

Kowloon Union Church
"Where all are one"
4 Jordan Road, Kowloon
Tel. 2367-2585 • kuc@kuc.hk • www.kuc.hk
Secretary: Heddy Ha
Ministry Worker: Timothy Chan
Minister: Maggie Mathieson
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Fourth Sunday in Lent

22 March 2020

Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(* : Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

SONG OF PREPARATION "Holy Spirit Come"

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** "Praise The One Who Breaks The Darkness"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "God Is Forgiveness"

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** "God of Day And God Of Darkness"

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 23 (O.T.)

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

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

UCCP-HK CHOIR "O Christ, The Healer"

SERMON "Encountering Our Blindness"

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas"

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SIGN OF PEACE

* **HYMN** “Come And Bring Light (Open Our Eyes)”

* **COMMISSION**

*** **

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

“Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again.” Pope Francis

For the World, China, and Hong Kong

- As of 20 March, the coronavirus (COVID-19) has now infected more than 230,000 people and killed more than 10,000 globally, with over 83,000 recovered cases. Countries around the world are closing borders and putting citizens under lockdown in a bid to contain the rapid spread of the new coronavirus outbreak, labelled a “pandemic” by the World Health Organization. We pray that the world leaders will make the right decisions in protecting lives. We pray that medical professionals, cleaners and workers who are more at risk in their jobs to contract the virus are given adequate protective gear and equipment. May God protect and bless them. May God lay his healing hand on those who are infected, and welcome those who succumbed to the virus into heavenly peace. Pray for love and peace in this global health crisis. When people are keeping social distancing for the sake of public health, we are reminded to connect each other with love in our heart and live a meaningful life.
- China has declared a decision to expel at least 13 journalists from New York Times, Washington Post and the Wall Street Journal from China as retaliation against the “unreasonable oppression” of Chinese journalists in the United States. This new measure is applied to Hong Kong and Macau as well. It is a big blow to the freedom of press, and brings further damage to One Country, Two Systems. May the SAR government and journalists defend people’s rights of free press and free speech as much as possible.
- We pray that the #MeToo movement does not stop along with the 23 years prison sentencing of the former film producer Harvey Weinstein who raped and sexually assaulted more than 100 women. May we not forget the women around the world who are still suffering from abuses in various forms. May God hear their cries for justice and give them courage to voice out for help.

- It has been a year since the Christchurch, New Zealand mosque mass shootings causing 100 deaths and injuries. The many paths to recovery are still long and winding for survivors. We pray for these families, and we pray that people with different religions may reconcile in all faiths.
- Hong Kong's rising unemployment affects the catering, retail, hotel, and construction sectors hardest during the outbreak. May we remember those who struggle with finances. Let us be filled with God's love and extend our hands to one another in times of need. Pray for those who are in quarantine and isolated, as well as those who live in fear and anxiety.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths of Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia. We **give thanks** for the faithful witness of Christians here through the centuries, especially in times of occupation and persecution, as well as the religious freedom and ecumenical cooperation that is growing. We **pray for** the greater respect for the Roma people and others who are marginalized and who lack adequate livelihoods in these lands, and the welcoming and engaging those of other faiths and ethnicities.

For the Congregation

- Class on internet learning and doing assignments for a few children from our church's refugee community was arranged last Tuesday. If you wish to be volunteers to help our kids with their school work, contact our pastoral team for more information.
- Pray for the well being and health of our senior members and friends: Mrs Samuel, Mr & Mrs Chang, Peter Chan & Judy Yui, Revd Kwok & Dorothy, Bud Carroll and Hans Lutz, amongst all others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

- Welcome all who join our service in church and through Facebook live streaming. Live streaming of our Sunday worship service will be continued on our Facebook page on Sundays during this critical period of coronavirus crisis. <https://www.facebook.com/kuchongkong>. Special welcome to those who join us here in church. Please leave your name and contact for being in touch in future.

Be Healthy and Happy with a Prayerful Heart

- In view of the Covid-19 pandemic in the globe, we advise friends who return from overseas travel to self-quarantine for two weeks immediately after coming back to HK.
- Please remain at home and seek medical treatment if respiratory symptoms like coughing and fever persist.

- Please keep personal hygiene to protect yourself and others. Keep wearing a face mask within the church premise and wash your hands before entering into the sanctuary for worship. We have tried to test temperature for participants joining the Service in Church. If you are in need of masks please let us know.
- Let us keep in touch with each other in prayer and other safe means of communication with members and friends, young and old.
- Please don't hesitate to be in touch with the church pastors if you or anyone you know of need help and prayers.

Bervinder Kaur – Part-time Program Assistant

Welcome Bervinder to take up the post and join our church. She has been working with us in our marriage ministry for quite a while.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM will be held on 17 May. Three vacancies in the Council and two vacancies need to be filled at the AGM. Please keep this matter in your prayers. May God prepare members to take up this leadership.

Lenten Encounters

We enter into the fourth Sunday of Lent. We are half way in the 40 days' Lenten journey. How is your encounter with God so far? May we all remember Jesus' life and work on earth, through his death and resurrection. Let us extend Jesus' life and hope we receive to our loved ones. Please keep going to 'Kowloon Union Church' Facebook for the devotional materials for your Lenten reflection and encounters. Wishing you a spiritually filled and meaningful Lent in Christ.

	TODAY	NEXT WEEK 29 March
Liturgist:	Timothy Chan	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Phyllis Wong	Hope Antone
Pianist:	Cheryl Hui	Eric Sin
Lector:	Tavis Du Preez	Victoria Caplan
Intercessory Prayers:	Judy Chan	Timothy Chan
Greeter:	Norma Diaz Edwina Antonio	Lucy Lim Rachel
Offering Rota:	Rey Asis Jailyn Tomitis	Gabi Baumgartner Paul Cheung
I.T. Team	Lo Yuk Fai Tong Chong Sze	Lo Yui Fai Monkey Lui

Last Sunday's offering: HK\$2,081-
 Promissory offering last week: HK\$6,100-
 Welfare fund: HK\$5,000-

