



Dear family and friends: Greetings in the Lord!

At the beginning of the year 2024, a major earthquake struck Japan. Fortunately, we were far from the epicenter and experienced no impact. Thanks be to God and we are thankful for everyone's prayers and well wishes.

On the second day of the new year, we, along with our coworkers, climbed a mountain near Fukuoka City. We prayed together for the city and the land of Japan. May the earthquake awaken people to cast away idols and receive the true light. This world is full of brokenness, and only God can truly restore it. Therefore, we pray for the opportunity to boldly proclaim the Gospel, that more people may find genuine hope in the Lord.



As we look back on the end of 2023, we are grateful for God's faithful guidance and provision, thanking Him for all that has been accomplished. With a prayerful heart, we embrace the year 2024 with faith and courage.

We are thankful that our inauguration ceremony went very well on January 21st. Once again, thanks to the Christian and Mission Alliance of Canada and Canadian Chinese Alliance Churches Association. Thanks to the CCACA executive director Rev. Dr. Tommy Tsui sent encouragement through video, the associate executive director Rev. Dr. Leonard Lam came in person to deliver the message, and the Canadian Global Mission Japan team leader Doug and Carol Woon also came in person to do [the inauguration charge](#).



As we embark on the new ministry endeavors here, we are aware that there will be adjustment, challenges, and trials. In meditating God's call and our response again, God gave three verses to be our encouragement:

1. "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!' " Isaiah 6:8

Isaiah can respond to God's call with yes, because he saw:

- God's holiness and glory

- Uncleaness of himself and dwelling amongst unclean people

- God's mercy and cleansing power

Same with us too. We can say "Yes" to God's call is not based on our merits, but totally what God has done for us. So we are willing to serve HIM with a true grateful heart.

2. "For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake... But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." 2 Corinthians 4:5, 7

God seeks a broken vessel to reveal that the treasure within has tremendous power and glory. As we serve, we preach Christ. What God ultimately wants to accomplish in us is: not I, but Christ who lives in me.

3. "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

We are willing to follow His commands in obedience. Though it may be a narrow road, it is the path leading to the kingdom of heaven. We sincerely invite you to journey with us. We trust that God will be with us and guide us through the journey. No matter how difficult the challenges will be, We are not going to face them alone. (for details, click [Inauguration response](#))

Our prayers:

1. Although the inauguration has taken place, the transition has just started. May we rely on the Lord to uphold the true doctrine, proclaim it, and guard our hearts to live devoutly in Him. Let us fervently spread the Gospel and genuine love. Pray for Alan's [January sermon series](#). May God anoint him and use his sermons to equip more people.

2. We pray for the unity within the church people. May the church ministries be pleasing to God, as we jointly share the gospel in Fukuoka. We particularly remember the pioneering efforts in the new site in Sawara-ku, remembering pastor Shao, and his wife, and fellow workers. We pray for the campus fellowship, and pray for pastor Shao's health.



3. We were so joyful to see a month old girl (her Japanese name is たけだ ゆりな) who worshiped with us this week. Pray that God watches over her and each child who comes to church. May they hear the Gospel from a young age, and know the Lord Jesus, and fall in love with Him.

4. In this new environment, facing new challenges, we need to pray with vigilance. Pray clothing in humility, therefore under God's mighty hand, patiently enduring for the harvest. Much like the trees in the photo, enduring recent winds and snow, they still bear abundant fruits and blossom beautifully.



5. Pray for more brothers and sisters to carry a burden for the churches and Gospel in Japan. May God draw more of His people united with us in prayer and support of Japan mission.

This year, let us put our hope in the Lord for all things. Grant us unwavering strength and courage to persistently share the Gospel. Bestow upon us peace, for the Lord is with us.

Blessings,

Alan & Joan

"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news," Isaiah 52:7

"在山上报佳音，传平安，报好信息，传扬救恩，那人的脚踪何等佳美啊" 以赛亚书 52:7

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