

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



Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
1 October 2023
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
World Communion Sunday

(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

SONG OF PREPARATION "Wait For The Lord"

– Composer: Taizé

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** "Gather Us In"

– Composer: Marty Haugen

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** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

– Music: Trad; Words: J Neander

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 1:1-6 (O.T.)

Philippians 2:1-13 (N.T.)

John 15:1-8 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

FAMILY TALK

SERMON "Living Branches"

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ALL RESPOND “O Lord, Hear Our Prayer”

– Composer: Taizé

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE PEACE

* **HYMN** “We Are One in the Bond of Love”

– Composer: David Slater

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE LORD’S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

* **HYMN** “Walls That Divide ”

– Music: R Klusmeier; Words: W Farquharson

* **COMMISSION**

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CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

- Armenians fleeing the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh are adding daily to the number of refugees in the world. Numbers recorded at the border suggest the region is being emptied of Ethnic Armenians. Armenians over the border have welcomed the refugees and are convinced they will continue accommodating people seeking safety. Temporary accommodation has been created in local schools and churches as hotels, hostels, etc., are already fully occupied. May God bless those practising hospitality to brothers and sisters in need.
- The authorities in Chile have raised the alert level for the Villarrica volcano to orange, the second-highest, after they registered a gradual increase in its activity. Villarrica is one of the most active volcanoes in South America. Families have been evacuated from the area, and schools in nearby towns have been closed for five days. Let those in the region continue to take precautions, remaining safe, and the volcano's force be quelled.
- Germany has banned the far-right sect Artgemeinschaft for spreading Nazi ideology to children and young people. The country's interior minister called the group "deeply racist and antisemitic" and said it was trying "to raise new enemies of the constitution". We applaud the Government of Germany for its consistency and focus to avoid repeating history for its people.
- Sierra Leone's Vice-President Juldeh Jalloh has said his country intends to tackle mental health, a big issue in a country that has experienced several traumatic events recently. The government has a significant challenge with a population of around seven million - only 20 nurses in the country are trained to deal with mental health issues, along with two psychiatrists and one psychiatric doctor. This is a positive move and is much needed for the people - let us pray for its success.

- A very severe bird flu outbreak is hitting South African poultry suppliers. Millions of birds have reportedly died in the latest outbreak. This has led neighbouring countries to suspend all poultry imports from South Africa. Pray for the farmers and suppliers in South Africa that they can overcome yet another challenge to their livelihood.
- Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of two workers tragically killed last week in a work-related incident in West Kowloon. Labour Secretary Chris Sun has stated authorities will inspect all enclosed construction spaces in the territory within the next two weeks. We pray the deaths of these two men will not be in vain and others will heed the safety measures needed on the work site.
- Congratulations to Hong Kong on her success in the Asian Games. Though Hong Kong is relatively small, its athletes have done well to bring home the medals they have. May our youngsters in training be encouraged by this achievement and train hard in the future.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela.

We are **thankful** for:

- the beauty in these countries, including in their people and cultural traditions
- persistent, patient, prophetic work of churches and ecumenical and other organizations, to establish peace with justice throughout the region, especially in Colombia
- resistance to past colonization and to practices of today that prioritize economic ideologies over the needs of the people
- efforts by churches and people of goodwill for inclusive and respectful relations in society and government.

We **pray** for:

- the continued pursuit of peace in Colombia, the fulfilment of agreements reached, the reintegration of insurgents into society, broad and inclusive dialogue for justice, and fair compensation of those victimized by conflict
- the strengthening of democratically elected governments in the region without pressure from outside interests
- greater respect for the human rights of all, especially vulnerable populations and those who work for the well-being of others and of the environment
- an end to the corruption in these societies and to the unsustainable exploitation of their resources.

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, Revd Bud Carroll, Hend, Jeanette Lee, Kevin Ng, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Chui, Ana and Ramon Bultron, Lucy Lim, Mercy, Poulis Zaki, Joy Babasa and Rebecca Mumbi Theuri. 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, Revd Hans Lutz, for sharing the Word of God with us 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

KUC Congregational Retreat 2023

The Christian Education Committee is organizing a retreat based on our Centenary theme – “Grounded in God, Growing in Faith, Giving in Community”.

You are welcome to join us as we seek a time to communicate with God, nourish our faith and find ways to grow and serve.

Details:

Date of Retreat: 23 October (Mon) Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Meeting Time: 9:30 am, Exit A University Station, Chinese University

Venue: Theology Building, Chinese University

Cost: \$50/person (including lunch)

To register for the retreat, please click on the QR code



	TODAY 1 October	NEXT WEEK 8 October
Liturgist:	Phyllis Wong	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Hans Lutz	Dr Samuel Dubbleman
Pianist:	Jessica Tso	Katie Ho
Lector:	Paul Wong	Harry Chan
Intercessory Prayers:	Emanuel Adesina	Tory Caplan
Family Talk:	Maggie Mathieson	Phyllis Wong
Greeter:	Paul Wong Susan Babasa	Edwina Antonio Lucy Lim
Offering Rota:	Rose Muiriri Kulwinder Kaur	Thapa Samjhana Journaliz Badon
Counting Rota	Jennifer Chan Paul Wong	Edwina Antonio Gabi Baumgartner
Sunday School Leaders:	Jailyn Tomitis Mary Adesina	Jailyn Tomitis Mary Adesina
I.T. Team:	Venus Cheng Bervinder Kaur	Venus Cheng Bervinder Kaur

Freewill offering last week: HK\$3,324-

Promissory offering last week: HK\$900-