

Kowloon Union Church
“Where all are one”
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Secretary: Heddy Ha
Minister: Maggie Mathieson
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Kowloon Union Church
WHERE ALL ARE ONE

First Sunday in Lent 21 February 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

SONG OF PREPARATION “Lead Me Lord ” – Music: Samuel S Wesley

CALL TO WORSHIP

* **HYMN** “Creator God” – Composer: Margaret Rizza

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND “Change Our Heart O God” – Composer: Eddie Espinosa

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** “Borning Cry” – Composer: John C Ylvisaker

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Genesis 9: 6 – 17 (O.T.)

Mark 1: 9 – 15 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

* **HYMN** “ O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go ”

– Words: George Matheson Music: A.L. Peace

SERMON “Time for a Wilderness Experience”

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND "O Lord Hear Our Prayer" – Music: Brother Roger, Taize

OFFERTORY

* **SIGN OF PEACE**

* **HYMN** "Be Not Afraid"

– Composer: Bob Dufford

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

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CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

For the World and Hong Kong

- We remember the people in Myanmar. May God bless the civilians especially those who have taken courage to seek for people's rights and stand against the military's abusive use of power. We pray that God protects the innocent. May His justice reign and drive the wicked away. Pray to the God of Liberty to set his people free from tyranny.
- At least 27 students were abducted Wednesday when armed men raided a state-run school in Niger State, north-west Nigeria, according to the report from CNN. The number of missing teachers is unknown. Pray that the students and teachers will be found and safely rescued as soon as possible. Remember the country and pray for good protection for all people especially the children.
- Remember the people in Catalonia, Spain. May the voice of the people be heard and their basic civil rights be upheld by the government. May peace and justice reign in the country.
- We are pleased to see the number of confirmed COVID cases dropping. Pray for the resilience of the people in the community. The HK government has announced that massive vaccinations will be ready by next week. We pray that those who are more at risk to the virus will be given priority and the side effects will be kept minimal.
- The LeaveHomeSafe app has generated a lot of concerns and worries about privacy protection. May the concerns be addressed by the government with respect and sensitivity.
- The unemployment rate in Hongkong has increased. We pray for those who have been adversely affected by the economic downturn. May the government address to the problem by setting up the Unemployment Fund as suggested by the Trade Unions and social services agencies working with grassroots communities.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in France, Germany, Monaco.

- **We are thankful for** the rich historic and cultural legacies that have come to the world from these lands; reconciliation and cooperation that has emerged since the hostilities of the second world war; how churches and governments in France and Germany have welcomed new immigrants; the generosity in supporting ecumenical, interfaith and development work in the world.
- **We pray for** overcoming fears and suspicions that still remain from 20th-century atrocities and more recent terrorist attacks; churches and governments to effectively counter anti-immigrant populist sentiments in these countries so that they truly will become more multi-ethnic; economic decisions that are accountable to those who are most vulnerable and not only to those making a profit; election of political leaders who will further the common good not only for their country but for the sake of Europe and the rest of world.

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 keep praying for Jenny's rehabilitation and well-being.
- We uphold our senior members and children in our hearts. May God's peace be with them.
- Pray for our pastors and church leaders in their service to God through KUC. The Council will have its regular meeting this afternoon. May God bless them with a fruitful meeting with the guidance from the Holy Spirit.
- 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 live streaming today. Be in touch with our pastors and church leaders if you need prayers and any support from us. With the relaxed measures on social distancing last week, we hope and pray that worship in person will be resumed soon.

A Note of Thanks

We are grateful to have Dr Hope Antone to deliver God's message in the worship today. Hope is currently serving as KUC's Council Chairperson.

KUC Mission Support for 2021

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.

Preparation for Baptism

For any friend who would like to be prepared for baptism in the church, please be in touch with Pastor Phyllis or Pastor Maggie.

TODAY	
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Hope Antone
Pianist:	Lucy Lim
Lector:	Chris Wong
Intercessory Prayers:	Chan Beng Seng
I.T. Team:	Tony Chan, Bervinder Kaur