

Kowloon Union Church
"Where all are one"
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CCLI Licence 5075510
Secretary: Candy Lam
Minister: Maggie Mathieson
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany
5 February 2023
Communion Sunday
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG "Be Still and Know" – Composer: Marty Parks

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** "Praise to the Lord" – Music: Pub. Domain; Lyrics: J Neander

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "Kyrie Eleison" (Lord, have mercy) Trad. Orthodox Chant

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

***HYMN** "Seek Ye First" – Composer: Karen Lafferty

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 112: 1 - 9 (O.T.)

1 Corinthians 2: 1 – 12 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

SERMON

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas" – Music: Taizé Community

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE PEACE

HYMN “You Are Holy, You Are Whole”

– Composer: Per Harling

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

* **HYMN** “God in Your Grace” – Music: Per Harling Lyrics: Shirley E Murray

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

God does nothing except in response to believing prayer. – John Wesley

Please remember as you pray. . .

- Ukraine's defence minister has said Russia is preparing a major new offensive in the days leading up to the first anniversary of the initial invasion last year. It is known that Russia has amassed thousands of troops awaiting deployment. Such a move would be catastrophic for both sides; may this not be so! Let us continue to pray for peace in that land.
- Last week, half a million workers went on strike in Britain, calling for higher wages in the largest walkout over a decade, closing schools and severely disrupting transport. As the cost of living increases in the country, no increment has been made in most workers' wages, and families are struggling to survive. We pray for a solution and that people's work will be appreciated and recognised.
- Pope Francis continues his tour of the Democratic Republic of Congo, sharing with the masses words of Hope and Promise.
- We pray in support of those pro-democracy activists in Myanmar who are now engaging in a 'Silent Strike' to mark two years since a military coup removed Aung San Suu Kyi from power. People are urged to stay home, and businesses are asked not to open their doors. Meanwhile, the state of emergency has been extended for six months. May the Lord sustain the people in this peaceful action of solidarity.
- United States Forces are seeking to strike up a deal with the people of the Philippines to open up access to several military bases in the country. The bases in question would offer the US forces vantage points covering China and Taiwan. The US forces would not occupy these sites but would have access when

and if needed. We pray for all discussions on this matter that those who have been deeply affected by the history between the two countries may find the support and comfort they need.

- Authorities in Western Australia are well relieved after a tiny radioactive capsule, which a mining company used as a density gauge, was found after being reported lost. The loss triggered a massive search along an 870-mile route across the state. Though the object is only 8 mm long, it could cause considerable damage if tampered with. We thank God this was not the case; the capsule was located and appropriately secured.
- In an attempt to save the iconic Star Ferry, the Executive Council has approved an increase in the fares by more than 50 per cent. As a result, senior citizens will no longer enjoy free ferry rides but must pay the subsidised concessionary rate of HK\$2. We hope this new rate will enable those who use the service to continue to do so and also to save the company from closing.
- We continue our prayers of thanks as we see the number of new Covid cases drop. Praying always that the Lord will strengthen those who are sick and those who care for them.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Andorra, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino, Spain and Vatican City.

We are **thankful** for:

- the rich historical legacies and distinctive cultures in these countries
- the faithful witness of the churches in the midst of empire building and colonization
- the many and diverse waves of migrants who have come to these lands
- the hospitality that long has been shown to those arriving on their shores.

We **pray** for:

- the preservation of the fragile environments and shorelines in this region
- an end to economic and political turmoil
- stable governments that end corruption and serve the common good
- policies that relieve disparities between those who are rich and poor.

For the Congregation

- We pray for the mothers of Alex Melwani, Helen Lee, Florence Tse and Chris Wong, for Mrs Samuel, Anjenette, Habib, Hend, Jeanette Lee, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Chui, Ramon Bultron, Lyn, Lucy Lim, Mercy, Stephanie, Joy Babasa, Poulis Zaki, Saafa, Selvia and Stella Chan. We remember those caring for loved ones at home and in care facilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Welcome to all who join our worship in church and through Facebook live streaming.

This Week's Programs in Church

- Tuesday - Peace Making Fellowship in Number 2 Jordan Road at 10:00 am
 Wednesday - Harambe at 6 pm
 Lectio Divina at 8 pm online
 Thursday - Liturgy Preparation workshop at 7:30 pm here in Church
 Friday - Bible Study – No Bible Study this week
 Junior Choir at 5:00 pm

Lectio Divina

Join us for our monthly practice of Lectio Divina on Wednesday, 8 Feb from 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm. We'll be meeting online via Zoom. Anyone is welcome to join! Visit kuc.hk/lectio for more information.



Liturgy Preparation Workshop – 9 & 16 February-

Do you feel called to lead worship in church? If so, why not join this liturgy preparation workshop led by Pastor Maggie? We have a few seats left for these sessions, so please register here <https://forms.gle/k4YT2ELX7tzFWbaS9>



Christian Education Workshop – 11 February

The 2nd workshop on Sexuality and Spirituality will be held on Sat, 11 Feb, at 7 pm in the Upper Fellowship Hall. This session will be focused on sexuality in the Bible, exploring the expression of physical love in the Old and New Testaments and its connection to Jewish and Christian spirituality and ethics. All are invited to attend.



MOE Movie Sunday – 26 February

Date for your diary: Movie Sunday, 26 February, after the morning worship. A video documentary of theologian Henri Nouwen will be screened. Time: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

| | TODAY 5 February | NEXT WEEK 12 February |
|------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Liturgist: | Maggie Mathieson | Phyllis Wong |
| Preacher: | Phyllis Wong | Maggie Mathieson |
| Pianist: | Lucy Lim | Jessica Tso |
| Lector: | Journaliz Badon | Ben Baxter |
| Intercessory Prayers: | Emmanuel Adesina | Kenneth Ku |
| Family Talk: | Chan Beng Seng | Tong Chong Sze |
| Greeter: | Paul Wong Amber Tong | Edwina Antonio David Onwufuju |
| Offering Rota: | Kulwinder Kaur Caden Lam | Chris Law Kevin Ng |
| Counting Rota | Paul Wong Rey Asis | Edwina Antonio Hope Antone |
| Sunday School Leaders: | Jailyn Tomitis, Mary Adesina | Jailyn Tomitis, Mary Adesina |
| I.T. Team: | Carl Cathedral, Venus Cheng | Lo Yuk Fai, Venus Cheng |

Freewill offering last week : HK\$20,767.6-
 Promissory offering last week: HK\$5,700-