

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



Fourth Sunday of Easter
30 April 2023
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(* : Congregation stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG “Bless The Lord” – Composer: Taizé Community
*** CALL TO WORSHIP**
*** HYMN** “All Are Welcome” – Composer: Marty Haugen
CALL TO CONFESSION
PRAYER OF CONFESSION
ALL RESPOND “Kyrie Eleison” (Lord, have mercy) – Composer: Trad Orthodox
ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

ANTHEM “Seek Ye First” by Students from the Divinity School of Chung Chi College

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

John 10: 1-10 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

FAMILY TALK

HYMN “They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” – Composer: Peter Scholtes

TESTIMONY

SERMON “Life Flourishing Communities”

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MISSION MOMENT - CLECCN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas" (Where there is charity, there is love) - Taizé Community

OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* **HYMN** "Community OF Christ" – Music: Leoni; Words: Shirley Erena Murray

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

- Pope Francis has announced that five religious sisters will be given voting rights at an influential global meeting of bishops in October, a historic first in the history of the Roman Catholic Church. In addition, Pope Francis announced that the same voting rights are extended to 70 selected non-clerical members, another historic move in the church's history. May these reforms enhance the life and governance of the church.
- Alessandra Korap Munduruku, 39, has been awarded this year's Goldman Prize, recognising grassroots activism. Alessandra, a member of the Munduruka indigenous community of Brazil, took on the mining giant Anglo American, which planned to mine inside indigenous territories. She persisted in her campaign with the help of others, and her voice was heard, causing the company to withdraw their applications. In recognition of this outstanding achievement, may those struggling to be heard be encouraged and gain hope in their calling.
- The people of Kenya and the world have been gripped by the recent exposure of a religious cult made up of 'The Good News Church' members. The group leader persuaded members to sell their possessions, make offerings to the church and starve themselves to reach heaven before the world ended. As a result, over 90 people have died, with many unknowns; their last remains placed in shallow graves. May the souls of the departed rest now in peace. Let us pray for the forgiveness of all who use the Name and Word of God to promote themselves and to bring themselves fortune at the expense of those they influence.
- Fighting is continuing in many areas of Sudan despite a ceasefire holding. There is no fuel, and a lack of medical supplies, medical practitioners, food and fresh water is almost impossible to access. As a result, many innocent people are displaced and suffering. May the Lord protect and keep them, and those in authority seek ways to reach those in greatest need.
- Hong Kong Hospital Authorities have announced that a hospital constructed during the fifth wave of the Covid pandemic will be used to provide additional much-needed diagnostic and radiology services. Though the location of the hospital in the Lok Ma Chau Loop is not the most convenient, officials have announced that reasonable transportation will be provided for staff and patients. God Bless this new initiative.
- On Tuesday, the Federation of Hong Kong and Kowloon Labour Unions urged the government to review the city's minimum wage annually instead of once every two years. They also said the proposed raise from HK\$37.5 per hour to HK\$40 needs to be more and are suggesting it should be set at HK\$46 per month. Other NGOs think it should be even higher. A worker deserves a fair wage for their labour. We pray it may be so.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

We are **thankful** for:

- the magnificent expanse of mountains, grasslands and deserts in these Central Asian countries
- the rich natural resources
- the incredible ethnic diversity, cultural traditions, and practices that have been preserved for centuries amid the challenges of modernization
- Christians who, although they are a tiny minority, have the courage to witness to the gospel and find the strength to live according to God's word
- those who, in spite of the danger, dedicate their lives to serving others.

We **pray** for:

- the people in these lands who suffer from poverty and repressive rule
- an end to clashes related to tribalism, traditionalism, and modernization
- the land, air and water that have been damaged by human abuse
- good relations between Muslims and Christians
- an end to oppression and violence.

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.
- Pray for our community as we prepare for our Annual General Meeting that the Lord will prepare us well and ready us for further service in Kowloon Union Church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today a warm welcome to all who join our worship in church and through Facebook live streaming. We welcome, particularly students and staff members from the Divinity School of Chung Chi College, and special thanks to Dr Kung Lap Yan, who will share the Word of God.

This Week's Programs in Church

- Sunday - Early Morning Bible Study at 9 am Upper Fellowship Hall
Tuesday - Peace Making Fellowship at 10 am in number 2 Jordan Road
Wednesday - Harambe Choir at 6:00 pm
Friday - Junior Choir at 5:00 pm
Saturday - Sexuality and Spirituality workshop 7 – 8:30 pm Upper Fellowship Hall

Dates For Your Diary

Sexuality and Spirituality Workshop #3:

Sexuality and Other Religions and Spiritualities

Presented by: The Christian Education com.

In this session, we will explore sexuality in different sources of spiritual wisdom. Click on the QR code for registration.

Date: Sat. 6 May

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Venue: Upper Fellowship Hall

Fac: Dr Peter Youngblood



Extraordinary General Meeting and Annual General Meeting

The church's Annual General Meeting will be held on **Sunday, 7 May 2023**. An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held the same day before the AGM. If you are a member of KUC and cannot attend the meeting, please submit your proxy form before the meeting date. Above all, please pray for that time of the meeting and all preparations beforehand.

Please note: Written notice has been sent from the Church office concerning these two meetings; if you are a church member but have yet to receive the documents, please contact the church office on 2367 2585.

From The Council Chair

At the May 7 AGM, elections will be held for five vacancies in Council (1 current member is eligible for re-election to one of those), one vacancy in the Trustees, and one for Treasurer. Welcome to inform the Council Chair Doris Lee, Pastor Phyllis Wong, or Pastor Maggie Mathieson if you recommend a church member or yourself for nomination to any of these seats or wish to inquire more about the requirements of these roles.

Human Café in KUC - "Your body is a temple where the Holy Spirit lives" 1 Cor:19

Presented by the Christian Education com and the Peacemaking Body

Please consider joining 1 or 2 or all three sessions as you contemplate the idea of the body as a temple of GOD through some simple somatic-based practices.

Dates for sessions: 14/5, 21/5 and 2 July.

Time : 11: 45 – 12:45

Venue: Conference Room KUC

Max number of participants: 15 pax

Please note there is no registration needed for this programme; it will be on a first come basis for participants. Also, please note **'NO ENTRY AFTER 12 NOON.'**

	TODAY 30 April	NEXT WEEK 7 May
Liturgist:	Phyllis Wong	Phyllis Wong
Preacher:	Dr Kung Lap Yan	Chan Kai Wai
Pianist:	Katie Ho	Joshua Pang
Lector:	Judy Chan	Sunita Suna
Intercessory Prayers:	Rey Asis	Ramon Bultron
Family Talk:	Lydia Cathedral	Maggie Mathieson
Greeter:	Rachel Wanguri Robert Lam	Paul Wong Angeline Onwufugu
Offering Rota:	Journaliz Badon Stephanie Mumbi	Samjhana Thapa Kulwinder Kaur
Counting Rota	Paul Wong Hope Antone	Jennifer Chan Gabi Baumgartner
Sunday School Leaders:	Maggie Mathieson Mary Adesina	Gabi Baumgartner Maggie Mathieson
I.T. Team:	Carl Cathedral Venus Cheng	Bervinder Kaur Lo Yuk Fai
Freewill offering last week : HK\$4,031.50- Promissory offering last week: HK\$600- Welfare Fund: HK\$5000-		