

Kowloon Union Church
“Where all are one”
4 Jordan Road, Kowloon
Tel. 2367-2585 • kuc@kuc.hk • www.kuc.hk
CCLI Licence 5075510
Secretary: Candy Lam
Social Ministry Worker: Cecilia Yeung
Minister: Maggie Mathieson
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Third Sunday in Advent
11 December 2022
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(* : Congregation stands)

APPROACH

ADVENT LITANY

PREPARATION SONG “Light of Hope” – Music: T Chan; Lyrics: M. Mathieson

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” – Music: Hyfrydol; Lyrics: Charles Wesley

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** “Comfort, Comfort All My People” – Composer: Robin Mann

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Isaiah 35:1-10 (O.T.)

Matthew 11: 2-11 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

* **HYMN** “How Lovely on the Mountains” – Composer: L Smith Jnr

FAMILY TALK

SERMON “From Great Expectations”

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "Wait for The Lord"

– Composer: Taize Community

OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* **HYMN** "From Out of Poverty Is Born"– Music: Trad Folk; Lyrics: K Galloway

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

Please remember as you pray. . .

- As part of a massive crackdown against gang violence in the country, around 10,000 troops have been deployed in the city of Soyapango, El Salvador. Unfortunately, many have been killed in the crossfire between these rival gangs, gang members using residential areas as hiding places, tearing families and communities apart. Though a very drastic step, it is a real hope that this deployment will make a difference.
- US intelligence agencies believe that fighting in Ukraine has been slowing down and estimate this pattern will continue as winter sets in. The war is now in its ninth month, and it is believed both sides will take advantage to regroup and recoup what they can. Nevertheless, thousands of Ukrainians live in dire situations with no reliable source of power to overcome all the winter brings. May God protect them all and bring the healing peace of the Christchild to all.
- The Taliban has conducted its first public execution since its return to power in Afghanistan. The execution took place in South Western Farah province. Many officials and high court judges attended the execution after being instructed to enforce Sharia law in the courts fully. May God have mercy on both those making these decisions and those being found guilty.
- Tens of thousands of people have been left behind and deserted in Syria. Many sought to find family members who had gone to join the IS forces or were taken as young children with older siblings. But, as IS lost control of the area, many found no way to return to their homeland. And are now housed in makeshift camps. Moreover, their home countries do not wish to receive them back due to fears of the influence of IS on their lives. Pray that God will find a way to prepare a place for each family to begin again.
- Sri Lankans continue to struggle to survive in their country during this economic crisis. As a result, the most vulnerable in society suffer many signs and symptoms of malnutrition. Incomes are shrinking daily, and food and medical prices are soaring. May the rest of the world reach out to the people of Sri Lanka before it is too late.
- Covid numbers in Hong Kong remain high and now well over 10,000 cases daily. As the temperature drops, let us pray that the most vulnerable in our society may be strengthened and sustained during this time.

- Mr Jason Tam, 24-year-old protestor from the 2019 protests, has been sentenced to 32 months imprisonment after admitting to his role in the siege of Tseung Kwan O Police Station. However, the prosecution has dropped a case for criminal charges, which is good news for Mr Tam. Pray that he will use this time for inner reflection and healing.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

We are **thankful** for:

- those who have remained in these countries through years of conflict and oppression
- Christians who bear witness in the region even though they are small in number
- the many who have provided for humanitarian assistance and peace-building
- refugees from these countries who are enriching the societies in which they now have made their home.

We **pray** for:

- those who continue to bear physical and emotional scars from years of conflict
- victims of monsoons and other disasters in the region
- economic development to improve life for all people and the environment
- political stability amid competing powers.

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.
- Please remember and pray for our sister Journaliz Badon and her family members. Journaliz's father passed away in the Phillippines early this week; may he rest in the eternal peace of the Lord. May God bless the family and comfort and keep them at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

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

This Week's Programs in Church

Tuesday - Peace Making Fellowship in Number 2 Jordan Road at 10:00 am
 Wednesday - Harambe Choir at 6:00 pm
 Lectio Divina at 8:00pm online (details to follow)
 Friday - Bible Study – online at 10:30 am
 No Junior Choir

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Lectio Divina

Join us for our monthly practice of Lectio Divina on Wed, 14 Dec, from 8:00 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 details.



Christmas Eve and Christmas Day in KUC

Christmas Eve Worship will start at 7:30 pm on 24 Dec. After worship, we will have carolling on the steps, as is the KUC tradition. Please note that we will not share a meal after worship this year, so please eat before you come to church.

Christmas Day

Christmas Day worship will start at 11 am on Sunday.

We will celebrate the Saviour's birth with our friends from One Body in Christ and the United Church of Christ of the Philippines in Hong Kong.

Monday 26 December - Meditative Retreat @ KUC

A time to still our souls and let our hearts be at peace.

Date: 26 December 2022 Venue: Number 2 Jordan Road

Time: 10 am - 5 pm. Registration: Click the QR code

Facilitated by the Christian Education Com.



	TODAY 11 December	NEXT WEEK 18 December
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Hope Antone	Aimé Girimana
Pianist:	Joshua Pang	Jessica Tso
Lector:	Venus Cheng	Emmanuel Adesina
Intercessory Prayers:	Tong Chong Sze	Judy Chan
Family Talk:	Mayson Fung	Tong Chong Sze
Greeter:	Lucy Lim, plus other	Kevin Ng
Offering Rota:	Anjette Bolanos Kevin Ng	Rachel Wanguri Kulwinder Kaur
Counting Rota	Jennifer Chan Judy Chan	Paul Wong Rey Asis
Sunday School Leaders:	Jailyn Tomitis	Jaylin Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Jen Pang	Carl Catedral

Last Sunday's offering: HK\$3,533.10-
Promissory offering last week: HK\$2,500-