

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**28 January 2024**

**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

(\*: Congregation stands)



## **APPROACH**

**PREPARATION SONG** “Jesus le Christ” (Lord Jesus Christ)

– Composer: Taizé

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.

Let not my doubt or my darkness speak to me.

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.

Let my heart always welcome your love.

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### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: We light a light

**All: so nothing is hidden but shines out from this place.**

L: We light a light

**All: so those who are lost may find a way home.**

L: We light a light

**All: to recognize Christ is present in the world.**

L: We gather in the light, no longer hidden

**All: but growing stronger, full of faith.**

Let us worship.

\* **HYMN** “10,000 Reasons”

– Composers: M Redman and S Angrisano

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul

Worship God’s holy name

Sing like never before O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul

Worship God’s holy name

Sing like never before O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger

Your name is great and Your heart is kind

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul

Worship God’s holy name

Sing like never before O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship God's holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name  
Worship Your holy name  
Worship Your holy name  
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## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God  
In pain and distress,  
**we forget you are our Comfort.**  
In doubt and fear,  
**we forget you are our Faith.**  
In isolation and segregation,  
**we forget you are our Unity**  
In darkness and loneliness,

**we forget you are the Light.**

In an unjust and uncertain world,

**we forget you are our Hope and Love.**

God of mercy,

**Forgive us when we run from your call and  
ignore your presence.**

Light of faith, hope and love

**Shine on us, transform us and the world,  
through Jesus our Saviour. 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.**

**UCCP CHOIR** “Great is the Goodness”

– Composers: C. Reid and R Hamilton

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

Jonah 1: 1 - 17 (O.T.)

1 Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, 2“Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.”

3 But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

4But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up.

5 Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep.

6 The captain came and said to him, “What are you doing sound asleep? Get up, call on your god!

Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish.”

7 The sailors said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.

8 Then they said to him, “Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?”

9 “I am a Hebrew,” he replied. “I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.”

10 Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them so.

11 Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. 12 He said to them, “Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you.”

13 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them.

14 Then they cried out to the LORD, “Please, O LORD, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man’s life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you.”

15 So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. 16 Then the men feared the LORD even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.

17 But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Luke 8: 16 – 18 (N.T.)

16 “No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.

17 For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light.

18 Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away.”

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

## **HYMN** “Jesus Loves Me”

– Composers: AB Warner and W B Bradbury

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong;  
they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me he who died  
heaven's gate to open wide.  
He will wash away my sin,  
let his little child come in.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, "Let them come to me.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

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# **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**

**MISSION MOMENT**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas"**

– Taizé

**OFFERTORY**

**THE PEACE**

**\* HYMN "Will You Come and Follow Me"**

– Music: Trad; Words: J L Bell

Will you come and follow Me

If I but call your name

Will you go where you don't know

And never be the same

Will you let My love be shown

Will you let My name be known

Will you let My life be grown

In you and you in Me

Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare  
Will you let Me answer prayer  
In you and you in Me

Will you love the you you hide  
If I but call your name  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around  
Through My sight and touch and sound  
In you and you in Me

Lord Your summons echoes true  
When You but call my name  
Let me turn and follow You  
And never be the same  
In Your company I'll go  
Where Your love and footsteps show  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In You and You in me --||--

# \* COMMISSION and BLESSING

## CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*God does nothing except in response to believing prayer.*

– John Wesley

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

- World Interfaith Harmony Week is an annual event observed during the first week of February since 2010. The General Assembly of the UN established this week as a way to promote harmony between all people regardless of their faith. The General Assembly encourages all States to spread the message of interfaith harmony and goodwill in the world's churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, and other places of worship during that week voluntarily and according to their religious traditions or convictions. Let us pray for the world's religious leaders to spread the message of interfaith dialogue and harmony. May they inspire their followers to embrace the values of mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation and work towards building a more peaceful and harmonious world.
- According to BBC News, the rate of deforestation in Brazil's Amazon fell by nearly 50% in 2023 compared to the previous year. The deforested area is still more than six times the size of New York City, but it has the lowest recorded deforestation rate in the last five years. This news is significant because the Amazon rainforest is a crucial battleground in the global fight against climate change. It is often called "the lungs of the planet" due to its essential role in the planet's oxygen and carbon dioxide cycles. The rainforest is home to about three million species of plants and animals and one million indigenous people. President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva pledged to end deforestation by 2030 when he took office a year ago. Let us pray for the preservation of the Amazon rainforest and the well-being of its inhabitants, and may Brazil's example galvanise other world leaders to act and tackle the climate change problem in earnest.
- On Monday, the Spanish Supreme Court ruled that the authorities violated the law and human rights when they sent back hundreds of

unaccompanied child migrants to Morocco in 2021. The children were part of a large group of people who tried to enter Ceuta, a Spanish territory in North Africa, by land or sea. Many of them were fleeing poverty and violence in sub-Saharan Africa. Lord, we pray for the safety and well-being of all migrants and asylum seekers who risk their lives to seek a better future. We ask you to protect them from harm and injustice and to provide them with the care and support they need. We also pray that the authorities and the communities that receive them may act with compassion and respect for their dignity and rights.

