

Kowloon Union Church
"Where all are one"
4 Jordan Road, Kowloon
Tel. 2367-2585 • kuc@kuc.hk • www.kuc.hk
CCLI Licence 5075510
Secretary: Candy Lam
Minister: Maggie Mathieson
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany
19 February 2023
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(* : Congregation stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG "Bless the Lord, My Soul" – Music: Taizé Community

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

*** HYMN** "How Great Thou Art" – Music: Folk; Lyrics: CG Boberg, Trans. S. Hine

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** "Be Still for the Presence of the Lord" – Composer: D. Evans

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 99 (O.T.)

Matthew 17: 1 – 9 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

*** HYMN** "You Are Near" – Composer: D. Schutte

FAMILY TALK

SERMON

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas" – Music: Taizé Community

OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* **HYMN** “Shine Jesus Shine”

– Composer: G. Kendrick

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

Please remember as you pray. . .

- We thank God that the first convoy of humanitarian aid has entered through a reopened border crossing into rebel-held north-western Syria, an area devastated by last week's earthquake. On Monday, the United Nations and the Syrian government agreed that three such crossings would be opened, initially for three months. Tragically, the number of fatalities has risen to 41,000. We pray more help can be found and sent to help all involved.
- The Dutch appeal court has ruled that military police can no longer use race or ethnicity as reasons for identity checks at the border. This is because the military police have been found guilty of ethnic profiling. Using race “without objective and reasonable justification” is a severe form of discrimination. This move is a positive one not only for those in the Netherlands. Let us hope other countries too will follow suit and develop similar approaches.
- Israel has passed a law to revoke the citizenship of Israeli Arabs convicted of terrorism and who get financial aid from the Palestinian Authority. This law could also see Palestinian residents of occupied East Jerusalem stripped of their residency rights and their homes and land taken from them. This new law would affect hundreds presently in Israeli prisons; they could ultimately be deported to Palestinian-controlled areas of the occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip. May the Lord protect and provide for all families in this case, as this law affects the one imprisoned and the extended family.
- The peace deal has been signed by the Ethiopian government and the forces in Northern Tigray for over three months now. Still, there are many reports of attacks on civilians – particularly sexual assaults on women that continue to happen. Peace must be for all members of society; may those who commit these crimes be brought to justice and provisions made for those who have been assaulted.
- Russian civilians, journalists, students, doctors, and farmers are standing trial and facing jail time for sharing news concerning the conflict between Ukraine and Russia on social media and other platforms. They have been accused or found guilty of spreading "fake news" under laws that stifle dissent about the Ukraine invasion. We pray that those who have and are facing such persecution will be strengthened to withstand and endure the sentencing.
- At least 200 people lined up outside the Court building in Hong Kong early on Monday morning as the trial of the city's largest security case against 47 democrats finally began. Some of the defendants have been detained for almost two years.

Only 39 seats were allocated to the public in the courtroom, and external rooms have been allocated to receive live streaming of the proceedings. We pray for a just and fair trial for all.

- We continue our prayers of thanks as we see the number of new Covid cases drop. May the Lord continually strengthen those 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 France, Germany and Monaco.

We are **thankful** for:

- the rich historic and cultural legacies that have come to the world from these lands.
- Franco-German friendship, reconciliation and cooperation that has emerged since the hostilities of the second world war.
- how churches and governments in France and Germany have welcomed new immigrants.
- the generosity in supporting ecumenical, interfaith and development work in the world.

We **pray** for:

- overcoming fears and suspicions that still remain from twentieth-century atrocities and more recent terrorist attacks.
- churches and governments to effectively counter anti-immigrant populist sentiments in these countries so that they truly will become more multi-ethnic.
- economic decisions that are accountable to those who are most vulnerable and not only to those making a profit.
- election of political leaders who will further the common good not only for their country but for the sake of Europe and the rest of the world.

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 Jackie Tse. We remember those caring for loved ones at home and in care facilities.
- We remember the Wong family today as they ready themselves to prepare for the wedding of Christine and Martin. Christine is the daughter of Paul and Amy Wong. May God bless the young couple as they start their new life together.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Welcome to all who join our worship in church and through Facebook live streaming. Thank you, Katie Ho, for your first English sermon. May God continue to bless you in your studies and service.

This Week's Programs in Church

- Sunday - Prayer Writers Workshop at 1:30 pm
Tuesday - Peace Making Fellowship in Number 2 Jordan Road at 10:00 am
Wednesday - Harambe Choir at 6 pm
Ash Wednesday Worship at 7:30 pm

Friday - Bible Study – Online at 10:30 am
Junior Choir at 5:00 pm

Prayer Writers Workshop – Today

Would you like to learn and share some tips in writing and structuring prayers to be used in worship? If so, why not join us in our Prayer Writers Workshop led by Pastor Maggie, today from 1:30– 3:00 pm, here in KUC.

Please register here: <https://forms.gle/3zZvHjkXkXNXC3sB8>



Lenten Devotions for 2023

As we near the season of Lent, we suggest a number of Lenten devotional sites that you may consider using during this period. In addition, some hard copies of devotionals are available, which you are welcome to take should you prefer a non-digital version.

For a digital version of Kate Bowler’s “ The Lent We Actually Have”, a free Lenten guide, please go to this Email address, register and download the PDF.

hello@katebowler.com via gmail.mcsv.net

If you are unsure of this process, please speak to Pastor Maggie, who will send you the pdf directly.



Click on the QR code to register to receive these daily devotionals form the Church of England. The devotional is called, ‘Dust and Glory’. When you register this will be sent to your inbox daily .
<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/dust-and-glory>

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 19 February	NEXT WEEK 26 February
Liturgist:	Rey Asis	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Katie Ho	Phyllis Wong
Pianist:	Joshua Pang	Eva Kwan
Lector:	John Mok Lamme	David Onwufuju
Intercessory Prayers:	Peter Youngblood	Gabi Baumgartner
Family Talk:	Maggie Mathieson	Lydia Catedral
Greeter:	Kevin Ng Journaliz Badon	Peter Youngblood Rachel Wangari
Offering Rota:	Daddy Samjhana Thapa	Susan Babasa Emmanuel Adesina
Counting Rota	Doris Lee Peter Youngblood	Paul Wong Ramon Bultron
Sunday School Leaders:	Jailyn Tomitis, Mary Adesina	Jailyn Tomitis, Mary Adesina
I.T. Team:	Jen Pang, Tong Chong Sze	Tong Chong Sze

Freewill offering last week : HK\$2,535-
Promissory offering last week: HK\$900-