

Kowloon Union Church  
"Where all are one"  
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CCLI Licence 5075510  
Secretary: Heddy Ha, Candy Lam  
Minister: Maggie Mathieson  
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



**First Sunday after Christmas**  
**26 December 2021**  
**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

(\* : Congregation stands)

### **APPROACH**

**PREPARATION SONG** "Emmanuel Emmanuel" – Composer: Bob McGee

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** "He Came Down That We May Have Love" – Trad Folk

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL RESPOND** "Kyrie Eleison" (Lord, have mercy) – Trad. Orthodox Chant

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

Lord, open our lips.

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

**KUC SINGERS** "Mary, Did You Know?" – Composer: Mark Lowry

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 (O.T)

Luke 2:41-52 (N.T)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

\* **HYMN** "Away in a Manger" – Composer: James Murray

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN** "Angels We Have Heard on High"

– Music setting: E S Barnes; Translated: James Chadwick

**SERMON** "Precious Moments"

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL RESPOND** "Ubi Caritas" – Music: Taizé Community

**OFFERTORY**

**THE PEACE**

- \* **HYMN** “O Master Workman of The Race”  
– Music: R.V. Williams; Lyrics: Jay T Stocking
- \* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

### **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

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

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

- At this time of plenty and celebration we remember those in the world dependent on others for their daily food. The World Food Programme has announced that they already have been forced to reduce the food assistance to millions in need in Yemen due to lack of funds.
- As many European leaders are reinstating coronavirus restrictions against the spread of the Omicron variant, we pray that people will be patient and follow the guidelines issued, protecting not only themselves but the communities they live in.
- We pray for our brothers and sisters in the Philippines as they recover after yet another super Typhoon. Typhoon Rai has caused havoc and left a trail of carnage behind it. At least 400 people have lost their lives and thousands have been left with next to nothing. May God receive those who have died and strengthen those left behind.
- Inclement weather bringing massive floods has caused chaos in many areas of Malaysia, lives have been lost and over 70,000 people have been displaced.
- May God strengthen those who are involved in all recovery works throughout the world.
- Pray for our city. The University of Hong Kong has removed the ‘Pillar of Shame’ sculpture from its campus early on Thursday morning. The university’s governing council decided it posed both legal and safety risks to the students and those visiting the university.
- Last week’s elections here in Hong Kong have already drawn much criticism and concern from western nations as more than 90% of the seats available go to pro-Beijing candidates. Those who in the past would have stood in opposition are now no longer considered eligible in the electoral process.
- As temperatures continue to drop in our city pray for those who do not have adequate shelter or means to keep warm, those on the streets, those struggling to pay household bills, many looking for work.

**For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

- We lift up in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan.

**We are thankful for...**

- The distinctive temples, art and cultures in the region
- the education and economic developments that have improved the lives of many in Japan and South Korea
- how the council of churches in Japan has promoted reconciliation with the rest of Asia

- the prophetic witness of Christians in Japan and South Korea
- the persistent witness to justice for “comfort women” from the Second World War
- the great religious tolerance exhibited by the Taiwanese and their pioneering of contextual theological education
- the Ecumenical Forum for Peace, Reunification and Development Cooperation on the Korean Peninsula, which with others has sought to reunify Korea, to defend human rights, and to work for peace and justice.

### **We pray for:**

- an end to repression of people and to threats of military confrontation, especially on the Korean peninsula
- the reunification of Korea, that peace and justice might prevail
- peaceful resolution of the many disputed claims to islands in the South China Sea by Taiwan and its neighbours and for greater understanding and cooperation between Taiwan and mainland China.
- women and other marginalized groups, and the inequalities they experience
- greater acceptance of immigrants that they might make a positive contribution
- new hope and meaning for the young, amid pressures of competition and consumerism.

### **For the Congregation**

- We pray for Som, the mother of Sameth in Cambodia, Asha Melwani the mother of Alex, and Mrs Samuel, Jenny Alegre, Hend, Jeanette and Doris Lee, Rachel Perry, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Chung Yoke Chin, Ramon Bultron, Kathy Chan and Louis Lo. We remember those who are providing care for loved ones at home and in care facilities.
- We pray for members and friends who are travelling overseas for the holidays. May God give them a smooth journey and a joyful reunion with loved ones.
- We thank God for our new Secretary Ms Candy Lam we ask for your prayers for Candy as she adjusts and settles into her new position in KUC.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Welcome!**

Welcome to all who join our Sunday Worship in person and through Facebook live streaming today. It is good to have you together with us in this time of worship.

### **Welcome Ms Candy Lam**

We welcome to the KUC team, Ms Candy Lam! We thank God that we can welcome Candy to join us here in KUC. Ms Candy will take up the role of Secretary when Ms Heddy retires in February. She has already assumed her position in the office this week and is working closely with Ms Heddy and other team members.

### **Weekly Programs in Church.**

- **Bible study online Monday at 11:00 a.m. We will not meet on Monday, we will take a break for a few weeks over the festive season.** Please contact Pastor Maggie if you are interested in joining the study group.
- **Tuesday Peacemaking Fellowship @ 10:00 a.m.** here in KUC

**The Church will be closed to the public for the week beginning Monday 27<sup>th</sup> December due to renovation work in the Sanctuary. During this time the office will remain open.**

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

#### **Pastor Phyllis-**

Pastor Phyllis will take her annual leave starting on 26<sup>th</sup> December until 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

#### **Wai Ji Flag Day – Volunteers needed**

Date: 8 January 2022; Time: 7 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Area covered: Tseung Kwan O and New Territories

If you have time to spare and would like to join the Flag Day, please speak to Pastor Phyllis.

#### **English Unity Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Date: 18 January 2022 (Tuesday); Time: 8:00 p.m.

Venue: Methodist International Church; Wesleyan House, 271 Queen's Rd E, Wan Chai

Theme: “We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship Him.” (Mt. 2:2)

#### **2021 Christmas Donation**

It is our custom here in KUC, to collate the offerings from both the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services (except the promissory offerings) and present to a local organisation or appeal. This year the donation will be given to The Christian Times. The Christian Times is a local weekly newspaper established over 30 years ago. They have made great efforts to uphold freedom of the press and perspective of social justice in their publication. For several years, they have had a deficit and recently have launched an appeal for funding support. We hope you will support the organization and help them to continue their prophetic voice in challenging Hong Kong.

	<b>TODAY</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Judy Chan
Pianist:	Lucy Lim
Lector:	Angeline Onwufuju
Intercessory Prayers:	
Family Talk:	NO Family Talk
Greeter:	Paul Wong, Vikki Chan
Offering Rota:	Doris Lee, Hope Antone
Sunday School Leaders:	Jaylin Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Lo Yuk Fai, Bervinder Kaur

Last Sunday's offering: HK\$3,880-  
Promissory offering last week: HK\$1,700-  
Organic farm: HK\$100-  
Welfare fund: HK\$5,000-