

Prayer for World Peace Service
Greeting from Rev. Narii, President of Su no Hikari Kyodan
Su no Hikari Kyodan Headquarters Altar Room,
Atami Zuiun-kyo Sacred Grounds
July 1, 2019

Congratulations, everyone, on the Prayer for World Peace Service.

The rainy season in which we anxiously look forward to the dazzling sun at the end of the season has arrived.

Today, I offer my sincere gratitude to God and Meishu-sama who is with God, for this service that is enfolded in the deep prayers of Kyoshu-sama, who presides over all rituals and ceremonies; this service that has joined together Su no Hikari Kyodan, Izunome Group and Toho no Hikari Group and that solemnly took place.

Just a moment ago, representing all the members around the country, we heard from Ms. Akiko Hashimoto from the Hamamatsu Church of the Shinsei Region on the joy and important realizations she received through the guidance of Kyoshu-sama. I regard this report as a blessing that each and every one of us has received and together in thought, I reported this to God. Thank you very much.

Recently, with Kyoshu-sama serving as officiant, we solemnly and grandly held the service of very deep significance, the Paradise on Earth Service, in the name of Messiah.

This year, despite constantly being on the move including overseas missionary visits, I am truly grateful and I thank Kyoshu-sama most sincerely for having received his presence at the Paradise on Earth Service and to have received guidance on Meishu-sama's true salvation, along with his wife Mayumi-okusama and Kyoshu-sama's successor Masaaki-sama, for interacting with all the members with warm hearts.

Also, at that service, the "Hallelujah" chorus from *Messiah*, dearly beloved by Meishu-sama as Kyoshu-sama has been telling us for some time, was offered by the Hallelujah Chorus Group made up of 260 members from all over the country.

For myself, I felt deep emotion as if my heart was quivering from the beautiful sound, and a deep gratitude welled up from inside of me for God's nurturing of our hearts so that we are able to receive the name of Messiah that shines brilliantly within each and every one of us.

I attended this year's Paradise on Earth Service and felt that "now" is the time, there is no mistake, for myself, too, of a once in a life-time great awakening. I felt this with sincere joy and suspense.

At that service, Kyoshu-sama said,

Throughout the remainder of his life, Meishu-sama frequently wrote about and mentioned the Transition from Night to Day in his teachings – an indication that it is the most vital and fundamental element for the divine work of establishing Heaven on Earth.

What, then, does the “divine revelation of the Transition from Night to Day” mean for us – the revelation that God communicated to us through Meishu-sama?

In this way, Kyoshu-sama is asking us that question. He then said the following:

Each one of us, therefore, must decide for ourselves whether, following Meishu-sama, we want to repent, return to heaven, and receive the forgiveness of God that is embedded in the Transition from Night to Day. It is up to each one of us whether we want to realize and accept that the light of God bearing the name of Messiah exists within all humanity, all ancestors, and all things in the whole universe.

Also, in Masaaki-sama’s greeting, he spoke to us and said,

If that is the case, we really need to know what salvation truly is.

For us, the key to salvation is solely Meishu-sama. For us, Meishu-sama’s life, the path that he walked, is the guidepost to what salvation is.

He continued and boldly said,

Meishu-sama left us a message in his final years. That is “to be born anew as the Messiah.” I believe this was Meishu-sama’s true message of salvation.

I believe that for us, too, salvation means nothing else other than Meishu-sama’s final conclusion of salvation, “to be born anew as a child of God – Messiah.”

Presently, having received the permission to hold this year’s Paradise on Earth Service and through the guidance of Kyoshu-sama and of Masaaki-sama, who serves Kyoshu-sama with all his heart more than anyone else, I, myself, strongly feel the following thought, surely and steadily beginning to grow within me.

From the divine revelation of the Transition from Night to Day to the founding of our church and his announcement of the birth of the Messiah in his final years – these examples of Meishu-sama’s life, owing to Kyoshu-sama, have now become one within

me and I realized that a straight, single path that is filled with light leading to heaven exists within me.

And so, as Kyoshu-sama expressed to us at the Paradise on Earth Service, I would like to reply to God through Meishu-sama in a big voice, "Your light, God, certainly exists within me!"

And the light that exists within me is the light of God found in the name of Messiah. Embedded in the light is the immense and limitless forgiveness that goes beyond human intellect. I would like to once again impress these deep into my heart.

As presented in the video, "To Become Children of God: Kyoshu-sama's Missionary Visit to America," one of Meishu-sama's poem reads:

**When the light of the Messiah shines overseas,
The Japanese people will be stunned and stirred.**

I believe that "the Japanese people will be stunned and stirred" also refers to me, personally.

In the June edition of *Shinzenbi*, the following hymn of Kyoshu-sama was published:

**At last – at long last – I now know.
You, Lord God, are my true parent who bore me,
And my true parent who raises me.**

Owing to Kyoshu-sama, as someone who received permission "at last – at long last – [to] now know" the existence of God, our true parent and His will embedded in the name of Messiah, I would like to understand on an even deeper level the thoughts and feelings of Kyoshu-sama embedded in this hymn.

