

The 28th Sunday Rite of the year

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service

《Sunday Morning Divine Liturgy》

【Entrance Part】

- Prelude (Silent Prayer)
“Fugue in F Major”
Composed by J.S. Bach
- Greeting
- Hymn 21-50
- Opening Prayer
- Reading Psalms: Psalm 9:8–11

【Worship of the Word】

- Scripture
 - ✦ Acts 20:18–24
 - ✦ Luke 13:22–30
- Response Hymns 21-46
- Lecture Pastor Takaaki Inoue
“Enter Through the Narrow Gate”
- Apostles' Creed

【Communion Worship】

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

【Response, Dispatch, and Blessing】

- Hymn 21-536
- Offering of Thanksgiving
- Hymns of Glory Hymns 21-24
- Words of Dispatch
- Prayer of Blessing
- Aftermath (Silent Prayer)
Chorale “Our Father in Heaven”
Composed by J.S. Bach

【Today's Worship Service】

- Assistant Presider: Hitoshi Katsumi
- Musician : Sachie Shikano
- Offering Collector : Yoshiko Aizawa
- Receptionist : Kiyoshi Ueno

【Today's schedule】

- ◇ Church school (9:30 a.m.)
 - Talk : Pastor Takaaki Inoue
- ◇ Hymn Practice (after the service)
- ◇ Joint Prayer Meeting
- ◇ Sunday School Teachers' Meeting (after the service)

【Information on this week's church meetings】

- ◇ Morning Prayer
 - October 13 (Tue) at 9:00 a.m.
 - October 16 (Fri) at 9:00 a.m.
- ✦ We will clean the church after the prayer meeting.

◇ Prayer Meeting in English

- October 15 (Thu) at 7:30 p.m.

【Information on next Sunday】

- ◇ Church School Service (9:30 a.m.)
 - Talk : Hanae Kotsubo
- ◇ Sunday Morning Service
October 18 (10:30 a.m.)
 - Scripture
 - ✦ 1 Corinthians 3:10–13, 16–17
 - ✦ Luke 11:20–26
 - Sermon: Pastor Takaaki Inoue
“The Dangers of Vacant Homes”
 - Hymn 21 17, 46, 457
 - Reading Psalms : Psalm 10:12–18
 - Assistant Presider: Masato Sawada
 - Musician : Masako Iida
 - Offering Collector: Takako Matsumoto
 - Receptionist: Kotaro Hata
- ◇ Hymn Practice (after the service)
- ◇ Joint Prayer Meeting (after the service)

Scripture

「Strive to enter through the narrow gate. Let me tell you, there are many who try to enter but cannot.」

(Luke 13:24)

【Reports and personal disappearances】

- ① “Pastor Inoue's schedule for this week” :
Tuesday, the 13th, at 1:00 p.m.: “Facility Coordination Meeting”; Friday, the 16th, at 1:00 p.m.: “Omiya Daycare Center Day Staff Worship Service”
- ② 《Church Events Schedule for October》
 - October 11 (Sun) After the service “Sunday School Teachers' Meeting”
 - October 12 (Mon, Holiday) “Sunday School Day Camp”
 - October 18 (Sun) After the service “Church Cleanup” (Please bring your own lunch)
 - October 20 (Tue) 10:00 AM “Mental Health Study Group”
 - October 25 (Sun) After the service “Mission Council Meeting (Regarding the Construction of the Church Building)” (Meal provided by Group 2)
 - October 26 (Mon) 1:30 p.m. “Sharon Senri Worship Service”

③ 【Last week's meeting statistics】

day	meeting	boy	girl	adult	total	Donation
4	Church school	—	—	4	4	¥2,100
	meeting	male	female	child	total	Donation
4	Morning Service	7	12	3	22	¥12,100
6	Morning praye	4	2	—	6	
7	Morning praye	—	—	—	—	
9	Morning praye	3	3	—	6	

④ 【Donation Report for October 4】

【Monthly Contributors】 Takaaki Inoue, Yoshiko Aizawa, Masako Iida, Mariko Inoue, Asako Inoue, Seiichiro Inoue, Kiyoshi Ueno, Hideko Ueno, Hitoshi Katsumi, Masato Sawada, Mayumi Sawada, Sachie Shikano, Kishiko Hata, Marina Hata, Akemi Hishida, Sachiko Miyama, Ken'ichi Yamachiyo, Seiko Yamachiyo (Total: 120,500 yen) [Appreciation] Takaaki Inoue, Kishiko Hata, Keiko Nakamura (Total: 105,400 yen) [Construction] Takaaki Inoue, Masako Iida, Mariko Inoue, Masato Sawada, Mayumi Sawada, Kishiko Hata, Marina Hata, Sachiko Miyama (Total: 26,500 yen) [Mutual Aid] Takaaki Inoue, Mariko Inoue, Masato Sawada, Mayumi Sawada, Sachie Shikano (Total: 9,000 yen)

【Continuation of last week's sermon summary】

↘ No matter how much science advances and medicine develops, science is, after all, limited to tinkering with and repairing this physical body—the vessel of the soul—and cannot truly understand what it means to be human or elucidate the meaning of life.
There is no purpose to this world. A cicada lives underground for about ten years, but its purpose is not simply to live underground; rather, it is born to emerge from the ground, break free from its shell, obtain a new body, and fly freely through the sky. In the same way, the purpose of human life is not merely to live in this world; rather, we are born to leave this world, break free from the shell of our old physical body, obtain a superior, heavenly body, and live freely in the Kingdom of Heaven. People are born to be resurrected. If we become completely immersed in this world—that is, if we are filled with worldly things—the Spirit of God cannot enter us. Therefore, when we fast, practice self-restraint, and cast aside worldly things to lighten our burden, God's presence enters us; our souls become purified, and we increasingly come to see God. A Christian is a person in whom two things dwell within the vessel of the physical body: the human soul and the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit).

The early Church Fathers said, “God practices dwelling eternally within human beings.” The fate of those who possess the Spirit of God is entirely different from that of those who do not. We must make room for God within these earthly vessels. A disciple of Christ is one who relies on Christ, not on the things of this world. In the end, even we ourselves cannot be relied upon. We must not miscalculate. Neither we humans nor this world have the power to save anyone. “Stop relying on humans—on those who breathe only through their noses.” (Isaiah 2:22) I pray that all of you will rely on Christ and become a firm dwelling place where the Spirit of Christ can reside.