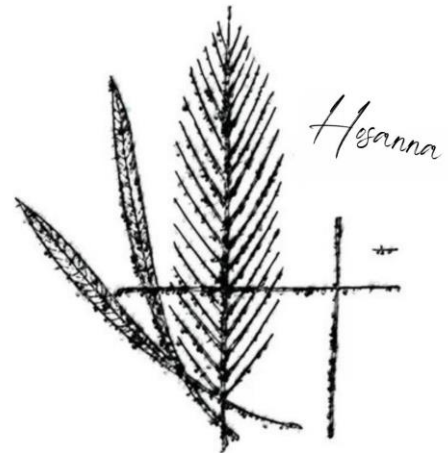


**Sixth Sunday in Lent**  
**24 March 2024**  
**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**  
**(\*: CONGREGATION STANDS)**



**APPROACH**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Let all creation shout!

**ALL: Let us wave the palm branches high.**  
**Jesus is coming!**

He comes in humility to claim God's own.

**May he claim us this day and heal our hearts!**

Hosanna to the Son of David.

**Hosanna to the blessed Son of God. AMEN.**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Hosanna, Hosanna"**

– Composer: C Tuttle

Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest

Lord, we lift up Your Name,  
with hearts full of praise.  
be exalted, O Lord my God-  
hosanna, in the highest.

\* **HYMN** “Hosanna, Hosanna”

– Composer: C Tuttle

Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest

Lord we lift up Your name  
With hearts full of praise  
Be exalted oh Lord my God  
Hosanna in the highest

Glory glory  
Glory to the King of kings  
Glory glory  
Glory to the King of kings

Lord we lift up Your name  
With hearts full of praise  
Be exalted oh Lord my God  
Hosanna in the highest  
Glory to the King of Kings  
--||--

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Loving God,**

**Forgive us for our resistance  
to Your meek and humble ways.**

**We confess that we have leaned too much  
on earthly wisdom that has produced  
strife, jealousy, and selfish ambition.**

**May Your heavenly wisdom bring about its fruit  
in our lives – peaceable relationships,  
merciful hearts, a gentle manner,  
a godly sincerity, and a pure heart.**

**Mold us into the image of the Prince of Peace,  
for we pray in His name, Amen.**

**ALL RESPOND** “Change Our Heart O God”

– Composer: E. Espinosa

Change Our heart, O God,  
make us ever true.

Change Our heart, O God,  
may we be like You.

--||--

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

Lord, open our lips.

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

**HYMN** “Shout to The Lord”

– Composer: D Zschech

My Jesus my Saviour  
Lord there is none like You  
All of my days I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love  
My comfort my shelter  
Tower of refuge and strength  
Let every breath all that I am  
Never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord  
All the earth let us sing  
Power and majesty  
Praise to the King  
Mountains bow down  
And the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name  
I sing for joy  
At the work of Your hands  
Forever I'll love You  
Forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise  
I have in You

My Jesus my Saviour  
Lord there is none like You  
All of my days I want to praise  
The wonders of Your mighty love

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Forever I'll stand  
Nothing compares to the promise  
I have in You  
--||--

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet.  
**A light to our path.**

Matthew 5: 1 - 11 (N.T.)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

4 “Blessed are those who mourn,  
**for they will be comforted.**

5 “Blessed are the meek,  
**for they will inherit the earth.**

6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
**for they will be filled.**

7 “Blessed are the merciful,  
**for they will receive mercy.**

8 “Blessed are the pure in heart,  
**for they will see God.**

9 “Blessed are the peacemakers,  
**for they will be called children of God.**

10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

# SUNDAY SCHOOL “Jumping Up and Down”

– Composer: R Evans

Jumping up and down  
Jumping up and down  
Jumping up and down  
Shout hosanna hosanna

Here comes Jesus  
Riding on a donkey  
Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna to the King  
Wave the branches  
Of the trees before Him  
Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna to the King

**Jumping up and down  
Jumping up and down  
Jumping up and down  
Shout hosanna hosanna  
Here comes Jesus  
Riding on a donkey  
Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna to the King  
Wave the branches  
Of the trees before Him  
Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna to the King**

**FAMILY TALK**

# **SERMON “Persecuted Peacemaker”**

## **\* 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**

**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**

**ALL RESPOND "O Lord, Hear Our Prayer"**

– Taizé

O Lord, hear our prayer;  
O Lord, hear our prayer;  
when we call answer us.

O Lord, hear our prayer,  
O Lord, hear our prayer;  
come and listen to us

--||--

## **OFFERTORY**

# THE PEACE

\* **HYMN** “Jesus Christ is Waiting”

– Music: Trad. ; Words: J.Bell, G Maule

Jesus Christ is waiting  
Waiting in the streets  
No one is His neighbour  
All alone He eats  
Listen Lord Jesus  
I am lonely too  
Make me friend or stranger  
Fit to wait on You

Jesus Christ is raging  
Raging in the streets  
Where injustice spirals  
And real hope retreats  
Listen Lord Jesus  
I am angry too  
In the Kingdom's causes  
Let me rage with You

Jesus Christ is healing  
Healing in the streets  
Curing those who suffer  
Touching those He greets  
Listen Lord Jesus  
I have pity too  
Let my care be active  
Healing just like You

Jesus Christ is dancing  
Dancing in the streets  
Where each sign of hatred  
He with love defeats  
Listen Lord Jesus  
I should triumph too  
On suspicion's graveyard  
Let me dance with You

Jesus Christ is calling  
Calling in the streets  
Who will join My journey  
I will guide their feet  
Listen, Lord Jesus,  
Let my fears be few  
Walk one step before me  
I will follow You  
--||--

## \* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

### **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

– John Wesley

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

- Humanity faces an unsustainable waste crisis due to excessive production and consumption. Annually, households, small businesses, and public services generate 2.1 to 2.3 billion tons of municipal solid waste, including packaging, electronics, plastics, and food. 30 March is International Day of Zero Waste: may this annual event

remind us of the critical importance of bolstering waste management globally. It celebrates zero-waste initiatives at all levels, contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Achieving zero-waste societies requires collaboration from consumers, governments, communities, and industries. We pray that everyone be mindful of our waste habits and choose an environmentally-friendly lifestyle, cherishing our planet for generations to come.

