

**Third Sunday in Lent**  
**3 March 2024**  
**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Holy Communion Service**



(\*: Congregation stands)

**APPROACH**

**PREPARATION SONG “Our Eyes Are Turned”**  
– Composer: Taizé Community

Our eyes are turned to the Lord Jesus Christ,  
Our eyes are turned to the Lord, God our Saviour

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**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for  
righteousness,

**All: for they will be satisfied.**

L: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for peace,  
**All: for they will be calm.**

L: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for love,  
**All: for they will be healed.**

L: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for God,  
**All: for they will be saved.**

**\* HYMN “The Love of God”**

– Composer: Frederick M. Lehman

The love of God is greater far  
Than tongue or pen can ever tell  
It goes beyond the highest star  
And reaches to the lowest hell  
The guilty pair bowed down with care  
God gave His Son to win  
His erring child He reconciled  
And pardoned from his sin

O love of God how rich and pure  
How measureless and strong  
It shall forevermore endure  
The saints and angels song

When years of time shall pass away  
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall  
When men who here refuse to pray  
On rocks and hills and mountains call  
God's love so sure shall still endure  
All measureless and strong  
Redeeming grace to Adam's race  
The saints and angels song

O love of God how rich and pure  
How measureless and strong  
It shall forevermore endure  
The saints and angels song

Could we with ink the ocean fill  
And were the skies of parchment made  
Were every stalk on earth a quill  
And every man a scribe by trade  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry

Nor could the scroll contain the whole  
Though stretched from sky to sky

O love of God how rich and pure  
How measureless and strong  
It shall forevermore endure  
The saints and angels song  
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## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Eternal and merciful God,  
you have loved us with a love beyond our  
understanding,  
and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your  
name's sake;  
Yet, we have walk away from your way;  
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and  
deed,  
through what we have done and what we have left  
undone,  
and we have wandered from your pathway.**

**As we remember your healing power and sacrificing  
love in Jesus Christ,  
we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive  
and save us again.**

**Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin,  
and to rise daily to new life in Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you,  
in Jesus' almighty name we pray. Amen.**

**ALL RESPOND** “O Lord, Have Mercy On Us”

– Composer: Timothy Chan

O LORD, have mercy on us.

O Christ, have mercy on us.

O LORD, have mercy on us. --||--

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

If we are united with Christ in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. So we must consider ourselves dead to sin and alive in God. In Jesus Christ, your faith has saved you. Go in peace!

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen!**

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.**

**KUC SINGERS** “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

– Composer: Keith Green

Create in me a clean heart, oh God

And renew a right spirit within me

Create in me a clean heart, oh God

And renew a right spirit within me

Cast me not away from Thy presence, oh Lord

Take not Thy holy spirit from me

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation

And renew a right spirit within me

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## **SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

Psalm 63 (O.T.)

1 O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.**

3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

**4 So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

5 My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

**6 when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;**

7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

**8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.**

9 But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth;

**10 they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be prey for jackals.**

11 But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall exult, for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

Mark 5: 24-34 (N.T.)

24 So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. 25 Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years.

26 She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse.

27 She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28 for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well."

29 Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. 30

Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched my clothes?”

31 And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, ‘Who touched me?’” 32 He looked all around to see who had done it.

33 But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth.

34 He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

## **FAMILY TALK**

### **SERMON “Blessed Are You”**

#### **\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**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**

**ALL RESPOND “Ubi Caritas”**

– Composer: Taizé Community

Ubi caritas et amor,  
ubi caritas, Deus Ibi Est.

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### **OFFERTORY**

Thou art my hiding place;  
Thou art my hiding place  
thou shalt preserve me from trouble;  
thou shalt compass me about  
with songs of deliverance.  
What time I am afraid  
I will trust in thee.

X3

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## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **THE PEACE**

## **HYMN** “Bread of Life From Heaven”

– Music: Traditional; Words: Susan R. Briehl

Bread of life from heaven,  
Your blood and body given,  
we eat this bread and drink this cup  
until You come again.

Love as the One who, in love for you,  
gave himself for the life of the world.  
Come to the One who is food for you,  
And your hunger and thirst be no more.

