

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



"Where all are one"

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

17 September 2023

Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG "Holy Spirit Come To Us"

– Taizé

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

*** HYMN** "The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

– Composer: Edith McNeil

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

– Trad. Orthodox

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

HARAMBE CHOIR "Iende Mbele Injili" (Let the Gospel Go Forward)

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 103:1-13 (O.T.)

Matthew 18:21-35 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

HYMN "Let us Sing to the God of Salvation"

– Composer: RT Bewes

FAMILY TALK

SERMON

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas"

– Taizé

OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* HYMN "For Everyone Born" – Music: Lori True; Words: Shirley E. Murray

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Concerns of the Church

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

- Natural disasters once again dominate our thoughts as in the space of a week, thousands of people have died in Morocco due to an earthquake and in Libya due to floods. These are only two of the many places in the world affected by natural disasters at this time. May the Lord receive those who have died, comfort the families as they grieve their loved ones, and strengthen those whose task is to seek and find the lost. We pray also that the governing bodies of these countries in great need will open their borders to allow aid agencies to respond to those needs.
- At least 177 environmental activists were killed worldwide last year, a report by the non-governmental organisation Global Witness suggests. Sixty of the killings occurred in Colombia, making it the deadliest country for environmental defenders. Let us pray for those who have given their lives protecting the environment. May their deaths not be forgotten and justice be served.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korea's Leader Kim Jong-un recently engaged in a meeting that has raised concerns worldwide. Though it is believed the purpose of the meeting was focused on the possibilities of Russia helping DPRK in developing its space programme, fears rise that other topics may dominate, including weapons and armoury. When faced with such scenarios, let us never cease to pray for peace in the world.
- At least 56 people are known to have died and dozens injured in a huge fire in Vietnam's capital, Hanoi. It is believed the apartment block, a new development in the city, was like many other new builds completed and occupied without meeting fire safety regulations. We pray for those who have died that their deaths will not be in vain but will spur the government of Vietnam to be more vigilant in assuring safety standards are in place before buildings are occupied.
- Local researchers at Kadoorie Farm appealed to local authorities to conserve farmlands in the future Northern Metropolis, stating that these sites are the

habitat of over a quarter of Hong Kong's bird species, ten of which are of conservation concern. These birds and other small animals unique to Hong Kong are a gift from the Creator, and we should try at all costs to protect and provide for them.

- The Government of the HKSAR has urged people to stop chasing a whale spotted in southern Hong Kong waters. The Agricultural, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has initiated more patrols in that water area to shield the animal from those hoping to catch sight of the whale.
- We thank God for the dedicated frontline workers here in Hong Kong who have worked tirelessly to clean up our city after a super typhoon and black rains. Thank you!

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

We are **thankful** for:

- Individuals, churches and other organizations who remain committed to seeking healing, justice and truth
- The furthering of human rights and democratic institutions
- The ways in which those of different faiths and ethnicities work together for the common good and the needs of people and creation
- How churches, from out of what people are experiencing, have led global ecumenical work for an economy that serves life.

We **pray** for:

- Greater respect for Indigenous people and greater acceptance of all peoples across bounds of ethnicity and religion
- The protection of children from violence and abuse and recognition of their rights and dignity
- Effective help and empowerment for those who live in poverty and other marginalizing situations
- Those who protect and care for the region's threatened soil, forests, waters, and glaciers
- Truth and justice in continuing investigations to find those responsible for crimes against humanity and continued healing for those affected
- Economic development that benefits all and effectively addresses the systemic factors that impede it.

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, and we pray for those who will be working on the renovation work within the church.
- 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, Deaconess Joy Prim, for sharing the Word of God this morning.

This Week's Programs in Church

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

Date For Your Diary NEXT SUNDAY

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.



	TODAY 17 September	NEXT WEEK 24 September
Liturgist:	Phyllis Wong	Aimé Girimana
Preacher:	Joy Prim	Hope Antone
Pianist:	Lucy Lim	Joshua Pang
Lector:	Paul Wong	Chris Law
Intercessory Prayers:	John Mok-Lamme	Paul Lucas
Family Talk:	Lydia Catedral	Mayson Fung
Greeter:	Stephanie Mumbi Maggie Mathieson	Lucy Lim Journaliz Badon
Offering Rota:	Anjenette Bolanos Caden Lam	Daddy Mercy Matilda
Counting Rota	Ramon Bultron Paul Wong	Judy Chan
Sunday School Leaders:	Jailyn Tomitis Mary Adesina	Jailyn Tomitis Mary Adesina
I.T. Team:	Venus Cheng Bervinder Kaur	Jen Pang Bervinder Kaur
Freewill offering last week: HK\$2,828.70 - Promissory offering last week: HK\$5,800-		