And the path to awaken to the truth of this name of Messiah is the path directly connecting to Meishu-sama's construction of Heaven on Earth and salvation of humanity. *This*, is what I would like to impress into the center of my heart on this day of the Prayer for World Peace Service.

On a different note, from this month forward, we have received permission and it has been decided for all our services to take place in combination with Su no Hikari Kyodan, Izunome Group and Toho no Hikari Group.

A year before last in February, without yielding to the pressure of those of the illegitimate and arrogant Board of Executive Directors of Sekai Kyusei Kyo umbrella corporation, Kyoshu-sama kept with the spirit of seeking Meishu-sama's true salvation and bravely stood up all by himself.

After that, last May, representing all of you from Izunome Group, President Shirasawa and Vice President Kawatani, regardless of what happened, strongly made

a clear declaration of their stance to walk always one heart with Kyoshu-sama even if everything is lost. A new start was accomplished for Su no Hikari Kyodan Izunome Group.

And all of you from Toho no Hikari Group, without giving in to various pressures and in seeking Kyoshu-sama's guidance, you have stood up as Su no Hikari Kyodan Toho no Hikari Group.

Last year on January 30, even though the illegitimate Board of Executive Directors one-sidedly claimed that they took away Su no Hikari Kyodan's corporation member status from the Sekai Kyusei Kyo umbrella corporation, the reason I was able to stick to the church guideline and go forward with "Always one heart with Kyoshu-sama" was due to the great courage and invaluable lessons I received through coming in contact with all of your deep sincerity and your faiths full of passion. For this, I express my sincere gratitude.

For us at Su no Hikari Kyodan to walk together this past year with all of you from Izunome Group and Toho no Hikari Group, I reiterate my gratitude for what has become a truly noble path. My sincere thanks to all of you.

At the same time, in this past year's journey for us at Su no Hikari Kyodan, Izunome Group and Toho no Hikari Group under the leadership of Kyoshu-sama, I could not but feel the existence of God who is guiding us at all times.

Last year at the Grand Autumn Service, Kyoshu-sama said it clearly:

God, who is with Meishu-sama, has already given birth to and established His true church within us – World Church of Messiah within us.

Precisely because within each and every one of us, Meishu-sama, together with the spirit with which he founded World Church of Messiah, clearly exists, we of Su no Hikari Kyodan, Izunome Group, and Toho no Hikari Group are now being used as if we are all one body.

I strongly believe that Meishu-sama is already using us as one church.

In the name of Messiah, which is one with Meishu-sama, together with Su no Hikari Kyodan, Izunome Group, and Toho no Hikari Group and under the leadership of Kyoshu-sama, I would like to further be united as one church and bringing together the hearts of those all around the world who share the same spirit, I would like to wholeheartedly serve in God's divine work, the work of accomplishing the salvation of all of humanity.

Here, I would like to report and give thanks to all of you.

As all of you already know, continuing on from last year, we are once again making efforts in a signature-collecting campaign directed at the Agency for Cultural Affairs, resolutely petitioning against changes in the Sekai Kyusei Kyo bylaws that

would effectively remove Fourth Spiritual Leader (Kyoshu) Yoichi Okada and Su no Hikari Kyodan from Sekai Kyusei Kyo umbrella corporation.

With the great sincerity of members all around the world who walk the path always one heart with Kyoshu-sama, this time's signatures have been arriving at our headquarters one after another. It is truly appreciated and I offer my sincere thanks to all of you.

In order to maintain our resolute stance against changes to the bylaws that would remove Kyoshu-sama and Su no Hikari Kyodan from Sekai Kyusei Kyo umbrella corporation, which would in turn dismantle the framework and order of Sekai Kyusei Kyo, and disrespects the sacred position of Kyoshu-sama, who serves Meishu-sama, and his acts of approval, we would like to greatly exceed the number of last year's signatures submitted to the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Currently, we have easily surpassed the 40,000 signatures collected last year and have received more than double that with the force of over 100,000 signatures (The final count at the end of the campaign was 109,734).

To members all around the world, I please ask that we may receive your further understanding and combined efforts.

And finally, starting from the 3rd of this month, Kyoshu-sama will be making a missionary visit to Brazil, the first in the world to establish World Church of Messiah (Igreja Mundial do Messias). President Shirasawa and I will also be accompanying him.

I believe that Kyoshu-sama will be representing, not only we who are attending but also members all over the world, with the thought of being together with all of you and take part in this missionary visit.

And so for all of you who are here in Japan, I would like for us to treasure this thought that we are participating together with Kyoshu-sama on his visit to Brazil.

Also, next month, on August 3rd and 4th, the Grand Ancestor Service will take place, in the name of Messiah, under the presence of Kyoshu-sama.

The Grand Ancestor Service is a service in which we receive the great nurture for "all humanity to be born anew as the Messiah," together with all of our ancestors and together with the people of the world.

In the name of Messiah, which is one with Meishu-sama, let us return to the heaven within us together with our ancestors, and let us pray at this Grand Ancestor Service praising from our hearts, God, who forgives, saves and revives everything.

I pray that this month, all of you may be enveloped in great blessings and peace of mind with your efforts in divine work.

Thank you.