

Serving the Lord in ASIA



News from the Jastrams

October 2020

“A Mighty Fortress”— Japanese-style

*Pastor Jastram is the Asia Lutheran Resource Coordinator:
Making Lutheran resources of theology and worship available in all of Asia.*

First Latin to German; Now English to Japanese

**I will speak of your testimonies before
kings, / [O Lord,]*
and shall not be / put to shame
(Ps. 119:46, Reformation Day Introit).**

With these words of the Reformation Day Introit, we join with Lutherans around the world in remembering and proclaiming how God accomplished wondrous things for his Church in the Lutheran Reformation. During the decades and centuries that followed, the printed proclamation and teaching of God’s Word in the people’s language has spread from the city of Wittenberg throughout all Germany, all of Europe, and now even to the distant corners of Asia.

My role as Asia Lutheran Resource Coordinator continues this proclamation and teaching throughout

the world in exciting ways. For example, one of my co-workers is a Japanese Lutheran pastor who lived and breathed Lutheran liturgical worship for many years during his study of Lutheran theology in the States. After he returned to Japan, he committed



himself to making that rich liturgical heritage available in the Japanese language. The challenge of translating is one thing—the same challenge that Luther himself faced during the Reformation. But the challenge of tailoring liturgical melody and notes into suitable dress for newly translated words is also the same additional challenge Luther faced. In Luther’s words: “I hate to see the **Latin** notes set

over the **German** words” (emphasis added). What he meant was that the notes and melody used for the Latin text needed tailoring to be suitable for the new syllables of the German translation.

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THANKS TO:

- You, our supporters who make this work possible, especially those who have joined during the pandemic. Special thanks!
- God, who provides network support sufficient for each day.

WE PRAISE GOD FOR:

- God's blessings of His clear teaching as witnessed in our Catechism.
- Concord in doctrine and practice as we work with various partner church bodies.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- The continuing diligent work of St. Louis Executive Director Daniel McMiller and his staff in LCMS Missionary Support, and Asia Regional Director Charles Ferry.
- Patience and strength for long-term goals for Asia Lutheran resources.

NEWSLETTERS INFO

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Want to self-subscribe? Go here to receive your own email newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/ddOobf>

To be ADDED or REMOVED from our mailing list, you can also send an email message to daniel.jastram@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.



To support the LCMS through the work of Daniel Jastram, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Sunday on October 9–15

Proper 23

Color: Green • Proper Preface: Common

INTROIT

I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;*
I will sing praises to my God while I have my | being.
I will greatly rejoice | in the LORD;*
my soul shall exult | in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of sal- | vation;*
he has covered me with the robe of | righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful | headdress,*
and as a bride adorns herself | with her jewels.
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**
I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;*
I will sing praises to my God while I have my | being.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God

△: 三位一体の神様を賛美するので、お祈願して置きます
入祭唱 (聖書詩篇後第19主日 詩篇146:1-2 イテヤ6:10) 訳: 若林學

1. さあ、主を賛め た た えーよ。
2. 私の神は、私の神に在って 高 ち あ ふ れ。
△3. 新郎と 婦子と 聖潔の か み に。
4. さあ、主を賛め た た えーよ。

1. 私の魂よ、 主を賛め た た えーよ。
2. 私の神は、私の神に在って 小 お どり して よ う こ ぶ。
△3. 栄光が あ る よ う に。
4. 私の魂よ、 主を賛め た た えーよ。

1. 私は命の在る限り、主を さ ん び す る。
2. それは主が、至宝で身を飾る花嫁の よーろーに。
3. 初め、今も ち も、
4. 私は命の在る限り、主を さ ん び す る。

INTROIT TRANSLATED FROM ENGLISH INTO JAPANESE

(continued from page 1)

Indeed, something must be done when, by way of an extreme example, the meaning of one English word “Praise” with **one syllable** requires **six syllables** in the Japanese translation “ho-me-ta-ta-e-yo.” For the English text, **one note** is sufficient for the **one syllable** “Praise.” But for the Japanese text of **six syllables** “ho-me-ta-ta-e-yo,” something must be done! The new Japanese text must have a new “musical dress” arranged “as syllabically as possible” in order to adapt a suitable number of notes to the new text. It is the text after all, that carries the theological-faith power within the beautiful dress of worshipful melody. If the text and its meaning is sacrificed to the overly-tight, old, prior language note arrangement, the liturgy in Japanese translation will lose some of its theological power. If however, the newly translated words retain the original meaning faithfully and are well dressed with beautiful notes appropriate to the new words, worship will continue to flourish in full theological power to proclaim and teach God’s mighty Word for generations to come.

Certainly, these are among the precious building blocks of the Church and her theology and worship that your partnership makes possible for Japan. To carry out this work we continue to rely in faith on your supporting contributions and prayers. They rise up in the presence of God as fragrant offerings of incense. Thank you for working together with us and praying according to our Reformation Day Collect for worship that God would continue to “Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth. . . .”

Your missionaries, Dan and Joan Jastram



Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks “Support of Asia-Jastram.”

Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/givenow/jastram.