

Kowloon Union Church

*“Where all are one”*

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Secretary: Heddy Ha

Social Ministry Worker: Timothy Chan

Minister: Maggie Mathieson

Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Kowloon Union Church

WHERE ALL ARE ONE

## **Second Sunday after Christmas 3 January 2021 at 10:30 a.m.**

(\*: Congregation Stands)

### **APPROACH**

**SONG OF PREPARATION** “Lead Me Lord”

– Music & Lyrics Samuel Wesley

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** “Gather Us In”

– Music and Lyrics Marty Haugen

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL RESPOND** “Kyrie Eleison” (Lord Have Mercy)

– Music: Russian Orthodox Chant

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.**

\* **HYMN** “See In Yonder Manger Low”

– Music : Goss ; Lyrics Edward Caswall

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet.

**A light to our path.**

Jeremiah 31:7–14 (O.T.)

Ephesians 1:3–14 (N.T.)

John 1:10–18 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your word live in us.

**And bear much fruit for Your glory.**

**SERMON** “A New Beginning”

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

– Written by Andreas Wagner

### **THE OFFERTORY**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**ALL RESPOND** “Ubi Caritas et Amor” – Taize Community

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

### **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **THE PEACE**

**HYMN** “Put Peace Into Each Other’s Hands”

– Music: Trad ; Lyrics : Fred Kaan

#### **INVITATION**

#### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

#### **SANCTUS**

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT**

#### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

\* **HYMN** “Christ Be Our Light ” – Music and Lyrics : Bernadette Farrell

\* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

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### **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

#### **For the World and Hong Kong**

- In Yemen, an attack apparently targeting a plane carrying the newly formed government has killed at least 26 people and injured more than 50 others in the city of Aden. We pray for the people experiencing this tragedy even as the country is still embroiled in civil war. May the Lord sow seeds of love and peace where there is hatred and violence. Grant wisdom to those with good hearts and the will to resolve the conflict and protect those working on the ground to end the humanitarian crisis.
- As the UK officially severs its ties with the European Union, we lift up all the unknowns and uncertainty that result from this new reality—politically, socially, and culturally. Changes may be inevitable, but may God guide both the British and Europeans in navigating them, especially as they may arrive abruptly for many people.
- Thousands of people in Nepal have gone on the streets to protest the prime minister’s decision to dissolve Parliament; and in a year marked by protests around the world, we are worried about what might come next. Yet we thank you for rising up activists with the courage and determination to fight for a better society. We also pray that those in power will use it wisely and listen to the voices of the powerless.

- After several months of anxious waiting and tireless advocacy, the 12 Hongkongers detained in mainland China and accused of illegally crossing borders have finally been sentenced, albeit in a secretive trial in a Shenzhen court. We pray for the physical, emotional, and spiritual healing of the two youngest people in the group who have returned to Hong Kong. We remember the other 10 who were sentenced to between seven months and three years in jail. May God give them strength. May God's love comfort them and their heartbroken family members as they have been kept apart. May God's justice prevail.

### **For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine.
- We give thanks for those who unceasingly work for peace and reconciliation in the Holy Land; the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel; those who continue to welcome the multitudes of refugees in their lands.
- We pray for ending the violence racking this region, that the people might live together in peace, security, and respect for each other; for those who have grown weary and disillusioned in searching for solutions; for an end to religious differences being exploited to perpetuate conflict and the further displacement of people; for political leaders who will courageously bring about justice and reconciliation for the sake of all.

### **For the Congregation**

- Pray for our ministers and church leaders in their service to God through KUC. May the Holy Spirit unite them as one in Christ to serve with wisdom. In the new year, we pray for spiritual growth for all members and the whole congregation. May the community of KUC continue to witness Christ to bring light, hope, and love to the world of darkness. We pray also for a stronger community in Christ. We pray that more members and friends are willing to participate in the various ministries of the church and that together we serve God with joy.
- Pray for the healing of Victoria's left ankle, for Jenny who has been admitted to Queen Elizabeth Hospital after suffering a stroke, and Siriya. We continue to uphold in our hearts the strengthening of Paul Wong's leg, for the good health of Peter Chan, Sandy Hung, Feby, Emad, and Nasr.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Welcome**

Welcome to all who join the Sunday worship through Facebook livestreaming today, the first Sunday in 2021. We wish you a blessed new year filled with God's love and peace. Please stay safe and healthy. Be in touch with our ministers and church leaders if you need prayers and any support from us. We pray that we will meet again soon by God's grace.

### **Welcome Carl Cathedral**

Carl has been taking a theological course at Fuller Theological Seminary. We are glad to have Carl taking his apprenticeship (internship) at KUC for nine months beginning in January. May Carl have a fruitful and joyful learning and serving experience.

### **KUC Mission Support for 2021**

The Mission, Outreach and Ecumenism Committee, or MOE, is seeking suggestions from the congregation regarding organizations that the church should support this year with its mission funds. Please pass any suggestions that you have to members of the MOE Committee or the church pastors. The deadline for receiving proposals is 28 Feb.

### **Donation or Offering to the Church**

If you wish to make a donation or offering to the church and support our ministries, you may send us a cheque payable to “Kowloon Union Church” and mail it to 4 Jordan Road, KLN, or you can make a direct deposit to our church account: HSBC Account 018-1-080268. Please mail or e-mail (kuc@kuc.hk) the bank receipt to us for our records. For more options, please visit the church website at <https://kuc.hk/giving>.

### **Flowers in Worship**

You are welcome to make a donation for the flowers for the worship services. The minimum amount for each week is \$100. Donations may be given to Pastor Maggie Mathieson or Pastor Phyllis.

### **Become a Member of Kowloon Union Church**

New members can be received by transfer, bond of union, restatement of faith, or baptism. Interested in talking about this further? Have a word with our ministers Phyllis Wong or Maggie Mathieson.

### **Preparation for Baptism**

For any friend who would like to be prepared for baptism in the church, please be in touch with Pastor Phyllis or Pastor Maggie.

	<b>TODAY</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Phyllis Wong
Pianist:	Lucy Lim
Lector:	Amber Tong
Intercessory Prayers:	Rey Asis
I.T. Team:	Carl Cathedral , Bervinder Kaur