

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



**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**19 March 2023**  
**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

(\* : Congregation stands)

### **APPROACH**

**PREPARATION SONG** "Open My Eyes that I May See" Composer: Clara Scott

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

– Music: Folk Melody; Lyrics: Rusty Edwards

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL RESPOND** "Change Our Heart O God"

– Composer: Ed Espinosa

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

Lord, open our lips.

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

\* **HYMN** "The Lord's My Shepherd"

– Composer: Stuart Townend

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

John 9: 1-41 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

\* **HYMN** "As the Deer"

– Composer: Martin Nystrom

**FAMILY TALK**

**SERMON** "No Condemnation in God"

\* **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** "And Can It Be"

– Music: Sagina; Lyrics: Charles Wesley

\* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

## **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

### **Please remember as you pray. . .**

- Several regions of the world are currently dealing with rain and flooding on a catastrophic scale—California, Malawi, Turkey, and Nepal, to name just a few. The infrastructure of several of these places is non-existent after other devastating natural disasters and the effects of global warming. As a result, hundreds have lost their lives and livelihoods. Crops have been ruined and destroyed. Lord, help us help them in ways that will make a difference in their lives, comfort those who mourn and strengthen those left behind.
- For almost two decades, the guns of war have sounded in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the conflict has worsened in recent months. More than 100 armed groups are fighting government and regional troops. It is estimated that 5.6 million people have been forced to flee their homes. The number of fatalities is thought to be over 6 million. We pray for an end to the brutal war and a peaceful solution found to end this conflict once and for all.
- Progress and developments in many world areas do not fully consider the land's indigenous people. Many are cheated out of their homes and lands and forced to leave their sacred spaces. Cultures and traditions are lost under the might of the bulldozer and influenced by greed and power. May the voice of those 'lost' be heard and found and balance introduced.
- As the shadow of COVID lessens in our city – the number of community testing centres stands at five, and all others will be closed down. After deep cleaning and disinfection, the suspended centres will revert to their original community and recreational purposes as soon as possible. In addition, the airport centre will remain operational. We thank God for this moving forward in Hong Kong; let us continue to strive to be mindful of all who are around us.
- All five franchised bus companies in Hong Kong plan to increase fare tariffs. However, unlike rail firms, there is no objective fare adjustment mechanism for buses guided by inflation or the wage index for Hong Kong. This said, each company presents a different proposal. Therefore, a system needs to be developed and accepted by all that will also consider the needs of the people using the services.

## **For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

- We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

### **We are thankful for:**

- preservation of the distinct cultural practices, literature, music and natural resources in these countries.
- the faithful witness of Christians during times of persecution and for those who survived times of occupation.
- how these countries peacefully became independent after 1918 and 1991.
- new-found freedoms that the people here have experienced, that they might be used for the good of all.

### **We pray for:**

- peaceful relations with Russia and among all the ethnic groups in these lands.
- the healing of old wounds remaining from 20th century struggles.
- just economic development that benefits all citizens in these countries and for those who live and work abroad.
- governmental leaders and all people, that they might together strive for justice, peace and the well-being of all.

## **For the Congregation**

- We pray for Alex Melwani, Sunita Suna and Helen Lee's mothers, Mrs Samuel, Anjenette, Hend, Jeanette Lee, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Chui, Ana and Ramon Bultron, Lucy Lim, Mercy, Joy Babasa, Lilly Yuen and Jackie Tse. 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. We thank Aimé Girimana for sharing the Word this morning.

### **This Week's Programs in Church**

Tuesday - Peace Making Fellowship at 10 am in Number 2 Jordan Road  
Wednesday - Harambe at 6 pm  
Friday - Bible Study – Online at 10:30 am  
Junior Choir at 5:00 pm

### **Dates For Your Diary**

#### **Group Study on Henri Nouwen's "Our Greatest Gift"**

Date: 3 & 10 April 2023

Time: 7:30 – 9:30 pm

Venue: KUCSpace, number 2 Jordan Road

No. of participants: maximum – 15

Inspired by the movie on Henri Nouwen, we will go deeper in learning from his teachings by reading his book "Our Greatest Gift: A Meditation On Dying and Caring".

It is a short reflection on dying and living well.

We will reflect on our attitudes towards death and the meaning of Jesus' death to us, hence exploring the meaning of living well in this life. Please scan the QR code for registration, and feel free to contact Katie Ho at 6299 7051 if you have any questions.



## **KUC will be 100 years old!**

We are happy to announce the 100th anniversary of Kowloon Union Church in 2024. The theme of KUC's centenary is:

### **Grounded in God, Growing in Faith, Giving in Community**

To mark this momentous event in our church's life, we will hold a series of activities, including publishing a centenary book that will present the many highlights and events that make up KUC, a thanksgiving service, celebration and banquet.

While all these events are scheduled for next year, we are already excited to hold several activities this year. One of them is the logo-design competition, in which we want the children of KUC to take part. There will be a workshop on drawing and design for them this coming April 2023, and a deadline for submission of the logo design on 30 April 2023.

KUC's 100<sup>th</sup>-year celebration is for us all. We encourage everyone to volunteer – whether it is in planning new activities, taking part in them, sharing resources or information, or simply offering your hand to help. We are all important parts of the KUC.

Please take a look at the main notice board, where you will find the list of the different activities and sign up for those that appeal to you.

If you want to know more about these activities, why not chat with one of the working group members? They are Rey Asis, Edwina Antonio, Ramon Bultron, Doris Lee or one of the ministers.

	<b>TODAY 19 March</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK 26 March</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Aimé Girimana	Peter Youngblood
Pianist:	Jessica Tso	Yu Wing Yan
Lector:	Paul Wong	Favor Mmaduabuchukwu
Intercessory Prayers:	Tory Caplan	Ramon Bultron
Family Talk:	Maggie Mathieson	TBC
Greeter:	Kevin Ng Blessing Loukeba	Katie Ho David Onwufuju
Offering Rota:	Caden Lam Kulwinder Kaur	Daddy Journaliz Badon
Counting Rota	Doris Lee Sunita Suna	Chan Beng Seng Ramon Bultron
Sunday School Leaders:	Jailyn Tomitis Mary Adesina	Jailyn Tomitis Mary Adesina
I.T. Team:	Venus Cheng	Carl Cathedral
Freewill offering last week : HK\$3,507.10 - Promissory offering last week: HK\$1,300 -		