

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



Fifth Sunday After Easter
28 April 2024
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG “Be Still and Know” – Anon
*** CALL TO WORSHIP**
*** HYMN** “All Are Welcome” – Composer: M. Haugen
CALL TO CONFESSION
PRAYER OF CONFESSION
ALL RESPOND “Change Our Heart O God” – Composer: E. Espinoza
ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.
And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.
*** HYMN** “Be Exalted O God” – Composer: B. Chambers
SCRIPTURE READING
Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet.
A light to our path.
Psalm 30 (O.T.)
Romans 12: 9 - 21 (N.T.)
Lord, may Your Word live in us.
And bear much fruit for Your glory.
*** HYMN** “Jesus Put a Song Into Our Hearts” – Composer: G. Kendrick
FAMILY TALK
SERMON
*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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** “Community of Christ”

– Music: Leoni ; Words: S. Murray

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

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

Please remember as you pray. . .

- Today, we observe World Day for Safety and Health at Work, reminding us of the urgent need for work safety in light of a recent tragic accident that claimed two lives at a drainage work site in Shatin on Monday. It is crucial that our government pays attention to work safety and addresses the evolving climate-related risks in the workplace. Let us pray for our government leaders, asking for their commitment to prioritize the well-being of workers. May they collaborate with social partners and implement necessary measures to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for all. Together, let us take action to protect workers and create a sustainable future.
- Argentina's President, Javier Milei, is aggressively tackling the fiscal deficit and hyperinflation through extensive spending cuts and austerity measures. Despite facing protests over education budget cuts, Milei aims to achieve a fiscal surplus and bring prosperity to Argentina. While market optimism is high, concerns remain about the impact on the most vulnerable sectors of society. We pray for the Argentine Government to remember the plight of the people at the lower end and prioritize their well-being during this period of fiscal adjustment for all.
- Tragedy strikes as at least five individuals lost their lives while attempting to cross the English Channel, just hours after the UK parliament approves a controversial bill to deport asylum seekers to Rwanda. French media reports the discovery of bodies on Wimereaux beach, with ongoing rescue operations to save others. Approximately 100 migrants have been rescued and taken aboard a French navy ship. Despite legislative hurdles and opposition from human rights activists, the UK government remains determined to implement the plan, which involves deporting migrants to Rwanda as a deterrent. We pray for the victims and their families and for compassion and empathy to guide the decisions made in addressing the complex issue of migration.
- Millions of Malawian subsistence farmers are grappling with the devastating impacts of consecutive climate disasters, deepening poverty and food insecurity. Cyclone Freddy caused floods and landslides, destroying crops and homes, while El Niño brought drought conditions. Despite early warnings, rural communities lack resources to adapt. International aid plays a crucial role, but Malawi's dependence on it limits policy autonomy. Efforts to address immediate needs often overlap with recovery measures, creating a cycle of response and recovery. Urgent and effective support is needed on a larger scale. We pray for sustained international support to alleviate the plight of those in need in Malawi and help the country break this vicious cycle.
- Unseasonal heavy rainfall and floods have affected Pakistan, Afghanistan, and southern China, causing significant damage and loss of life. In Afghanistan,

floods have killed 66 people, injured 36, and destroyed hundreds of houses. Pakistan, despite being a climate-vulnerable nation with minimal emissions, has experienced extreme weather events, including heatwaves and catastrophic floods. Southern China, especially Guangdong province, has been hit by deadly floods, displacing over 110,000 people. These unseasonal floods highlight the impact of climate change on extreme weather patterns. We pray for urgent global collaborative action to protect our planet and mitigate the effects of climate change.

- Due to Hong Kong's plastic ban, a major Japanese discount chain, Don Don Donki, has replaced transparent plastic sushi boxes with cardboard packaging for dine-in customers. While some buyers express concerns about the inability to see their sushi before purchasing, the new biodegradable boxes feature a picture on top to provide guidance. Despite reservations, customers are reminded that plastic throwaway containers cannot be used for dine-in dishes starting Monday. We pray for people's support in embracing green policies, even if it requires adjusting our habits and customs to preserve the environment.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

We are **thankful** for:

- the magnificent expanse of mountains, grasslands and deserts in these Central Asian countries
- the rich natural resources and the incredible ethnic diversity
- cultural traditions and practices that have been preserved for centuries amid the challenges of modernization
- Christians who, although they are a tiny minority, have courage to witness to the gospel and find the strength to live according to God's word
- those who in spite of danger dedicate their lives to serving others.

We **pray** for:

- the people in these lands who suffer from poverty and repressive rule
- an end to clashes related to tribalism, traditionalism, and modernization
- the land, air and water that have been damaged by human abuse
- good relations between Muslims and Christians
- an end to oppression and violence.

For the Congregation

- Pray for Paul Wong, Kevin Ng, Jeanette Lee, Hend, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Joy Babasa, Julianne Long, Revd. Kwok, Ajmal Samuel, and Jen Pang 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 us for a time of fellowship after the service.

Every Sunday Morning

Contemplative Prayer – organised by the Christian Education Committee

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

Dates For Your Diaries:

Sunday, 5 May, 12 noon to 2 pm: ‘Discipleship: Then And Now’

Join us in our fourth session of the series when we think more about the stories of ‘The Skeptics’, those questioning disciples.

Venue: Lower Fellowship Hall Light lunch provided

Scan the QR code to reserve your place at lunch.



Sunday, 12 May – EGM at 1pm and AGM at 2:30 after worship; more details will follow.

Friday 24 May – KUC Centenary Fundraiser

Charitable Fundraising Movie Screening – "All Shall Be Well" by Ray Yeung

Winner of the Teddy Award for Best Feature @ The Berlin Film Festival

Venue: CineArt House, 1/F Kowloon City Plaza (MTR Sung Wong Toi Station)

Time: 19:15/ 19:40 (post-screening talk with Director)

One complimentary ticket with every donation of HK\$200 or above (while stock lasts); \$500 (VIP)

YOUR ACTION: In addition to making a donation, please help circulate our appeal in your networks.



	TODAY 28 April
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Estella Yeung
Pianist:	Eva Kwan
Lector:	Jennifer Chan
Intercessory Prayers:	Rey Asis
Family Talk:	Phyllis Wong
Greeter:	Edwina Antonio
Offering Rota:	Daddy Mercy Matilda
Counting Rota	Joram Calimutan Judy Chan
Sunday School Leaders:	Mary Adesina Tong Chong Sze Jailyn Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Amber Tong Bervinder Kaur Ronald Chui

Freewill offering last week: HK\$5,025.40- Promissory offering last week: HK\$3,400-
