Vision of Praise

July 2025

From the editor

For this issue, we would like to share the powerful testimony "I Am Living in God's Love" by Kahoru Tsukamoto, a staff worker in New York, together with "Prayer for Peace," "Worship in Spirit and Truth" by Mitsuko & Pastor Peter from the Retreat Concert Program.

I Am Living in God's Love

Kahoru Tsukamoto

I was born in Tochigi, Japan, and moved to Tokyo when I was five years old due to my father's job transfer. At the age of 25, I came to New York alone to marry a man, who worked there. After that, we had two boys.

While I was struggling to raise my children, my husband developed glaucoma, and the doctor told him that he would go blind without surgery. As a full-time housewife, I did not know how to raise my young sons, and I cried every night over our uncertain future.

I attended junior high and senior high mission schools, but I did not know that Christ is God. However, one night, I came to the point where I had no choice but to pray, and for the first time in my life, I knelt down and prayed, "God, help me."

A few days after praying, I met someone who was holding house gathering of Kohitsuji no Mure. Pastor Peter was at the gathering, and I was baptized in January 1994. When the holy water poured over my head, I felt being filled with fluffy steam.

When I woke up the next morning, the whole house was shining with dancing lights. I was freed from anxiety, and I believed that God would protect my husband and my sons.

When I was baptized, I was given a Bible, and I

remember being very happy to realize that the Bible was not just written words, but the living Word of God. I read the Bible every day and listened to a praise tape to the point of being worn out.

About six months later, there was a retreat in New York, and I participated in it for the first time. There, Mitsuko prayed for me and said, "You must have been very lonely. But you won't be lonely anymore. God is with you. You don't have to try so hard anymore. God will be with you forever."

Ever since I was a child, I have tried to fill my loneliness with people's love. And I have been searching for true love and someone who will love me whole. Through Mitsuko's prayer, however, I realized that God is true love, and that He had called me to the retreat to let me know it.

So, on the last day of the retreat, I repeatedly said "Thank You" to God in my heart. Then, for some reason, my body became numb, even my face became numb, and finally I collapsed.

As I lay there, I felt something like a feather brushing my tongue. And, just as my tongue started to move, thoughts of the Lord overflowed from the bottom of my stomach, and I cried out to the Lord in a loud voice in words I had never heard before (in tongues).

I had no idea what had happened, but a staff worker nearby told me, "The Holy Spirit is touching you." I was touched by the Holy Spirit, knowing the love of God, and He is alive and working today. I was so happy I could jump up and down.

When I understood Christ died on the cross for my loneliness, I cried so much so that all the tears in my body came out.

The Bible says, "God is love," I am so grateful to be alive in this miracle of love. In March of this year, Kohitsuji no Mure retreat was held in Kobe. Looking at the phenomenal world, we can see that the earth is clearly on the brink of collapse. However, the Lord had prepared this retreat for such a crisis on the earth.

Pastor Peter said that this Retreat was a decisive spiritual battle to determine the survival of the earth. I felt that the worship and praise offered by the praise warriors in spirit and truth covered all things created. I believe that all boundaries are dissolved by the love of the Lord, and everything becomes one with His love, revealing the victory of the cross.

I had been suffering from severe hip pain since last year, so I could not attend the retreat. However, I believed that everything would be made new through the retreat and prayed together with the words of Revelation chapter 21 verse 5:"Behold, I make all things new."

A week after the retreat ended and before the retreat concert and worship YouTube videos were uploaded, I noticed that the pain in my hip joint that has lasted for over a year was completely healed. And in April, I was able to attend the In Person Joint Worship Service in New York for the first time in six months.

Regarding my husband's glaucoma, stress caused abnormally high eye pressure, and he was finally certified as legally blind and told that medical treatment was no longer possible.

However, after the retreat, he was so filled with joy and peace that he cooks for us and even goes to doctor appointments in Manhattan by himself. I can only thank the Lord for His mercy to be with him becoming his eyes and guardian.

As for my younger son, he was bullied in junior high

school and was strangled so hard as to have hand marks. After the retreat, he told me as if remembering that he was still traumatized deep in his heart. I had no idea that he had been so traumatized.

