

Kowloon Union Church  
"Where all are one"  
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Secretary: Candy Lam  
Minister: Maggie Mathieson  
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



**Second Sunday after Epiphany**  
**14 January 2024**  
**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

(\*: Congregation stands)

### **APPROACH**

**PREPARATION SONG** "Be Still and Know"

– Composer: Anon

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** "Lord of Creation"

– Music: Trad. Slane, Words: J C Winslow

**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.**

**HYMN** "Great is Thy Faithfulness" – Music: W Runyan; Words: T Chisholm

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

Psalm 119: 97 - 108 (O.T)

Luke 4: 16 - 30 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

**And bear much fruit for Your glory.**

**HYMN** "The Spirit Song"

– Composer: J Wimber

**FAMILY TALK**

**SERMON**

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL RESPOND** "In The Lord"

– Composer: Taizé

**OFFERTORY**

**THE PEACE**

\* **HYMN** "Go Tell Everyone" – Music: H Richards; Words: A Dale, H Richards

\* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

## CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

**Please remember as you pray. . .**

- At the beginning of the New Year, let us continue to pray for peace in the world where wars and fighting continue to rage. Pray that we can tackle the damage we have done to the environment and act with justice for creation. Pray for Hong Kong and her people. Pray for the church and each other.
- Ecuador's President Daniel Noboa has declared a 60-day state of emergency following the escape of one of the country's most powerful gang leaders from prison. The escape has spurred multiple gang fights and overall destruction for the people, bringing about fatalities and injury. Though these measures are harsh and restrictive, we pray they may protect the innocent and most vulnerable and be effective in ending the violence.
- The work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees continues daily in and around Gaza despite the personal loss and risk the workers face. As the bombardment continues, and many other agencies have left the area already, the UNRWA remains. We thank God for the dedication of those called to this work.
- In India, several hospitals that are part of the National Cancer Grid have initiated a scheme to reduce the cost of cancer medication for some of the poorest people in the country simply by uniting to purchase medicines in bulk. They are making distribution more widespread and affordable to those diagnosed with the illness. Many more people can now undergo life-saving treatment with fewer fears of accumulating massive debts. This simple act of cooperation is an inspiration for all, and may many more follow suit.
- In the aftermath of the New Year's Day earthquake that hit Japan, the numbers of lives lost and those missing continue to rise. Bad weather continues to hamper the rescue and recovery attempts, with thousands of homes without electricity or water. We are grateful that many provisions are already in place for such a natural disaster in the country, and we pray for those involved in the rescue.
- More than 6,700 Hong Kong teachers quit their jobs during the last academic year, a 25 per cent increase from the year before, government figures given to Legco revealed on Wednesday. This is a serious issue for all here in Hong Kong, and our government and we must seek a workable solution to avoid repeating it, and support all those in the education sector – teachers, students, staff and parents.

### **For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

We are **thankful** for:

- the ancient cultures and religions that have been sustained in this area for millennia
- those who continue to pursue peace in the midst of ethnic strife and terrorism
- the faithfulness of Muslims in expressing their faith and working with others
- Christians who practice their faith even when they are a small, often discriminated minority.

We **pray** for:

- women and others in these countries who are deprived of basic freedoms and human dignity
- those who misuse or exploit religious identity for extremist political ends
- the wise use of the benefits of oil and other natural resources for the sake of all
- the emergence of stable democratic societies based on the rule of law, social justice, and respect for religious and other freedoms.

### **For the Congregation**

- Pray for those facing health challenges that require body strength restoration: Edna Lai, Paul Wong, Kevin Ng, Revd Bud, Jeanette Lee, Hend, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Joy Babasa, Julianne Long and John. We continue to remember our senior members and friends: Mrs Samuel and the mother of Alex Melwani and June Tang. May God heal the sick and give strength to those caring for loved ones at home and in care facilities.

### **Announcements**

**Today** - A warm welcome to all who join our worship this morning. Please stay and join the tea and coffee fellowship after the service.

**Thank you**, Paul Cooper, for sharing the Word of God with us this morning.

**New Year Appeal From the Peacemaking Team** - As we enter the new year, the peacemaking ministry is appealing to you all for donations of supermarket vouchers. These vouchers will enable us to provide for families and people in need within our community. For more details, please get in touch with Katie Ho.

### **Workshop Today Following Worship**

**Want to contribute to the KUC Centenary Book?** Join the creative writing workshop being organised by KUC on **today** at 1 PM, Lower Fellowship Hall. The Centenary Committee will receive all written creations resulting from the workshop. Our KUC friend, Yvonne Yu, will be our resource person and facilitator. See you all there!

**Dates For Your Diaries:**

**English Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**Date: 23 January 2024 (Tue)**

**Time: 8:00 pm**

**Venue: St. Mary’s Church (5 Dyer Ave, Hung Hom)**

**Speaker:** Revd Eden Fletcher (The Methodist Church, Hong Kong)

**Theme:** “You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.”

**Starting in February 2024**

As part of the KUC centenary celebrations, the Christian Education Committee will launch a new study series entitled ‘Discipleship: Then And Now’. Every 1st Sunday after worship in the Upper Fellowship Hall.



**Taizé Worship Services**

The young people who formerly met in Kowloon Union Church have continued leading Taizé Prayers on the first Tuesday of the month in All Saints’ Cathedral.

Date: 1st Tuesday of the month

Time: 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

**Or**

Join members of All Saints’ Cathedral every fourth Sunday of the month,

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month

Time: 5:00 pm

All Saints’ Cathedral, 11 Pak Po Street, Mong Kok.

	<b>TODAY 14 January</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK 21 January</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Paul Cooper	Katie Ho
Pianist:	Eva Kwan	Lucy Lim
Lector:	Alex Melwani	Carol Yuen
Intercessory Prayers:	Phyllis Wong	John Mok-Lamme
Family Talk:	Maggie Mathieson	Chan Beng Seng
Greeter:	Edwina Antonio, Susan Babasa	Edith San Juan,
Offering Rota:	Thapa Samjhani Caden Lam	Anjenette Bolanos Ronald Chui
Counting Rota	Judy Chan Ramon Bultron	T.B.C
Sunday School Leaders:	Mary Adesina, Jailyn Tomitis	Mary Adesina, Jailyn Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Amber Tong, Bervinder Kaur	Venus Cheng, Bervinder Kaur

Free will offering last week: HK\$4,834.50-  
Promissory offering last week: HK\$7,280-