

## Last Week's Sermon Summary

### 『The Lord Has Truly Risen』

Pastor Takaaki Inoue

Ezekiel 1:10–11, 26–28, Luke 24:36–49

#### ①【God and Christ as revealed to Ezekiel】

While in the land of Babylon, Ezekiel saw a vision of God being carried by the archangels, the cherubim. The cherubim were angels with four faces and four wings, and they had many eyes. This is also mentioned in the Book of Revelation. "The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like a young bull, the third had a human face, and the fourth was like a flying eagle. Each of the four living creatures had six wings, and they were covered with eyes all around, both inside and out. Day and night they never stopped saying: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.'" (Revelation 4:6–8) Since He is "to come," we understand that the One seated on the throne is Christ. Later, in Christian tradition, these four faces were interpreted as symbolizing the four Gospels. Matthew represents the lion (Christ the King), Mark the man (Jesus' humanity), Luke the ox (Jesus' sacrifice), and John the eagle (Jesus' divinity). The cherubim, who were in the Most Holy Place—a place only the high priest and a select few priests could see—have now appeared in the land of Babylon. This was a testimony that the whole world is God's Most Holy Place. God told Ezekiel that Babylon, too, is His sanctuary, and that He is here, still working and reigning here. How amazing is that! The whole earth is God's sanctuary. God is active and is right beside you. In times past, Christ appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush, to Isaiah as a figure resembling the Son of Man in the temple wearing flowing robes,

to Ezekiel as one carried by cherubim, and to the apostles as Jesus in the flesh. And He takes delight in being carried not by the archangel Cherubim, but by the four evangelists. Not only that, but Christ enters into us and becomes one with me. Now I have become one who carries God Christ. Oh, what a terrifying thing this is!

#### ②【Two Characteristics of the Resurrected Body】

As Cleopas and Luke returned to the church in Jerusalem and were talking about how Jesus was alive, Jesus himself stood among them and greeted them. The disciples were terrified, thinking they were seeing a ghost. Then Jesus said to them, "Why are you troubled? Why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; it is truly I myself. Touch me and see; A ghost has neither flesh nor bones, but as you see, I have them." (Verses 38–40) Jesus' resurrected body was not a ghost. It was not merely a spirit; it had a physical body that could be seen with the naked eye, with hands and feet that could be touched. Furthermore, afterward, He asked, "Do you have anything here to eat?" (Verse 41), and it is said that He ate baked fish, which is earthly food. This is a mysterious body. It is said to be like a spirit yet capable of being touched, and to eat the food of this world. One possible explanation is that He perfectly combined two aspects: an earthly body and a heavenly body, human nature and divine nature. But this is nothing to be surprised about; for those who sincerely believe in the "Incarnation"—that God became man—it is something that can be fully accepted. The 6th-century Church Father Maximus said, "Christ cuts like iron and burns like fire." When you place a sword in the fire, the iron turns bright red, enabling it to perform two functions: cutting and heating.↗

# Weekly Report

The United Church of Christ in Japan  
Miyakojima Church

Mission Established December 1, 1957

Church Established December 2, 2001

2-6-17Miyuki-cho, Miyakojima-ku, Osaka 534-0012

TEL06-6922-1120 FAX06-6922-1120

E-mail address:

HomepageAddress: <https://miyakojima-church1.com>

Postal transfer 00920-4-1442 Japan Miyakojima

Mission Senior

Pastor Takaaki Inoue

May 3, 2026, No. 1871



《A fishing trip with no catch》

## Miyakojima Church's 2026 Mission Policy

**Motto :** " Let us become faithful servants of the Lord Jesus Christ "

**Scripture :** " Stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord will return." (Matthew 24:42)

### Goals for FY2024

- 1 Observe worship services every week and aim for an average of 28 people to attend services.
- 2 I will make good use of my time to invite the people I meet to worship.
- 3 We don't just listen to the Word; we put it into practice.
- 4 Make concrete preparations for the construction of the church.