

# Benefit Concert for Japan

Saturday, April 2, 2011, 2 pm  
Lakewood Congregational Church  
1375 W. Clifton Blvd.,  
Lakewood, Ohio

Please join us in a violin recital given by the Cleveland Orchestra's Sae Shiragami and Takako Masame with pianist Mayumi Kikuchi.

The program will include works by J.S. Bach, F. Kreisler, and P. Tchaikovsky.

All free-will offerings will be given as charity to Japan Platform, a coalition of 32 organizations providing humanitarian aid to the victims of the March 11<sup>th</sup> earthquake and tsunami in Japan. With Church World Service they will provide emergency relief to some 25,000 people now living at 100 evacuation sites in northeastern Japan, focusing on areas where the basics of food, water, sanitation, electricity, and fuel are needed.

Feeling helpless as I listen to the voices of my Japanese family and friends, I was moved to do something for them and in their names.

*"There were only two aftershocks today, but my body is swaying all the time."*

*"There are no bags of rice at the store."*

*"A strong wind was blowing from the direction of the nuclear plant, so I closed all the windows and stayed in."*

*"My son is working at Reactor #1 of the plant. I'm prepared for the worst."*

These are but a few examples of the stories of those affected by the earthquake, tsunami, and ongoing nuclear disasters in Japan.

I'm not a doctor, a scientist, or an architect with a clear path to volunteer in the recovery effort. I am merely a violinist. As such, it is my hope that this musical gathering will serve to bring some comfort to the victims in Japan and all of us.

-Sae Shiragami

This benefit concert is made possible by a number of nonprofit organizations working together. All donations to the United Church of Christ (UCC) go to Japan Platform.

For more info, contact  
(Joan) Chiaki Ishibashi at 216-333-2722.