

Kowloon Union Church
“Where all are one”
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Secretary: Candy Lam
Social Ministry Worker: Cecilia Yeung
Minister: Maggie Mathieson
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Second Sunday in Advent
4 December 2022
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion Service

(* : Congregation stands)

APPROACH

ADVENT LITANY

PREPARATION SONG “Light Of Hope” – Music: T. Chan Words: M. Mathieson

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” – Composer: Traditional

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND “Kyrie Eleison ” – Composer: Traditional Orthodox

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** “Come Now O Prince of Peace ” – Music: O so so, Words: Kon-Yong Yi

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Isaiah 11: 1 – 10 (O.T.)

Matthew 3: 1 – 12 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

FAMILY TALK

SERMON “Sometimes We.... ”

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ALL RESPOND “Wait for the Lord ” – Composed: Taize Community

OFFERTORY

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE PEACE

HYMN “Lord, How Can I Repay”

– Composer: John Glynn

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

THE PEACE

* HYMN. “Walk with Light in the Darkness”

- Music: Erling Lindgren, Words: Sten Kaala/Edward Broadbridge

* COMMISSION and BLESSING

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

Please remember as you pray. . .

- Mauna Loa, Hawaii - the world's largest active volcano - is erupting for the first time since 1984. As a result, molten lava is flowing down the side of the volcano, but experts have said this will not pose a significant threat to local inhabitants. Authorities have set up shelters if there is a drastic change in the situation. The power, beauty and wonder of this occurrence remind us once again of our creator, God. May the protection of God be with and on the people of The Big Island.
- For women in Afghanistan, the ruling Taliban have once again curbed the accepted activities of women in society. In Kabul, women can no longer take their children to the park; they are now barred from entering; this also applies to gyms and swimming pools. Male and female children can enter these places but will do so only with male family members. Fear is rising among the women in the country not sure what may happen next as it is expected these new rules will extend to the whole country. We pray for the women in the land that they can be strong to stand and demand to be treated as equals and not as commodities.
- Family members of those who died in the bridge tragedy in Gujarat's Morbi district still await justice to be served. Families have also stated that the local authorities have made no effort to comfort families by marking the area with a memorial showing the loss of many lives. Pray that love and peace may rest on the hearts of those who have lost loved ones. Pray that justice will be served on those responsible for this tragedy.
- A recent study released by Unicef and Save the Children estimates that one in five Filipino children is now at risk of sexual exploitation; this represents almost two million children in the country. The saddest part is that most abuse happens in the family setting. May God have mercy on these children and these families, that help may be found to keep the children in a place of safety and security.

- A Tokyo court has upheld a ban on same-sex marriages in Japan but also recognised that doing so violated human rights. Those who brought the case to the courts still see this as a positive outcome, even though they did not 'win' the case. These words shared indicate the need for change in the system.
- Areas of China have seen local people protesting against the country's strict Covid-19 restrictions. Unfortunately, some involved in the protests have been arrested for their involvement. Protests were heard in several cities as citizens remembered the lives lost in the recent tragedy in Urumqi, no one wishing to see this happen again. Although Covid case figures are soaring in the mainland, the government still maintains the zero Covid policy, which heightens the possibility of a repeat happening and heightens the people's fears. Lord, bring reason and peace to the people's hearts so that all may have their voices heard without violence and threats.
- The Hong Kong health authorities said this past week that plans are in place to cope with the upcoming winter 'twindemic' – an expected surge in cases of influenza and the ongoing presence of Covid-19. Hospitals will be furnished with additional provisions. The number of daily Covid cases recorded remains high in Hong Kong at almost 9000. As the colder weather draws in and an awareness of our resistance being low, we remember especially the vulnerable in our society, the elderly, the young and those living with illness. May God strengthen those in our care facilities and those carers at home.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Myanmar and Thailand.

We **give thanks** for:

- the beauty of these countries and their people and their many distinctive Buddhist temples
- those who long have struggled that these countries might become more democratic
- the faithful witness of churches, which have advocated with others for greater justice
- efforts to protect the environment and resources in these countries.

We **pray** for:

- minority ethnic and religious groups who continue to experience discrimination, persecution or even genocide (such as the Rohingyas), and for greater interfaith understanding and tolerance for ethnic and religious diversity
- those victimized by sex tourism and exploitation and those who perpetuate such acts
- political stability and progress toward democratic rule
- economic justice for all people, and environmental protection, as these countries undergo development.

For the Congregation

- We pray for the mothers of Alex Melwani, Helen Lee, Florence Tse and Chris Wong, for Mrs Samuel, Anjenette, Habib, Hend, Jeanette Lee, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Chui, Ramon Bultron, Lyn, Lucy Lim, Mercy, Poulis Zaki, Saafa, Selvia and Stella Chan. We remember those caring for loved ones at home and in care facilities.

- We thank God for the safe return of Dr Vivian Lee and pray for her continued recovery after her mission trip to Madagascar. After completing amazing surgeries during this recent mission trip, the team will return to Hong Kong sometime this week. May God continue to bless each one of the team as they once more enter into life in Hong Kong, and may the Lord continue to bless those they have helped on this trip.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Welcome to all who join our worship in church and through Facebook live streaming.

This Week's Programs in Church

- Sunday - Following worship – Fellowship Lunch – Blue Ocean
Following Lunch – Candles and Carols Workshop
- Tuesday - Peace Making Fellowship in Number 2 Jordan Road at 10:00 am
- Wednesday - Harambe Choir at 6:00 pm
- Friday - Bible Study – online at 10:30 am
Junior Choir in KUC at 4:00 pm

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Lectio Divina

Join us for our monthly practice of Lectio Divina on Wednesday, 14 Dec from 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm. We'll be meeting online via Zoom. Anyone is welcome to join! Visit kuc.hk/lectio for more information and to register.



21 December - Ordination Announcement

We are happy to share the news with everyone that our former Social Ministry Worker, Timothy Chan, will be ordained as a minister on Wed, 21 December. Timothy Chan has established a church named The Ecumenical Hub, and this community has called him to ordination. Click on the QR code for full details.



	TODAY 4 December	NEXT WEEK 11 December
Liturgist:	Phyllis Wong	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Maggie Mathieson	Hope Antone
Pianist:	Han In Kyu	Joshua Pang
Lector:	Amber Tong	Venus Cheng
Intercessory Prayers:	Tory Caplan	TBC
Family Talk:	Lydia Cathedral	Mayson Fung
Greeter:	Paul Wong plus others	Lucy Lim plus other
Offering Rota:	Ching So Ben Baxter	Anjenette Bolanos Kevin Ng
Counting Rota	Doris Lee Hope Antone	Jennifer Chan Judy Chan
Sunday School Leaders:	Jailyn Tomitis	Jailyn Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Lo Yuk Fai	Jen Pang
Last Sunday's offering: HK\$3,279- Promissory offering last week: HK\$1,500- Welfare Fund: \$5,000-		