

## Reflections on the Spoken Word of God

### Kyushu District

#### Biblical Words that Have Supported me

“When I lie down, I go to sleep in peace; you alone, O Lord,  
keep me perfectly safe. (Ps.4:9)



Akiko Nishiyama (Karatsu)

I am but a small and weak being. In past sickness or in health, I have confessed my trust and gratitude through the above words. The peace of the Lord embraced me throughout the time of my corneal graft surgery;

from the emergent transport to hospital up to the long recuperating days --- I remember it clearly. Every night when I go to bed, I appreciate the blessing of the Lord and feel a happiest reflection on the above words. On Easter morning in hospital, I was filled with gratitude for what our loving Lord had done for me and in tears I prayed. The words are translated differently by versions of the Bible but they convey the providence of the Lord and his presence nearby to whomever come upon them.

#### Churches in Transition

##### —Saga Church—

I am sure that many of you know that Saga Church is the birthplace of Japan Lutheran Church. Let me briefly introduce the history of Saga Church which commemorates her 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The first service was offered by Rev. Yamauchi together with two missionaries: Revs. Scherer and Peery, on Easter, 1893. In 1952, the current chapel was dedicated, which had its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year. Women's group was formed owing to the efforts of successive pastors and Ms.

Maya Winter after WWII. The group, Rokou-kai were active for a long time. But partly due to the decline of female members, it is now inactive. Talking about myself, I moved to Saga about 15 years ago. It was here that I began to attend church. I was a stranger in both respects, but the sisters of the church greatly supported me. I miss seeing the past activities because we are only a small congregation now. I hope that we will not extinguish the light of faith. Please remember us in your prayers. (Tomoko Nakamura)

