

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



Pentecost Sunday
28 May 2023
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

- PREPARATION SONG** "Wa Wa Wa Emimimo" – Composer: Trad Nigerian Folk
*** CALL TO WORSHIP**
*** HYMN** "Breathe On Me Breath of God" - Music: C Lockhart; Words E Hatch
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** "The Spirit Lives to Set Us Free" - Music: Anon; Words: D Lundy
SCRIPTURE READING
Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet.
A light to our path.

Acts 2: 1- 21 (N.T.)

John 20: 19 - 23 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

- * HYMN** "When the Spirit of the Lord" – Composer: Anon; Arr. M Evans
FAMILY TALK
SERMON
*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** - Steve G Holmes

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH
MISSION MOMENT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "Bless The Lord"

– Taizé Community

OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* **HYMN** "Go Tell Everyone"

– Music: H Richards; Words: A Dale

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

- After more than 12 years of war, the living conditions in Syria continue to deteriorate. Parents can no longer support babies born to them and, in deep desperation and poverty, are abandoning their children outside mosques, hospitals and under olive trees. Before the outbreak of war, there were only a few cases. But between 2021 and 2022, more than 100 children, 62 of them girls, were recorded as abandoned. This figure represents those babies who were found and registered; the actual number is thought to be much higher. Lord, protect those babies in this position, innocent and vulnerable, and end the violence that forced their parents to take such action.
- Brazil, the world's largest exporter of chicken meat, has declared a six-month animal health emergency after several cases of avian flu were found in wild birds. The world is going through the worst bird flu outbreak since October 2021, causing more deaths in the wild bird population than ever before. As the outbreak is monitored and investigated, may scientists be inspired and successful in their work.
- The warring sides in the Sudanese conflict blame each other for breaching the recent ceasefire. The one-week truce was violated minutes after it came into effect on Monday night. However, those caught in the crossfire are still willing to risk the chance to obtain provisions for their families and seek what medical care may be available. Let us pray that the warring will cease and the humanitarian aid will safely reach its destination.
- A noodle vendor in Vietnam who parodied one of the country's most powerful ministers has been jailed for five-and-a-half years for anti-state propaganda. The Vietnamese authorities arrested Bui Tuan Lam in September 2022. He was detained with no access to a lawyer until two weeks before his trial, which lasted one day. Bui's wife and family were also not permitted to visit him. Pray for those who risk their freedom to express the people's views.
- China has scaled down rescue efforts to find missing crew members of a fishing vessel that capsized last week. Only seven bodies have been retrieved, leaving 32 members lost at sea. Authorities continue to investigate the cause of the disaster. May God comfort the families of the crew members and strengthen those who continue with the investigations.
- The Hong Kong Housing Authority has announced it will tighten declaration rules for public housing tenants, including requiring them to declare every two years whether or not they own property. This action is being introduced to stop those abusing the system. This is a welcome move for those patiently waiting for public housing. Let us pray that the government can eventually stamp out housing abuses in Hong Kong.

- Let us remember all students at this time and their teachers and professors as they complete coursework and exams and prepare for graduation and all that is to come.

- **For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Angola and Mozambique.

We are **thankful** for:

- the rich natural resources in these countries, which God intends for the good of all
- the positive developments experienced since years of civil war
- village committees that seek to protect livelihoods and food security of the poor
- how the Lutheran World Federation and partners have pursued land rights in Mozambique.

We **pray** for:

- better sanitation, health services, and protection of the environment in these lands
- a healing of the lingering scars and memories from colonization and civil wars
- protection of the land rights of the people
- governments that are transparent and further the good of all the people rather than being captive to foreign and business interests.

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 and Jackie Tse. We remember those caring for loved ones at home and in care facilities.
- We remember Edwina and the Antonio family as they mourn the loss of their dear mother, Anita A Antonio. Anita was called home to be with God after gracing this earth for 93 years. May she rest in peace to rise in glory.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today a warm welcome to all who join our worship in church and through Facebook live streaming. Thank you Peter for sharing the Word of God with us this morning. Please join us for coffee and tea in the Lower Fellowship Hall after worship.

This Week's Programs in Church

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| Sunday | - No Early Morning Bible Study Next Week |
| Tuesday | - Peace Making Fellowship will not meet in number 2 Jordan Road this week. The fellowship will embark on an outing this week, participating in a community project to plant trees. |
| Wednesday | - Harambe Choir at 6:00 pm |
| Friday | - Junior Choir at 5:00 pm |

TODAY – KUC @ 100

Want to know more about KUC Centenary plans? We invite everyone in the church to stay for 15 more minutes after our worship service to listen to the proposed plans for the celebration of KUC's 100th anniversary in 2024. In addition to planned activities, we encourage you to share ideas on how we can make the celebration memorable, meaningful and inclusive.

Pastor Phyllis

Our Pastor is on Annual leave from Monday, 15 May to 16 June. She will be visiting family in the UK and Canada. We wish her a blessed time of reunions and celebrations. Should you have any pastoral needs, please get in touch with Pastor Maggie or the Church office.

Dates for your Diary

Sexuality and Spirituality Workshop #4: Sexuality, Spirituality, and Ethics
Presented by: The Christian Education Committee

An exploration of the ethics of physical pairing in light of spirituality and faith
Click on the QR code for registration.

Date: Sat. 10 June

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Venue: Upper Fellowship Hall

Facilitator: Dr Peter Youngblood



	TODAY 28 May
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Peter Youngblood
Pianist:	Eva Kwan
Lector:	Ronald Chui
Intercessory Prayers:	Emmanuel Adesina
Family Talk:	Lydia Cathedral
Greeter:	Lucy Lim Anjenette Bolanos
Offering Rota:	Daddy Susana Babasa
Counting Rota	Rey Asis Ramon Bultron
Sunday School Leaders:	Lydia Cathedral Mary Adesina
I.T. Team:	Carl Cathedral Bervinder Kaur

Freewill offering last week : HK\$2661.50 -
Promissory offering last week: HK\$1,800-