

So often we open up our Bible and the words blur past us. When our heart is hurting or our body is in pain, we can quickly skip over certain passages, such as the words for the 23rd Psalm, because we think we know them already and that we won't get anything fresh out of them today. It's time like this looking at another translation can help us slow down and look and hear the message from a new perspective.

Recently I was at the funeral of the mother of a dear and long time friend. They happen to be Japanese Canadian and the family is affiliated with the Japanese United Church in Hamilton. This version of Psalm 23 was read at the funeral. I would like to share that with you today.

I hope you are as blessed by this translation as we were.

Japanese Bible Translation of Psalm 23

The Lord is my Pace-setter, I shall not rush;
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals,
He provides me with images of stillness, which restore my
serenity,
He leads me in the ways of efficiency through calmness of mind,
And His guidance is peace.
Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day,
I will not fret, for His presence is here,
His timelessness, His all-importance, will keep me in balance,
He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity,
By anointing my mind with His oils of tranquility.
My cup of joyous energy overflows,
Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours,
For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord and dwell in His house for
ever

Amen