Bread of life from heaven,  
Your blood and body given,  
we eat this bread and drink this cup  
until You come again.

Dwell in the One who now dwells in you;  
Make your home in the life-giving Word.  
Know only Christ, Holy One of God,  
And believe in the truth you have heard.

Bread of life from heaven,  
Your blood and body given,  
we eat this bread and drink this cup  
until You come again.

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## **INVITATION**

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord is with us

**We rejoice in God’s Presence.**

We lift up our hearts.



**We lift our hearts to the Lord.**

We give thanks to God,  
**who creates and sustains all things.**

Loving God

In the fullness of time you gave us Jesus Christ,  
Who entered into the world as your servant,

**To heal,**

**To liberate,**

**To proclaim the Good News of your kingdom.**

As a sign of God's presence among us, our Lord Jesus  
prepared a meal of bread and wine, a celebration,

**of life over death**

**of love over fear**

**of union over separation.**

Christ lives in us,

**and we in Christ,**

In Christ we are set free : **a new creation.**

Confirmed for us in bread and wine,

**a meal of jubilation.**

With all your Church throughout the world we offer you  
our praise and lift our voice to join the everlasting song of  
heaven:

**SANCTUS**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Heaven and Earth are full of Your Glory;

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT**

## **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.

## **DISTRIBUTION**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Eternal God,**

**you have graciously accepted us as living members of  
your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of  
heart; through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**\* HYMN “A Touching Place”**

– Composer: John Bell, Graham Maule

Christ's is the world in which we move;  
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love:  
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,  
and Christ is the one who calls us here.  
To the lost Christ shows His face,  
to the unloved He gives His embrace,

to those who cry in pain or disgrace,  
Christ makes with His friends a touching place.

Feel for the people we most avoid  
strange or bereaved or never employed.  
Feel for the women and feel for the men  
who fear that their living is all in vain.

To the lost Christ shows His face,  
to the unloved He gives His embrace,  
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,  
Christ makes with His friends a touching place.

Feel for the lives by life confused,  
riddled with doubt in loving abused,  
feel for the lonely heart conscious of sin,  
which longs to be pure but fears to begin.

To the lost Christ shows His face,  
to the unloved He gives His embrace,  
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,  
Christ makes with His friends a touching place.

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**\* COMMISSION and BLESSING**

### **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

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

- Next Friday, 8 March, is International Women's Day when the world celebrates women's social, economic, and political achievements. It also serves as a reminder of

the ongoing struggle for gender parity. Gender equality means equal access to rights and opportunities, regardless of gender. As we commemorate this day, let us pray that women everywhere be empowered, respected, and free. May they have equal opportunities, access to education, and the ability to thrive; let us work together to dismantle barriers and create a world where every woman's potential is realized.

- Oil leakage from a capsized barge off the coast of Tobago has spread over hundreds of miles, reaching the Caribbean island of Bonaire. The island's east coast, including Sorobon, Lac, and Lagun, has been polluted, endangering mangroves, fish, and coral ecosystems. Let us offer a prayer for environmental protection: May the seas and shores be cleansed, and may the delicate balance of life be restored. May we act with wisdom, responsibility, and compassion to safeguard our planet for future generations.
- In Chad, the delayed presidential elections, now scheduled for May, signify the end of a political transition that commenced in 2021 following the death of former President Idriss Déby. His son, Gen Mahamat Déby, assumed power in defiance of the constitution, pledging a return to civilian rule. However, concerns persist: the electoral commission lacks neutrality, and the opposition fears the perpetuation of the Déby dynasty. Let us pray for fair elections and the emergence of true democracy in Chad: may the people's voices be heard, and may their votes shape a future of justice, transparency, and freedom. May Chad find its path toward genuine representation and governance.
- In a significant development, three former police officers in Seoul have been sentenced for destroying evidence

related to the tragic Halloween crowd crush in the city's Itaewon neighbourhood in 2022. This incident claimed the lives of nearly 160 people. As we reflect on this heartbreaking event, let us remember the families of the victims. May they be comforted now that justice finally prevailed and find peace and healing. We also pray that authorities around the world learn from the tragedy and improve crowd control measures to safeguard future large gatherings.