The video of the retreat service was uploaded to YouTube, and I saw the choir of the retreat concert was instantly wrapped in light, which then spread throughout the hall. "Truly the victory of the Lord was done!" I was so moved that I trembled. I believed that the light also poured deep into the soul of my son, and he too was deeply healed. I am so grateful for the Lord's mercy.

I wholeheartedly agree with Pastor Peter's proclaimed prayer in the retreat service: "Jesus Christ is God. God is love. Christ has won the victory."

I turned 78 on May 3rd of this year. My outer man is decaying, yet my inner man is being renewed day by day by the love of the Lord. To live with the love of God! What a jumping joy and overflowing gratitude! Every time I think of Jesus who gives me such peace of God, my heart skips a beat.

Mitsuko heard the voice, "Just in time" three times. I believe through the retreat, God has renewed the entire earth, which was on the verge of collapse.

Let me read the scripture, Revelation chapter 21 verse 5.

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." (Revelation 21:5 NKJV)

Lord, I believe. All things are made new in Christ. I love the Lord with all my heart and will continue to praise Him just as I am. Thank You, Lord, for Your resurrection!

Prayer for Peace

from the Retreat Concert Program

Mitsuko

Plan of God

This year marks the 36th anniversary of the birth of Kohitsuji no Mure.

We are a flock of praise that stands on the faith, "Everything is completed in praise." We have one main church, the Church of the Wind, in Japan and many house gatherings, small Churches of the Wind, throughout Japan and the world, where we continue to praise the Lord.

Each house gathering has a leader, who has responded willingly to the Lord to praise Him even alone. Currently, there are about 500 leaders along with nearly 100 staff working in the main church and in various regions.

The first leaders' meeting was held in 1992 with twelve people: seven leaders, three staff workers, Pastor Peter and Mitsuko.

Our wish is not for the church to grow big, but for the world to be filled with praise. The plan of God is "the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth." (Ephesians 1:10) We hope for the accomplishment of God's plan, and we desire to participate in it. We believe that the concert will advance His plan.

1. O Holy Revelation 4:8

"O Holy" is the first Revelation praise given on January 16, 2000. Since that day, new praises have been given almost every day, and now 25 years later, we have received as many as 3,000 praises.

"O Holy" now has various versions from (1) to (16), and

if we include Latin, English, Greek, Spanish and Hawaiian versions, there are 33 altogether, which account for about one fifth of the total 151 pieces of the Revelation praise.

We will sing like this:

O Holy, holy, holy ... Holy is the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come. Alleluia Alleluia ...

Before the throne there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal; and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind. The first living creature was like a lion, the second creature like a calf, the third creature had a face like that of a man, and the fourth creature was like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come." (Revelation 4:6-8 NAS)

The Bible says, "In the center and around the throne, four living creatures ... day and night do not cease to say." They are praising God, and their voices of praise must be resounding so deep that it is described as "they do not cease to cry out" in the Japanese translation. I imagine they are praising God with such intensity.

Their praise is flowing in heaven and also on earth.

Now we will sing "O Holy" multi-dimensionally.

With this praise, the new time of praise began. Let us join our hearts to the praise resonating before the throne, and sing "O Holy" to the One who sits on the throne and the Lamb. I believe "O Holy" will bring forth the peace of God in heaven and on earth.

Worship in Spirit and Truth

from the Retreat Concert Program

Peter

The ultimate goal of life is to worship God in Spirit and truth. And here the mysteries of God, the secrets of God, are unlocked one after another. In the Retreat, amazingly, the hidden mysteries of God are revealed before our eyes.

Spirit and truth at the center of worship are clear to us, Kohitsuji no Mure: the spirit of Heavenly Praise and the truth of redemption.

There are many truths in the world, such as scientific truths, political and economic truths, but the real truth transpires from Christ and aims at His glory. Filled with the life of the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, we rejoice in His cross and resurrection.

This very joy is the Heavenly Praise.

The Heavenly Praise has now become multi-dimensional praise, revealing the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. We are overwhelmed by surging waves of indescribable joy coming over us.

Hasn't the whole picture of worship in Spirit and truth been revealed?

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www.kohitsuji.com/english