

## A Condolence Message

It is with great sadness that we received the news that Rev. Tsutomu Shoji has passed away. He has always been an inspiration to us, as he lived his commitment for peace, justice and unity by working tirelessly for the ecumenical movement in Japan and beyond.

Especially we remember his sacrificial contribution and commitment to human rights, democracy and peace-building in Korea during his term as General Secretary of the NCC-Japan from 1978 to 1985. Furthermore, we cannot forget his struggles and solidarity with the Korean people in Japan who suffer from the hatred and discrimination.

Even as we mourn his loss, we are grateful to God for the many ways in which Rev. Shoji, through his leadership and witness, enriched the ecumenical movement in Japan, Korea, Asia and beyond.

May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory, and may his memory be eternal.

May the peace of God be with you and the bereaved family during this period of bereavement.

"If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord." (Romans 14:8)

In the Grace of Christ,

Rev. Lee Hong-jung

General Secretary

National Council of Churches in Korea