

Kowloon Union Church
"Where all are one"
4 Jordan Road, Kowloon
Tel. 2367-2585 • kuc@kuc.hk • www.kuc.hk
Secretary: Heddy Ha
Minister: Maggie Mathieson
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Kowloon Union Church
WHERE ALL ARE ONE

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 31 January 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

SONG OF PREPARATION "Lead me Lord" – Music: Samuel Wesley

CALL TO WORSHIP

* **HYMN** "Lord Of All Being"

– Music: WH Gladstone and Words: Oliver W Holmes

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "Kyrie Eleison" (Lord Have Mercy)

– Music: Russian Orthodox Chant

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** "Be the Centre"

– Composer: Michael Frye

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 111 (O.T.)

Mark 1:21-28 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

* **HYMN** "A Touching Place"

– Music: Trad. and Words: John L Bell

SERMON "Divine Wisdom"

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas"

– Music: Brother Roger, Taize

OFFERTORY

* **SIGN OF PEACE**

* **HYMN** "Meekness and Majesty"

– Composer: Graham Kendrick

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

For the World and Hong Kong

- We remember India's farmers' protest, which has been going peacefully for several months but appears to be intensifying, with reports of violence and arrests. Often, it can be hard for them to find a voice. We pray for open minds and caring hearts in the government so that leaders would listen to the voices of the people rather than trying to design policies from their positions of authority.
- The vaccination campaign in Europe has been stalled due to production delays, leaving many vulnerable people without protection. In the face of rising vaccine nationalism, we pray that they will find solutions in solidarity and that the people who need it the most will get prioritized for the vaccines, ensuing equity.
- The new variants of the coronavirus are seemingly crippling healthcare systems in Brazil, South Africa and around the world, reminding us that we are all connected and nobody is safe until everyone is safe. We pray for everyone who feels like they've been trapped in the pandemic forever, and for scientists racing against the clock to crack the mutations.
- As Hong Kong reports the worst unemployment rate in years, we remember every person behind the statistics. For many grassroots workers, even if they don't lose their jobs, their income could be drastically cut due to reduced work hours or benefits. Recent outbreaks and the government's decision to abruptly lock down buildings or neighborhoods only add to their burdens. We pray for better protection and stronger support for them and their families, especially those with elderly or children to take care of.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, Tunisia.
- We are thankful for how the early Christian church developed here; the biodiversity of plants, animals and the natural terrain; how Berber, Arab and European cultures have blended; how these countries have remained and stood against the invasion of cultural and military forces from elsewhere.
- We pray for all the people of these countries: Muslims, the tiny remnant of Christians, those of other faiths who continuing bearing witness to their faiths and for all people of good will; an end to political violence; an end to how dominating powers have fought over these lands and their resources through the years; for those suffering exploitation and mistreatment as they travel through these countries.

For the Congregation

- Pray for sisters and brothers who are facing health challenges recently. May God heal and keep their body and faith strong when they are feeling weak. We give thanks to God for Victoria's good recovery after her surgery. We keep praying for Jenny's rehabilitation and for her two daughters who are worried about her condition.
- We uphold our senior members in our hearts: Mrs Samuel, Peter Chan and Judy Yui, Mrs Chang. May God's peace be with them. Remember our children who are facing challenges in learning online. Chinese has been a challenging subject for many non-Chinese speaking children. Please pray for them and seek God's wisdom to inspire us how to support them in this unusual time.
- Pray for Carl as he has started his internship in KUC in January. May the Lord guide him and open ways for him to learn and equip to be God's faithful servant. Pray for the Young Adult Group with renewed energy and some new plans ahead.
- Pray for our pastors and church leaders in their service to God through KUC. May the Holy Spirit unite them as one in Christ to serve with love and wisdom. In the new year, we pray for spiritual growth for all members and the whole congregation. May the community of KUC continue to witness for Christ to bring light, hope, and love to the world of darkness. We pray for a stronger and unified community in KUC. We pray that more members and friends are willing to participate in the various ministries of the church and that together we serve God with joy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

Welcome to all who join the Sunday worship through Facebook livestreaming today. Please stay safe and healthy. Be in touch with our pastors and church leaders if you need prayers and any support from us. We pray that we will meet again soon by God's grace.

KUC Mission Support for 2021

The MOE is seeking suggestions from the congregation regarding organizations that the church should support this year with its mission funds. Please pass any suggestions that you have to members of the MOE Committee or the church pastors. The deadline for receiving proposals is 28 Feb.

Donation or Offering to the Church

If you wish to make a donation or offering to the church and support our mission partners and ministries, you may visit the church website at <https://kuc.hk/giving>.

Flowers in Worship

You are welcome to make donation for the flowers for the worship services. The minimum amount for each week is \$100. Donations may be given to Pastor Maggie Mathieson.

Become a Member of Kowloon Union Church

New members can be received by transfer, bond of union, restatement of faith, or baptism. Interested in talking about this further? Have a word with Pastor Phyllis Wong or Pastor Maggie Mathieson.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is normally observed from the 18-25 January. The theme this year is, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit", based on John 15:1-17. Please go to the link for materials:

<https://ctbi.org.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2020/10/WPCU-2021-English-pamphlet-Final.pdf.pagespeed.ce.SnR5lgw9dp.pdf>.

KUC has postponed the celebration as suggested by HK Christian Council due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

| TODAY | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Liturgist: | Maggie Mathieson |
| Preacher: | Phyllis Wong |
| Pianist: | Jessica Tso |
| Lector: | Carl Cathedral |
| Intercessory Prayers: | Peter Youngblood |
| I.T. Team: | Lo Yuk Fai and Bervinder Kaur |