

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



Fourth Sunday in Lent
10 March 2024
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG "Oculi Nostri" (Our Eyes Are Turned) – Taizé

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

*** HYMN** "Be Still for the Presence of the Lord" – Music: D J Evans

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "O Lord Have Mercy On Us" – Composer: Timothy Chan

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

HYMN "This is My Desire" – Composer: R Morgan

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 37: 7-11 (O.T.)

James 1: 19-21 (N.T.)

Matthew 5: 38-41(N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

HARAMBE CHOIR – "Ndikhokhele Bawo" (Lead Me, Father)

FAMILY TALK

SERMON "Blessed Are the Meek"

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "O Lord, Hear Our Prayer"

– Taizé

OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* HYMN "The Servant King"

– Composer: G Kendrick

* COMMISSION and BLESSING

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

Please remember as you pray. . .

- Today is International Day of Women Judges, commemorating the crucial role that women play in enhancing the legitimacy of courts, signalling openness and accessibility to justice seekers. Their representation inspires future generations and fosters accountability. Diverse perspectives strengthen judicial systems, while effective responses to crime are linked to women's presence. Active participation of women at decision-making levels contributes to sustainable development and peace. Let us pray for a world where gender equality prevails, justice is impartial, and women continue to shape a fair and equitable legal landscape.
- Sudan faces an imminent and devastating famine, as warned by the head of the Norwegian Refugee Council. Over half a million Sudanese refugees in Chad are at risk. War-ravaged areas within Sudan suffer from hunger, with residents enduring RSF checkpoints, artillery, and sniper fire. Fear of harassment and violence keeps people confined to their homes. Damaged electrical and water facilities exacerbate the crisis, leading to untreated water consumption and thousands of suspected cholera cases. Let us pray for the people of Sudan so that they find relief, sustenance, and peace amidst their struggles.
- Thailand faces a dire air pollution crisis, with over 10 million Thais seeking treatment for pollution-related illnesses in 2023. The situation has worsened, exacerbated by widespread farm burning and forest fires, particularly in the country's north. Chronic conditions like lung cancer, bronchitis, asthma, and heart disease are prevalent. Let us pray for the health and well-being of the people in Thailand so that they find relief from this toxic air and regain vitality. May the government heed the impact of PM2.5 particles on public health and prioritise efforts to reduce air pollution.
- China's decision to eliminate the premier's annual news conference after the National People's Congress, a tradition held since 1993, marks the end of an essential institution in the country's reform era. The news conference provided a rare opportunity for journalists to interact with top Chinese leaders, even though answers rarely deviated from the official line. The move raises concerns about information opacity and transparency, especially as China claims commitment to fostering a friendly business environment. Let us pray for greater openness, accountability, and transparency in China's governance.

- A long-established contractor has abruptly declared bankruptcy and entered liquidation proceedings at the start of this month. Fung Cheung Kee had nine ongoing private development projects, and its liquidation affects nearly a hundred employees. The Federation of Trade Unions urges affected workers to seek assistance for unpaid wages. A sub-contractor with a long history of cooperation with Fung Cheung Kee reveals that full payment has been elusive for a long time since 2019. The cumulative amount of unpaid wages and bills exceeds HK\$150 million. We lift the workers and sub-contractors impacted by Fung Cheung Kee's liquidation. May they find strength, unity, and support from their community. We pray for justice, fairness, and a swift resolution to their plight.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

We lift in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Denmark, the Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

We are **thankful** for:

- the spectacular beauty of the changing landscape of forests, lakes, mountains and glaciers
- churches that are advocating and implementing measures to redress climate change that is dramatic here and throughout the world
- those who have opened their doors and hearts to people migrating to these lands
- the support for justice, peace and interfaith work that comes from these countries.

We **pray** for:

- the poor and marginalized who struggle in these rich countries
- personal and investment practices that support environmental sustainability
- growing openness to becoming more multi-ethnic, multi-faith societies
- those who are affluent that they will contribute to making the world and their societies more just for all
- a Church that is prepared to be a voice in the struggle for indigenous people's rights.

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 Revd. Kwok Nai Wang. 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, Hope Antone, for sharing the Word of God with us this morning.

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 learn more about prayer time.

Today 'Body As Home' – Fundraising Activity for Kowloon Union Church

Organised by The Int'l School of Somatic Education

Venue: Upper Fellowship Hall

Time: Session 1 Men only 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Session 2 Women only 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Session 3 Couples 4:30 pm – 5:45 pm

Please scan the QR code to register.



Date For Your Diaries:

Sunday, 17 March: The Care and Fellowship Committee will host an Art Activity during which we will reflect on and consider how blessed we are.

Venue: Upper Fellowship Hall

Time: 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Thursday, 4 April

Congregational Retreat org. by the Christian Education Com.

Venue: Tao Fung Shan Christian Centre, Tai Wai

Time: 9 am – 5 pm

Fee : HK\$100(this includes lunch and minibus fare from

Tai Wai to the Centre) **Concession Fee:** HK\$50

Scan the QR code to register. For more information, speak to Pastor Phyllis.



| | TODAY 10 March | NEXT WEEK 17 March |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| Liturgist: | Estella Yeung | Maggie Mathieson |
| Preacher: | Hope Antone | Phyllis Wong |
| Pianist: | Katie Ho | Joshua Pang |
| Lector: | Harry Chan | Guy Syrette |
| Intercessory Prayers: | Ramon Bultron | Venus Cheng |
| Family Talk: | Maggie Mathieson | Chan Beng Seng |
| Greeter: | Lucy Lim Edith San Juan | Edna Lai Jacob |
| Offering Rota: | Thapa Samjhana Ching So | Anjenette Bolanos Susan Babasa |
| Counting Rota | Rey Asis Judy Chan | Chan Beng Seng Ramon Bultron |
| Sunday School Leaders: | Jailyn Tomitis Tong Chong Sze Gabi Baumgartner | Mary Adesina Tong Chong Sze Gabi Baumgartner |
| I.T. Team: | Jen Pang Bervinder Kaur | Amber Tong Bervinder Kaur |

Freewill offering last week: HK\$8,991-

Promissory offering last week: HK\$7,460-