- Fifteen people tragically lost their lives, and more than 40 others were injured in a devastating fire that swept through an apartment building in Nanjing, China. The blaze, which engulfed several floors of a skyscraper, is believed to have originated on the first floor, where electric bikes were stored. As we mourn the lives lost, let us pray for peace and comfort to the families affected, and may there be reflection and safety improvements to safeguard lives and prevent such tragedies in the future.
- The HK Financial Secretary announced the new budget on Wednesday. The Consumption Voucher Scheme has been dropped, government spending generally trimmed, and the income tax for the top salary group has been raised slightly while the so-called spicy property measures have been removed to try to stimulate the flagging property market. We hope that the proposed budget adequately addresses issues for the working class in the current difficult economy and that the Government will continue to pay attention to the needs of those most vulnerable.

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

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Ireland and the United Kingdom of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales.

We are **thankful** for:

- the many distinct cultures in these islands and how literature, music, dance, and other traditions rooted here have enriched people around the world
- the economic and other aid that consistently have come from the area to those in the world who are most in need
- the many who have emigrated to other parts of the world, and in turn, the immigrants from these lands who are now turning the United Kingdom and Ireland into increasingly multi-ethnic, multi-religious societies
- The positive contributions Great Britain has made in world history, and the role church leaders have played in the ecumenical and interfaith movements.

We **pray** for:

- the healing of scars and memories that linger after times of colonization
- overcoming barriers so that all might experience welcome as these countries become more genuinely multi-ethnic and multi-faith
- resolving differences and political tensions over how Great Britain should relate to the rest of Europe
- dealing with the challenges of increasing secularism and the emergence of new ways of expressing religion and spirituality.

**For the Congregation**

- Pray for those facing health challenges that require body strength restoration: Paul Wong, Kevin Ng, Jeanette Lee, Hend, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Joy Babasa, Julianne Long, 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. This being the first Sunday of the month we celebrate with those born in the month of March.

**Thank you,** Aimé Girimana, for sharing the Word of God with us this morning.

**Today, 12 noon to 2 pm:** ‘Discipleship: Then And Now.’ Join us in our second session of the series when we think more about the stories of the women disciples.

### **Every Sunday Morning**

Contemplative Prayer – organized by the Christian Education Committee

**When: Sunday from 9:00 to 9:30 am**

**Where: Upper Fellowship Hall**

Contact Pastor Phyllis if you wish to know more about the prayer time.

### **A New Arrival**

Our former intern, Justine Wong and her husband, Tony Lo, are blessed with the arrival of a baby son. Baby Evan was born on Tuesday, 27 February; both Mother and child are doing well.

## **Date For Your Diaries:**

### **100 Acts of Service – KUC Community Activity**

Flag Day for Rainlily - an NGO that provides crisis services to victims of sexual violence, empowerment programs and advocacy for gender justice.

**Date: Saturday, 9 March (7 am to 12 noon) HK Island**

Please speak with Pastor Phyllis if you wish to join.

	<b>TODAY 3 March</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK 10 March</b>
Liturgist:	Phyllis Wong	Estella Yeung
Preacher:	Aimé Girimana	Hope Antone
Pianist:	Lucy Lim	Katie Ho
Lector:	Carol Yuen	Harry Chan
Intercessory Prayers:	Emmanuel Adesina	Ramon Bultron
Family Talk:	Tong Chong Sze	Maggie Mathieson
Greeter:	Sigrid Buxrud Emil Buxrud	Lucy Lim Edith San Juan
Offering Rota:	Rose Muiruri Susan Babasa	Thapa Samjhana Ching So
Counting Rota	Jennifer Chan Chan Beng Seng	Rey Asis Judy Chan
Sunday School Leaders:	Mary Adesina Tong Chong Sze Estella Yeung	Jailyn Tomitis Tong Chong Sze Gabi Baumgartner
I.T. Team:	Venus Cheng Bervinder Kaur	Jen Pang. Bervinder Kaur

Freewill offering last week: HK\$39,03.30-  
Promissory offering last week: HK\$600-  
Retiring Offering: \$1,860-