- A landslide in Zhaotong, China, killed 20 people and left 24 missing on Monday after a cliff collapsed and buried dozens of homes. Rescuers are working in freezing temperatures to find the survivors, while the Chinese government ordered an “all-out” rescue effort. The region is prone to landslides and earthquakes, and a 7.0 magnitude quake hit Xinjiang on Tuesday, causing some damage but no casualties. Heavenly Father, we pray for the victims of the landslide and their families that you would comfort them in their grief and provide for their needs. We also pray for the safety and strength of the rescue workers, that you would protect them from harm and guide them in their search.
- Hong Kong is facing two major trials under the national security law imposed by China in 2020. The trials involve prominent pro-democracy figures such as media tycoon Jimmy Lai and activist Joshua Wong, who are accused of colluding with foreign forces or organizing an unofficial primary election. The outcomes of the trials will have significant implications for Hong Kong's democracy and autonomy, as well as its civil and political rights. Meanwhile, Hong Kong is preparing to expand the national security law with new legislation that could further erode its freedoms. O God, we pray for the people of Hong Kong that you will protect them from oppression and injustice. We ask you to uphold the rule of law and the Sino-British Joint Declaration, which guarantee Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy and respect for human rights. We pray for the defendants and their lawyers in the trials that you would grant them courage and wisdom and that the judges act with integrity and impartiality. We also pray for the authorities and the legislators in Hong Kong and China that they would act with restraint and accountability and seek dialogue and reconciliation with the people.

We ask you to show your mercy and grace to Hong Kong and bless it with peace and prosperity.

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

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, and Tunisia.

We are **thankful** for:

- how the early Christian church developed here.
- the biodiversity of plants, animals and the natural terrain.
- how Berber, Arab and European cultures have blended.
- how these countries have remained and stood against the invasion of cultural and military forces from elsewhere.

We **pray** for:

- all the people of these countries: Muslims, the tiny remnant of Christians, those of other faiths who continue bearing witness to their faiths and for all people of good will.
- an end to political violence.
- an end to how dominating powers have fought over these lands and their resources through the years.
- for those suffering exploitation and mistreatment as they travel through these countries.

### **For the Congregation**

- Pray for those facing health challenges that require body strength restoration: Paul Wong, Kevin Ng, Revd Bud, Jeanette Lee, Hend, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Joy Babasa, Julianne Long, John and Stephanie Mumbi. We continue to remember our senior members and friends: Mrs Samuel and the mothers 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,** Pastor Maggie, for sharing the Word of God with us this morning.

### **Harambe Choir**

Harambe in Swahili means “join together”. We invite you to join us and sing songs from different cultures and languages! This year, we will collaborate with a local gospel music group called ‘Promist’, in a mass choir event. Why not join us and see what’s next!

Practice time: Every Wednesday, 6-7 pm, in the Upper Fellowship Hall

Please get in touch with Katie Ho (9623 1976) if you’re interested.

### Dates For Your Diaries:

**Discipleship: Then and Now – Starting 4 Feb, 12nn to 2pm**

As part of the KUC centenary celebrations, the Christian Education Committee will launch a new study series entitled ‘Discipleship: Then And Now’. First session will be next Sunday in Upper Fellowship Hall. Light lunch provided. Scan the QR code to reserve your place!



### **Human Café: Parenting for a Peaceful World**

This interactive parenting workshop is suitable for all, not just people with kids. Join us to be inspired and refreshed.

Dates: 2 Mar, 6 Apr

Time: 4-6 pm Venue: KUC Space.

Scan the QR code for registration.

(A collaboration of Ediversity and the Peacemaking Ministry)



	<b>TODAY</b> <b>28 January</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK</b> <b>4 February</b>
Liturgist:	Phyllis Wong	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Maggie Mathieson	Phyllis Wong
Pianist:	Joshua Pang	Katie Ho
Lector:	Adam Snyder	Caden Lam
Intercessory Prayers:	Judy Chan	Robert Lam
Family Talk:	Tong Chong Sze	Maggie Mathieson
Greeter:	Estella Yeung Kevin Ng	Tory Caplan Susan Babasa
Offering Rota:	Daddy Susan Babasa	Rose Muriri Jacob
Counting Rota	Hope Antone Joram Calimutan	Jennifer Chan TBC
Sunday School Leaders:	Mary Adesina Jailyn Tomitis	Mary Adesina Jailyn Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Jen Pang Bervinder Kaur	Venus Cheng Bervinder Kaur
Freewill offering last week: HK\$10,101- Promissory offering last week: HK\$1,650- Welfare Fund: HK\$5,000-		