

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



**Christmas Eve Service**  
**24 December 2022**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**APPROACH**

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**OPENING HYMN "O Come and Join the Dance" – Kendrick**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**LESSONS AND CAROLS**

**SCRIPTURE READING - Isaiah 9 : 2, 6 – 7**

**CAROL 1 "Once in Royal David's City" – Alexander**

**SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 1 : 26 - 35**

**CAROL 2 "Canticle of the Turning" – Cooney**

**SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 1: 18 - 23**

**CAROL 3 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" – McGee**

**SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 2 : 1 - 7**

**CAROL 4 Presented by B Sharp Choir – "Away in a Manger & Angels We have Heard on High"**

**SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 2: 8 - 20**

**CAROL 5 Presented by Named For God "Tonight" – Kendrick**

**THE RESPONSE**

**SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 2 : 1 – 2, 7 - 11**

**CAROL 6 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" – Brooks**

**OFFERING** “Sweet Little Jesus Boy” – Herms/Hall

– Played by Jessica Tso and Caden Lam

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**SCRIPTURE READING** – John 1 : 1- 14

**LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE**

**CAROL 7 Presented by Named For God**

“Like a Candle Flame” – Kendrick

*Passing of the light during singing of “Silent Night” – Mohr*

**COMMISSION**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** “Joy To The World” – Handel/Watts

**CAROLING ON THE STEPS**

**1. Joy To The World**

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the World, the Saviour reigns!

Let all their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove;

The glories of His righteousness,

And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,

And wonders, wonders, of His love.

## 2. **Away In a Manger**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes  
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
And stay by my side, 'til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me I pray  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

## 3. **Deck the Halls**

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la la la la!  
'Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la la la la!  
Don we now our gay apparel, Fa la la la la la la la!  
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, Fa la la la la la la la!

See the blazing yule before us, Fa la la la la la la la!  
Strike the harp and join the chorus, Fa la la la la la la la!  
Sing we joyous all together! Fa la la la la la la la!  
Heedless of the wind and weather, Fa la la la la la la la!

## 4. **Ding Dong Merrily On High**

Ding dong merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing:  
Ding dong! Verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,  
And "Io, io, io!" by priest and people sungen.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;

May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

**5. Feliz Navidad**

Feliz navidad, Feliz Navidad, Feliz Navidad  
Prospero Ano y Felicidad.

We wanna wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wanna wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wanna wish you a Merry Christmas  
From the bottom of our hearts.

**6. Go Tell It on the Mountain**

*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere,  
Go tell it on the mountain, our Jesus Christ is born.*

When I was a seeker I sought both night and day,  
I asked the Lord to help me, and he showed me the way.

He made me a watchman upon a city wall,  
And if I am a Christian, I am the least of all.

**7. Hark the Herald Angels Sing**

Hark the herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise Join the triumph of the skies  
With the angelic host proclaim: "Christ is born in Bethlehem"  
Hark! The herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come offspring of a Virgin's womb  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see hail the incarnate Deity  
Pleased as man with man to dwell Jesus, our Emmanuel  
Hark! The herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King!"

**8. Jingle Bells**

Dashing through the snow in a one horse open sleigh  
O'er the fields we go laughing all the way  
Bells on bob tails ring making spirits bright  
What fun it is to laugh and sing a sleighing song tonight

Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh

Jingle bells, jingle bells jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh!

**9. Angels We Have Heard On High**

Angels we have heard on high.  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains.  
And the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.

**Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

Come to Bethlehem and see,  
Him Whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord the newborn King.

See Him in a manger laid,  
Whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While our hearts in love we raise.

**10. Silent Night, Holy Night**

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child  
Holy Infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

**11. Silver Bells**

City sidewalks busy sidewalks. Dressed in holiday style  
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas  
Children laughing, people passing, meeting smile after smile  
And on ev'ry street corner you'll hear

Silver bells, silver bells, it's Christmas time in the city  
Ring a ling hear them sing, Soon it will be Christmas Day.

**12. The Calypso Carol**

See Him lying on a bed of straw  
A draughty stable with an open door  
Mary cradling the babe she bore  
The Prince of glory is His name

**O now carry me to Bethlehem  
To see the Lord appear to men  
Just as poor as was the stable then  
The Prince of glory when He came**

Star of silver, sweep across the skies  
Show where Jesus in the manger lies  
Shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise  
To see the Saviour of the world

**13. The First Noel**

The First Noel, the Angels did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!**

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
That hath made Heaven and earth of nought  
And with his blood mankind has bought.

**14. We Wish You a Merry Christmas**

**We wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin  
Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

## **TONIGHT...**

Worship Leader : Maggie Mathieson  
Musicians : Jessica Tso, Caden Lam, Jonah Lam  
Choirs : B Sharp Choir and Named For God  
Lectors : Emmanuel Adesina, Rey Asis, Ramon Bultron,  
Jennifer Chan, Sunita Suna, Paul Wong  
Prayers : Cynthia Leung, Vivian Lee  
Greeter : Lucy Lim, Amber Tong, Katie Ho  
Offering : Chris Law, Kulwinder Kaur

## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Welcome!**

Welcome to our Service this evening. After the Service, we will continue with our carolling.

### **BSharp Choir**

We are so happy to welcome once again members of the 'BSharp Choir'. The choir was established in February 2019, all the members of the choir are alumni of the Bishop Hall Jubilee School.

### **Christmas Donation**

This year the offering the church receives on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services (except the promissory offerings) will be given to 'The Five Loaves and Two Fish'. This organization has been set up to help those in times of need, providing and sourcing goods for use in the home.

**CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP TOMORROW**

**AT 11:00 A.M.**

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US !**

## KUC'S CHRISTMAS EVE TRADITIONS

Traditions are made through experience, through events so meaningful that people repeat them in rituals, in words, and in music – so that every generation can remember and re-experience them.

The lighting of the Christ candle is a tradition of many churches. Light is a symbol of Christ's love and grace. It is also a symbol of our own personal commitment. It is a commitment that we bear, *I* bear, in being a faithful witness to Christ in daily living, even to the ends of the earth.

Kowloon Union Church has further developed this tradition, adding a practice of our own – the Singing on the Steps. After the Christmas Eve Service, we gather on the outer steps to sing Christmas carols.

*The background.* Until the late 1960s, the congregation used to go from the Christmas Eve Service to Queen Elizabeth Hospital to sing carols there. In 1968, however, Hong Kong was in a state of uproar and confusion. There was rioting in the streets. Bombs were set off. Electricity was often cut. A curfew was declared, and it was not possible for carolers to go to the hospital. So some young church members decided instead to remain on the steps and sing carols by candlelight. They wanted to show that, transcending the human chaos, there was God's peace; above people's hatred, there was God's love.

KUC is an international Ecumenical Church that embraces diversity and receives all people regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientations, gender identities, socio-economic status and different level of capacities. This is our witness to the good news of inclusivity, unity and oneness in Jesus Christ, who was born to embrace everyone and share love to all.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!