

**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

Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God

In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust
--||--

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

We wait for the Word
to be unrolled,
**to take root, to hold us,
shake us, and call us into the world**

May our eyes, ears and hearts be ready,
To receive and act on what we hear

Let us wait.

Let us be ready.

Let us worship.

* **HYMN** “Lord of Creation” – Music: Trad. Slane, Words: J C Winslow
Lord of creation, to you be all praise!
Most mighty your working, most wondrous your ways!
Your glory and might are beyond us to tell,
and yet in the heart of the humble you dwell.

Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you for all you impart:
your love to inspire me, your counsel to lead,
your presence to shield me, whatever my need.

Lord of all being, I give you my all,
for if I disown you, I stumble and fall;
but sworn in glad service your word to obey,
I walk in your freedom the rest of the way. --||--

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of Justice and Mercy, we confess that we often
pay lip service to Your commandments.**

**We read the words of our ancestors, hear their
stories, know the lessons, and fail to internalize them.**

**We fail to live into Your word in a way that
transforms our lives.**

**We confess that we have short attention spans and
are distracted by many things.**

**Call us into accountability. Remind us that the Word
became Flesh and lived among us,
so we might embody the life of Jesus in our own
lives.**

**Challenge us to be faithful in our study and reflection
so that our lives bear witness in response to the Word
we know as Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ALL RESPOND “Kyrie Eleison” (Lord, have mercy)
– Trad. Orthodox

Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie Eleison

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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

Great is Thy faithfulness

God our creator

There is no shadow

Of turning with Thee

Thou changest not

Thy compassions they fail not

As Thou hast been

Thou forever wilt be

Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning

New mercies I see

All I have needed

Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness

Lord unto me

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness

Lord unto me

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SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 119: 97 - 108 (O.T)

⁹⁷Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.

⁹⁸**Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.**

⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰**I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.**

¹⁰¹I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

¹⁰²**I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me.**

¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴**Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.**

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

¹⁰⁶**I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.**

¹⁰⁷I am severely afflicted; give me life, O LORD, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸Accept my offerings of praise, O LORD, and teach me your ordinances.

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

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him.

He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³ He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’”

²⁴ And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the

heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;

²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.”

²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

HYMN “The Spirit Song”

– Composer: J Wimber

Oh let the Son of God enfold you
With His Spirit and His love
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul
Oh let Him have those things that hold you
And His Spirit like a dove
Will descend upon your life and make you whole

Jesus oh Jesus
Come and fill Your lambs
Jesus oh Jesus
Come and fill Your lambs

Oh come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name

Oh give Him all your tears and sadness
Give Him all your years of pain
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name

Jesus oh Jesus
Come and fill Your lambs
Jesus oh Jesus
Come and fill Your lambs
--||--

FAMILY TALK

SERMON

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,
our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in
heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our
sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from
evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are
yours now and for ever. Amen.**

ALL RESPOND "In The Lord" – Composer: Taizé

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
In the Lord I will rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid,
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
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OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* **HYMN** “Go Tell Everyone”

– Music: H Richards; Words: A Dale, H Richards

God’s Spirit is in my heart,
He has called me and set me apart.
This is what I have to do,
what I have to do.

He sent me to give the Good News to the poor,
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more,
Tell blind people that they can see,
And set the downtrodden free
And go tell everyone the news that Kin-dom of God has
come,
And go tell everyone the news that God’s Kin-dom has
come.

Just as the Father sent me,
So I’m sending you out to be
My witnesses throughout the world,
The whole of the world.

He sent me to give the Good News to the poor,
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more,
Tell blind people that they can see,
And set the downtrodden free
And go tell everyone the news that Kin-dom of God has
come,
And go tell everyone the news that God’s Kin-dom has
come.

Just as the Father sent me,
So I’m sending you out to be

My witnesses throughout the world,
The whole of the world.

He sent me to give the Good News to the poor,
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more,
Tell blind people that they can see,
And set the downtrodden free
And go tell everyone the news that Kin-dom of God has
come,
And go tell everyone the news that God's Kin-dom has
come.

Don't worry what you have to say,
Don't worry because on that day
God's Spirit will speak in your heart,
Will speak in your heart.

He sent me to give the Good News to the poor,
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more,
Tell blind people that they can see,
And set the downtrodden free
And go tell everyone the news that Kin-dom of God has
come,
And go tell everyone the news that God's Kin-dom has
come.

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*** COMMISSION and BLESSING**

May our lives this week flourish,
as we live the good news
in what we say and do,
with grace and conviction,
with joy and enthusiasm.

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: 4th Sunday of the month

Time: 5:00 pm

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

	TODAY 14 January	NEXT WEEK 21 January
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-		