- In Bolivia, heavy rains have prompted authorities to declare a state of emergency. Nearly 50 people have died in deluges across the country since the rainy season began in January, with landslides and overflowing rivers wreaking havoc. Let us pray for the victims, their families, and the tireless rescue efforts. May compassion and resilience prevail during this challenging time.
- Civilians are caught in Sudan's brutal civil war where there are harrowing accounts of rape, ethnic violence, and street executions. The struggle between Sudan's military and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitary group has claimed over 14,000 lives, and reporters, facing enormous risks, have witnessed a devastating impact on innocent lives. UN officials warn that Sudan faces one of the worst humanitarian crises in recent history. The conflict threatens to trigger the world's largest hunger emergency. Let us uplift our prayers for the people of Sudan. May compassion envelop Sudan. Let healing replace hatred, and peace rise from the ashes. Our hearts ache for the victims, and we pray for their safety, resilience, and a brighter dawn.
- Chinese regulators have accused Evergrande, the insolvent property developer and its founder, of inflating revenues by a staggering US\$78 billion. The China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) swiftly imposed a hefty

penalty of 4.175 billion yuan (\$580 million) on Hengda Real Estate, Evergrande's main Chinese unit. Xu Jiayin, the group's founder and former China's richest man, faces a fine of 47 million yuan (\$6.5 million) and a lifetime ban from securities markets. The investigation, spanning eight months, revealed a web of violations, including fabricated sales figures and failure to disclose crucial information. This alleged fraud, totalling 564.1 billion yuan (\$78 billion) over two years, marks mainland China's most significant financial scandal. Let us pray for transparency, justice, and stability in financial markets and for the regulators to act diligently to protect investors in Hong Kong.

- Hong Kong's legislature has swiftly passed a new national security legislation, locally known as Article 23, which gives new powers that critics fear will align the city's national security laws more closely with those on the Chinese mainland. The extensive 212-page bill introduces 39 additional national security crimes, including treason, espionage, and handling state secrets. The most severe offences could lead to life imprisonment. While China and Hong Kong's leaders argue that these laws are necessary to "plug loopholes" and restore stability after the 2019 protests, critics worry about their broad scope. Legal experts and business leaders warn that the law may further suppress civil society and impact information exchange, particularly in the financial sector. Let us pray for a balance between security and freedom in this complex landscape.

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

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in the Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia.

We are **thankful** for:

- the faithful witness of Christians here through the centuries, especially in times of occupation and persecution
- the peaceful resolution of disputes
- the distinctive cultural contributions and resources in these lands
- the religious freedom and ecumenical cooperation that is growing.

**We pray for:**

- greater respect for the Roma people and others who are marginalized and who lack adequate livelihoods in these lands
- welcoming and engaging those of other faiths and ethnicities
- growth in spiritual as well as physical health
- democratic governance that advances God's justice and peace for all.

**For the Congregation**

- Pray for Paul Wong, Kevin Ng, Jeanette Lee, Hend, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Joy Babasa, Julianne Long, and Revd. and Mrs. Kwok, who are facing health challenges that require body strength restoration.
- 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.

## **Every Sunday Morning**

Contemplative Prayer – organised by the Christian  
Education Committee

When: Sunday from 9:00 to 9:30 am  
Fellowship Hall

Where: Upper

## **Today ‘Body As Home’ – Fundraising Activity for Kowloon Union Church**

Organised by The Int’l School of Somatic Education

Venue: Lower Fellowship Hall

Time: 1:30 – 2:30 pm. Please scan the QR code to  
register.



## **Dates For Your Diaries:**

**Next Sunday: Easter Sunday Pot Luck Lunch. Please  
add your name and your dish to the notice board.**

## **Thursday, 4 April**

**Congregational Retreat organized by the Christian  
Education Committee**

**Venue:** Tao Fung Shan Christian Centre,  
Tai Wai

**Time:** 9 am – 5 pm

**Fee:** HK\$100 (this includes lunch and transportation  
fee from Tai Wai)

**Concession Fee:** HK\$50

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



## **Saturday, 6 April 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: 6 April

Time: 4-6 pm



Venue: KUC Space - Scan the QR code for registration.

**Sunday, 7 April, 12 noon to 2 pm: 'Discipleship: Then And Now'**



Join us in our third session of the series when we think more about the stories of 'The Inner Circle', those disciples most frequently mentioned.

Venue: Lower Fellowship Hall

Light lunch provided

Scan the QR code to reserve your place at lunch.

**Sunday, 12 May – EGM and AGM after worship; more details will follow.**

	<b>TODAY 24 March</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Maggie Mathieson
Pianist:	Lucy Lim
Lector:	Estella Yeung
Intercessory Prayers:	Phyllis Wong
Family Talk:	Tong Chong Sze
Greeter:	Edwina Antonio, Bright and David
Offering Rota:	Daddy, Edith San Juan
Counting Rota	Joram Calimutan, Ramon Bultron
Sunday School Leaders:	Mary Adesina, Jailyn Tomitis, Lydia Cathedral
I.T. Team:	Amber Tong, Bervinder Kaur

Freewill offering last week: HK\$4615.60-  
Promissory offering last week: HK\$1,200-  
Welfare Fund: HK\$5,000-