Offering Collector : Seiko Yamachiyo
- Receptionist : Mayumi Sawada

【Today's schedule】

- ◊ Church school (9:30 a.m.)
 - Talk : Mayumi Sawada
- ◊ Joint prayer meeting (after service)
- ◊ Hymn practice (after service)
- ◊ Regular Board Meeting (1:00 PM)

【Information on this week's church meetings】

- ◊ Morning Prayer
 - Thursday, February 5, 9:00 AM
 - Friday, February 6, 9:00 AM
- * Please note that the day of the week has changed this week

【Information on next Sunday】

- ◊ Church School Service (9:30 a.m.)
 - Talk : Pastor Takaaki Inoue
- ◊ Sunday Morning Service February 8 (10:30 a.m.)
 - Scripture

• Hosea 6:1-6

• Matthew 9:9-13

- Sermon: Pastor Takaaki Inoue "God Who Invites Sinners"
- Hymn 21 77, 38, 448
- Reading Psalms 130
- Assistant Presider: Mariko Inoue
- Musician : Masako Iida
- Offering Collector: Kimiko Kobuchi
- Receptionist: Masato Sawada
- ◊ Hymn practice (after service)
- ◊ Joint prayer meeting (after service)
- ◊ Mission Committee (after service)

Scripture

〔Man does not live by bread alone. He lives by every word that comes from the mouth of God.〕

(Matthew 4:4)

【Reports and personal disappearances】

(1) "Pastor Inoue's schedule for this week" :
Monday, 2nd at 10:30 AM: Osaka Christian Federation Board Meeting Tuesday, 3rd at 9:30 AM: Omiya Nursery Bean-Throwing Ceremony Wednesday, 4th at 2:00 PM: Osaka YWCA Bible Study Group Thursday, 5th at 1:00 PM: Home Visits

〔Church Events Schedule for February〕

- February 1 (Sun) 1:00 PM "Regular Board Meeting"
- February 4 (Wed) 2:00 PM "Osaka YWCA Bible Study Group"
- February 8 (Sun) After Worship "Evangelism Committee"
- February 15 (Sun) 10:30 AM "Prayer of Repentance and Ash Wednesday Service"
- February 16 (Mon) - April 4 (Sat) "Great Lent / Lent"
- February 17 (Tue) 10:00 AM "Mental Illness Study Group"
- February 22 (Sun) 10:30 AM "Central Region Exchange Pulpit" (Osaka Higashi-Jushi Church: Rev. Jukichi Okamoto)

(3) At last Sunday's Mission Council meeting on the 25th, 20 members participated and exchanged various opinions regarding the new church building. We ask for your continued prayers.

〔Last week's meeting statistics〕

day	meeting	boy	girl	adult	total	Donation
25	Church school	—	1	7	8	¥2,850
	meeting	male	female	child	total	Donation
25	Morning Service	7	13	2	22	¥17,580
27	Morning praye	1	2	—	3	
30	Morning praye	2	3	—	5	

〔1/25 donation report〕

〔Monthly Donation〕 Hideo Okumiya (Total: ¥10,000) [Various Appreciation] Mariko Inoue, Hideo Okumiya, Akira Matsuoka (Total: ¥17,000) [Mutual Aid] Hideo Okumiya, (Total: ¥1,000)

【Continuation of last week's sermon summary】

↓ The Bible does not say when or how the water was turned into wine. What is not written need not be considered. What matters is that God performs marvelous works in ways unknown to humans, without their awareness. The steward called the bridegroom and said, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when the guests have drunk freely, then the inferior wine is served. But you have kept the good wine until now." (verse 10) The words "you have kept the best wine until now" are a prophecy spoken through the steward's mouth, representing the Gospel.

Many people misunderstand this world. They believe that good things are given first gradually diminish, and by life's end, everything is lost. But it is exactly the opposite. The very best is reserved for the end. Christ, who is God, has stored up the good things in heaven to be given after human labor is finished. These good things are called "eternal life, the likeness of Christ, and imperishable heavenly treasures."

Recently, someone asked me, "What does it mean to bear fruit? If I grow old and become stubborn, won't I be unable to bear fruit like Christ?" Now is the time for labor, not for reward. The wage of eternal life is paid only after this world's labor is finished. Even if we cannot bear fruit like Christ in this world, I believe we will bear it in the next. In this world, I think we should simply strive as much as possible to become like Christ. Let us continue to work on this body, looking forward to inheriting wonderful fruit in the next life as we live out this one.

