

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



Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
30 July 2023
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG "In The Lord"

– Taizé

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

*** HYMN** "Now Thank We All Our God"–Music: J Cruger; Words: M Rinkart

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "Change My Heart, O God"

– Composer: E Espinosa

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

KUC SINGERS "Still" & "God is My Refuge"

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 105:1-11 (O.T.)

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

*** HYMN** "Sing a New Song unto the Lord"

– Composer: Dan Shutte

FAMILY TALK

SERMON "Sing to The Lord"

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* **HYMN** "To God be the Glory" –Music: W H Doane; Words: F. J Crosby

* **COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

Concerns of the Church

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

- A severe heatwave gripping Europe is causing havoc as wildfires rage in several locations claiming lives and destroying all in the blaze's path. Evacuation orders have been issued in several areas of Greece, both the mainland and the islands. We pray all in danger will heed the warnings issued and seek places of safety, and may the hand of the Lord quell the flames.
- In an attempt to swell the numbers of soldiers at the Ukraine front, Russia has raised the age at which men can be conscripted from 27 to 30 years old and extended the age of eligible reservists call up to 55. Many have already refused to join the forces, seeking asylum in neighbouring countries. We must continue to pray for peace in our world wherever that may be needed.
- Soldiers have claimed to have overthrown Niger's government following an apparent coup, detaining President Mohamed Bazoum and establishing curfews and border closures. This is after a long period of dissatisfaction with the system. We pray this takeover will continue to be controlled and peaceful, respecting all peoples of the land.
- Myanmar's ousted civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi was moved to house arrest after the military detained her following a coup in February 2021. There are mixed feelings towards this move by the authorities, some positive and some hopeful that this be a recognition of the people's wishes. Others speculate that Ms Suu Kyi is not in good health. Let us pray for the people's leader that she will be strengthened to continue leading the country's people in their struggle for democracy.
- The HK Polytechnic University and the charitable organisation Food Angel jointly launched a pilot programme to monitor the health of 100 elderly people living in Sham Shui Po. Members from Food Angel will be trained in basic triage procedures and will monitor progress while delivering the daily lunch boxes. This is such a simple but vital service needed to serve the senior members of our communities. May God bless this programme and encourage more agencies to be involved.
- **For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in the Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe.

We are **thankful** for:

- wildlife and rainforests in these lands, and those who protect this habitat
- the oral traditions, folklore, and good practices that have been preserved
- rich minerals and economic development, although benefits need to be shared more fairly
- healing from exploitative practices that began under colonial rule.

We **pray** for:

- democratic, fair elections and political stability in this region
- economic development that benefits all the people, especially those living in poverty
- preservation of the wildlife and the land
- the witness of the churches and other faith groups in the midst of the challenges.

For the Congregation

- We pray for the mothers of Alex Melwani and Sunita Suna and the father-in-law of Ms Candy. For Mrs Samuel, Holly Chui, Hend, James Kim, Jeanette Lee, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Chui, Ana and Ramon Bultron, Lucy Lim, Mercy, Poulis Zaki and Joy Babasa. We remember those caring for loved ones at home and in care facilities.
- Let us pray for our dear friends Helen, Yung and Isaiah, who will leave Hong Kong to start a new life in Wales, UK, in September. May the Lord bless them and keep them safe, and may they always know our prayers are with and for them.
- We are saddened to learn of the sudden death of Dilip Pattnaik. Dilip was the director of Need India Trust and Community Level Education and Child Care Network (CLECCN), a mission partner with KUC. May God hold the family of Dilip close at this time and grant them peace.

Announcements

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

This Week's Programs in Church

- Tuesday - Peace Making Fellowship
Taizé evening prayer in Kowloon Union Church – 7:30 pm
- Thursday - NFG at 4:00 pm in KUC
- Sunday - Sunday Morning Bible Study at 9 am Upper Fellowship Hall

Unique Appeal – The Education Fund

The Peace Making Ministry is appealing for your support in prayers and donation of funds for children within the community. This year, our target is to raise HK\$ 20,000 - \$40,000. The money raised will be used to buy school books, uniforms, and shoes and covers non-refundable school fees for our children. No matter how large or small your donation, it will make a difference in a child's life. Thank you, and God bless.

Dates for your Diary

VBS – Vacation Bible School

CONCRETE AND CRANES – BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION OF JESUS!

VBS Dates: 7 August through 11 August Time: 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Venue: Lower Fellowship Hall Ages: 6 – 11 years old

Speak with Pastor Maggie if you need more information concerning the VBS. To register your child, please click on the QR code.



Sexuality and Spirituality Workshop #5:

Topic: “Faith, Spirit, and LGBTQ+” Presented by: Christian Education Committee

A further exploration of the spirituality of physical pairing, with a focus on LGBTQ+ experiences and perspectives. Click on the QR code for registration.



Date: Sat. 12 August

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Venue: Upper Fellowship Hall

Facilitator: Dr Peter Youngblood

Extraordinary General Meeting

Date : Sunday, 13 August Time : 1:30 pm Venue : Lower Fellowship Hall

	TODAY 30 July	NEXT WEEK 6 August
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Bud Carroll	Phyllis Wong
Pianist:	Jessica Tso	Joshua Pang
Lector:	Chris Law	Harry Chan
Intercessory Prayers:	Emmanuel Adesina	Jensen Wong
Family Talk:	Lydia Cathedral	Tong Chong Sze
Greeter:	Lucy Lim Kevin Ng	Paul Wong Susan Babasa
Offering Rota:	Peter Youngblood Journaliz Badon	Rose Muiriri Ronald Chui
Counting Rota	Paul Wong Judy Chan	Jennifer Chan Sunita Suna
Sunday School Leaders:	Tong Chong Sze	Mary Adesina
I.T. Team:	Venus Cheng Bervinder Kaur	Bervinder Kaur
Freewill offering last week: HK\$2,898- Promissory offering last week: HK\$3,300 – Organic Farm: HK\$90- Education Fund : HK\$18,000		