

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



**Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**3 September 2023**  
**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Holy Communion Sunday**

(\*: Congregation Stands)

**APPROACH**

**SONG OF PREPARATION** "Lead Me Lord"

– Composer: S Wesley

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** "Praise to the Holiest"

– Music: J B Dykes; Words: J H Newman

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL RESPOND** "Kyrie Eleison" (Lord, have mercy)

– Traditional Orthodox

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**THE WORD OF GOD**

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.**

\* **HYMN** "O Sing to The Lord"

– Music: Folk; Translated: G M Cartford

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

Psalm 26: 1 – 8 (O.T.)

Romans 12: 9 – 21 (N.T.)

Matthew 16: 24-28 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

**And bear much fruit for Your glory.**

**FAMILY TALK**

**SERMON** "Are You a Follower of Christ?"

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

## THE OFFERTORY

### CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ALL RESPOND “O Lord, Hear Our Prayer”

– Composer: Taizé Community

### OFFERING

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE PEACE

\* HYMN “Eat This Bread”

– Composers: Taizé Community

### INVITATION

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### SANCTUS

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

### DISTRIBUTION POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

\* HYMN “Will You Come and Follow Me”

– Music: Folk; Words: J L Bell

\* COMMISSION

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## CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

- In a period of 24 hours, the Tunisian coast guard encountered nine boats of all shapes and seaworthiness carrying more than 180 migrants seeking a better life. The boats are occupied mainly by sub-Saharan Africans trying to reach Europe. The stretch of water that they were navigating has become the busiest migrant route into Europe. This is fast becoming a daily process; by God's grace, no one perished. May the protective hand of the Lord be on all, and those in governance in the countries of those leaving seek ways to consider the needs of all people.
- The United Nations and a host of humanitarian agencies are calling on the West African regional bloc, Ecowas, to grant exemptions to the sanctions imposed on Niger after the recent coup. Food and medical supplies are in great demand, and there are fears of escalation as electricity supplies are cut from Nigeria. May a way be found to open channels to supply this aid to the people.
- Fear is continuously rising within Palestinian communities as violence increases from extremist Israeli settlers, who continue to drive people off the land of their ancestors—inflicting damage to property, businesses and even the taking of lives, forcing Palestinians to leave and seek safety. And as they do, settlers move in to claim the land, expanding their already claimed area. We have seen how these two peoples chose not to live in harmony, people with more in common with each other than differences. May their eyes and their heart be opened to see each other.
- Australians will have a chance to vote in a referendum next month to decide whether to enact an Indigenous ‘Voice to Parliament’. If approved, this will

recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the country's constitution, allowing their voices to be heard and their opinions considered. It is only fitting that those who started on the land are recognised and given space. We pray for success in this referendum that all will be considered.

- Researchers in Hong Kong have found a worrying increase in the number of children in Hong Kong who are short-sighted. Much blame for this is placed on the past few years when children were not outside in the playground or attending school during the COVID-19 pandemic. Too much screen time is also a contributing factor. Let us encourage our children to interact more with each other and cut back on time with electronic devices.
- As our children return to school and some launch into school life for the first time, let us take some time to consider those with Special Education Needs within the classrooms. Our schools need to be more prepared to accommodate such children. Let us pray that provisions will be made for our schools' children needing special aid and for our teachers to be given the support they need.

### **For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, and Togo.

We are **thankful** for:

- The beauty, natural resources, wildlife and different cultures in these countries
- the produce that small farmers continue to grow amid environmental and other hardships
- the spiritual vitality and growth of the churches and how they cooperate with each other and those of other faiths and practices
- the relative peace and stability that prevails after long years of civil war and political struggle.

We **pray** for:

- More democratic governments that are free of corruption and that prioritize what the people most need
- those working to alleviate the poverty, illiteracy and hunger that so many in these countries still experience
- churches faithfully bringing the gospel to, and serving all people with greater respect for how those of other faiths express their spirituality
- emotional and physical healing and restoring hope in people who are victims of conflict, disease and human rights abuses.

### **For the Congregation**

- We thank God that we have the provision of our Fellowship Halls that allows us to continue to worship together as One in the Lord.
- We pray for the mothers of Alex Melwani and Sunita Suna and the father-in-law of Ms. Candy. For Mrs Samuel, Holly Chui, Revd Bud Carroll, Hend, Jeanette Lee, Kevin Ng, 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.

## Announcements

**Today** - a warm welcome to all who join our worship this morning. Thank you, Pastor Phyllis, for sharing the Word of God with us.

### **This Week's Programs in Church**

Sunday - Sunday Morning Bible Study, Upper Fellowship Hall, 9 a.m.  
 Tuesday - Peacemaking Fellowship at 10 a.m. in Number 2 Jordan Road.  
 Wednesday - Harambe – 6:00 pm, KUC Sanctuary

### **Unique Appeal – The Education Fund**

The Peacemaking Ministry thanks all who have contributed to our annual Education appeal. We did it and then some!

**KUC's Peacemaking Ministry** is conducting a review. We invite all in KUC to fill in the questionnaire linked to the QR code, which will take only 5 minutes to complete. We want to hear your opinions, which are important to us as we seek to improve our ministry. Your sharing will help us in our planning for the future direction of the ministry.



The final date for submission is on 10 Sept. Please contact Katie if you need further help.

### **Date For Your Diary**

BBQ - At the Beach - Sunday, 24 September

The Care and Fellowship Committee will facilitate an outing for BBQ by Lung Mei Beach - Tai Po.

We will leave the Church around noon and return by 5 p.m.

Fee: Adult HK\$ 180 Concessionary: HK\$80

The fee includes Food, Drinks and Transportation



	<b>TODAY 3 September</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK 10 September</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson	Peter Youngblood
Preacher:	Phyllis Wong	Judy Chan
Pianist:	Katie Ho	Jessica Tso
Lector:	Jennifer Chan	Amber Tong
Intercessory Prayers:	Journaliz Badon	Ramon Bultron
Family Talk:	Chan Beng Seng	Phyllis Wong
Greeter:	Susan Babasa Chris Law	Edwina Antonio Caden Lam
Offering Rota:	Kulwinder Kaur Emmanuel Adesina	Thapa Samjhana Rose Muiriri
Counting Rota	Jennifer Chan Ramon Bultron	Ramon Bultron Gabi Baumgartner
Sunday School Leaders:	Jaylin Tomitis	Jaylin Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Venus Cheng Bervinder Kaur	Jen Pang Bervinder Kaur

Freewill offering last week: HK\$8,937 -  
 Promissory offering last week: HK\$1,000-  
 Retiring Offering: HK\$1,470-