

Order of Sunday Service

Prelude : Organ music leads our soul to God. In silent prayer we prepare ourselves for the service.

Call to Worship : The service begins with a call to worship.

(rising) **Hymn** : According to the church calendar, we sing the hymn, giving thanks to God for His invitation and protection during the week.

(rising) **Response Reading** : A lay liturgist and the congregation alternately read the psalms.

The Lord's Prayer : Jesus Christ has taught us the model prayer, which we recite together.

Reading of Scriptures : A lay liturgist reads the Bible passages to be quoted in the sermon. (English Bibles can be borrowed at the ushers' desk.)

Prayer : A lay liturgist offers a representative prayer. Please say "Amen" in chorus at the end of the prayer.

(rising) **Hymn**: The hymn prepares for understanding the day's Bible passages and the sermon.

(rising) **Apostles' Creed** : We confess the Creed. The Creed expresses the exact faith of the Creed of the early Apostles. On the first Sunday of each month we confess the Creed of United Church of Christ in Japan.

Sermon : The pastor preaches, quoting and interpreting the Bible. We listen to the sermon as the message to ourselves from God.

Prayers of Intercession : The pastor prays for the intercession of Christ for the sermon from God.

(rising) **Hymn** : We sing a hymn of thanksgiving in response to God's message (sermon).

(the first Sunday of each month) **Communion** : We partake of bread and grape juice so that we can renew our commitment to the crucified Jesus Christ, the Redeemer. Only people who have been baptized are accorded this privilege, regardless of denominations.

Collection : The collection expresses our thanks to God for His gift. It is not

required to contribute, thus you should never be embarrassed if not prepared. Contributions are used for church work or management.

Thanksgiving : As a representative of the church body, the attendant offers a prayer of dedication.

Announcements : A lay liturgist announces pastoral works and activities for the coming week.

Doxology Hymn : We sing the last hymn, the Doxology, to glorify God.

Benediction : Given blessing from God and receiving new energy and encouragement, we will go out to our own posts entrusted by God in the world.