

Kowloon Union Church
“Where all are one”
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Secretary: Heddy Ha
Ministry Worker: Timothy Chan
Minister: Maggie Mathieson
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



“Where all are one”

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost 16 August 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

(* : Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

SONG OF PREPARATION “Be Still And Know That I Am God”
– Writer: Paul Armstrong

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** “All People That On Earth Do Dwell”
– Lyrics: William Kethe; Tune: Old Hundredth

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND “God Is Forgiveness” – Taizé Community

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** “God Forgave My Sin In Jesus' Name” (Freely, Freely)
–Writer: Carol Owens

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Genesis 45:1-15 (O.T.)

Matthew 15:10-28 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

* **HYMN** “O The Deep, Deep Love”
– Lyrics: S. Trevor Francis; Music: Bob Kauflin

SERMON “Spot The Difference”

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in your own language)

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas" – Music: Taizé Community

A TIME OF OFFERING

* **SIGN OF PEACE**

* **HYMN** "Walls That Divide"

– Author: Walter Farquharson; Music: Ron Klusmeier

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

RECESSIONAL

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CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*"The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion."
(Psalm 116:5)*

For the World and Hong Kong

- Pray for Justice and Peace in Middle East: Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have reached a deal to normalise relations, with Israel agreeing to suspend its controversial plans to annex parts of the occupied West Bank. The agreement will deal with areas regarding investment, tourism, direct flights, security, telecommunications, technology, energy, healthcare, culture, the environment, the establishment of reciprocal embassies, and other areas of mutual benefit. US President Donald Trump, who helped broker the deal, accorded it as "historic" and a breakthrough toward peace. Palestinian leaders were, however, very negative about this agreement. The Palestinian ambassador to the UAE even regarded the deal as "treason". Pray for everlasting peace in the region that is grounded in justice and fair play for different parties to enjoy equal rights and respect of their identity and autonomy.
- Remember the people in Lebanon after the deadly explosion in Beirut and then subsequent massive anti-government violent protests that killed more than 170 and wounded more than 6000 people. Lebanon's government stepped down on Monday night. We pray for God's healing hands on the wounded and the country. May the poor who suffer most in a time of political and social unrest receive enough support and care. Pray for good governance and the leaders are given strength and wisdom to govern their nation with love and compassion. Pray for God's hope to dwell in Lebanon. With international support, may people's lives and homes be rebuilt soon.
- 20.6 million people throughout the world have contracted the coronavirus, the number of fatalities 749,000 people as of 14 August. In Hong Kong, the total number of confirmed cases is 4,313 with 65 deaths from the virus, mostly elderly people suffering from chronic illness. The confirmed cases last week still involved migrant domestic workers who were placed in a shared accommodation and those in elderly homes. We in particular remember and pray for these communities. We are sad to see domestic

workers who stayed on the street during their rest day were ticketed and fined by the police because they were accused of breaking the social distancing law. Many foreign domestic workers are not allowed to go out during their holiday by their employers due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We echo with NGOs working with the domestic workers that employers should respect their helpers and give them choice. Keep praying for the medical staff who are working in the forefront: for health and strength.

- Pray for people especially the vulnerable suffering from recent heavy rain in different parts of China. Pray that people's voice be heard and their needs be met under good and responsible governance.
- Pray for the freedom of press in Hong Kong. The founder of Apple Daily, Jimmy Lai, the young activist Agnes Chow Ting and others who have been active in the democratic movement have been arrested under the National Security Law last week. We remember people in the Philippines who have been suffering from human rights abuses under the Anti-terrorism Act.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths of Liberia and Sierra Leone. While we give thanks for how diseases such as Ebola have been brought under control, we pray for the majority of the people who are still impoverished, that adequate services and policies will be provided that enable them to live with dignity and good health. We pray too for a more just governance, free of corruption, accountable to the people, and that manages resources in ways that benefit all. May the churches in these countries continue to have interfaith cooperation with others and be faithful witnesses to bring forth peace.

For the Congregation

- Remember and pray for our elderly friends and our sisters employed as domestic workers amid increasing confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hong Kong. May God bless and protect them. We uphold our children and their parents in our heart.
- Pray for members and friends who are in need of God's healing physically and spiritually due to health challenges and/or loss of beloved ones. We are grateful to God for Lucy's good progress in her treatment so far. Continue to uphold Pearl in our hearts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Welcome to all who join our Sunday Worship through Facebook live streaming. Wherever you are, the love of God unites us as One, so we worship together in spirit and truth.

Together We Stand Against COVID-19

Although the confirmed cases have been dropped a bit, the Government's social distancing measures are still in place. We have to be patient and

continue to have our Sunday Worship with Facebook streaming at 10:30 am. We will monitor the situation and pray that we will keep contact by different means. Please don't hesitate to be in touch with the church pastors and our church leaders if you or anyone you know of need help and prayers. Remember to take good care of yourself and your loved ones with good hygiene, good food, good rest, good exercise, and being a good neighbor to love and care for those around you that may need your help. **REMEMBER to PRAY and SMILE. Know that God who lives within and all around will guide and bless us always.**

Appeal for Funding Support

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to create suffering and hardship for people in Hong Kong and around the world as people become infected with the disease and others lose their jobs and income. The MOE would like you to consider contributing part or all of the Hong Kong government's COVID-19 handout of \$10,000 to the church's COVID-19 Emergency Fund. Please contact the ministerial staff for the details of how to make your contribution. MOE thanks you for considering this request.

HK National Security Law Talk Series

We thank God, the speaker and the IT team to make our first talk two weeks ago a success. The second talk will be organized on 30 August 2020 (Sunday) at 1:30 pm. Ms Jane Hu, originally from Shanghai, now living in Hong Kong, doing a PhD in Cultural and Religious Studies Department of Chinese University, will be our speaker sharing her views and experiences on Chinese unofficial church under the Communist Party Rule.

Donation/Offering to the Church

If you wish to make a donation/offering to the church and support our ministries, you may send us a cheque payable to "Kowloon Union Church" and send to 4 Jordan Road, KLN, or do by direct deposit to our church account: HSBC Account 018-1-080268. Please mail/email the bank receipt to us for our records.

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| | TODAY |
| Liturgist: | Timothy Chan |
| Preacher: | Maggie Mathieson |
| Pianist: | Eric Sin |
| Lector: | Tong Chong Sze |
| Intercessory Prayers: | Muriel Orevillo-Montenegro |
| I.T. Team | Lo Yuk Fai Carl Cathedral Bervinder Kaur |