

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



"Where all are one"

Third Sunday of Easter
18 April 2021
Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Wai Ji Sunday



(* : Congregation stands)

THE APPROACH

WELCOME

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** "Give Thanks"

– Composer: Henry Smith, v. 2 Chan Beng Seng

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPONSE "God Is Forgiveness"

– Taize Community

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM "Hallelujah"

– Wai Ji's Service Users & Staff

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 4: 1–8 (O.T.)

Luke 24: 36 –48 (N.T.)

SHARING by Jack Cheng (Parent of Service user)

ANTHEM "Where Does My Help Come From"

– WJ's Service Users & Staff

SERMON "Hope In The Midst of Distress"

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

* **HYMN** "Because He Lives"

– Composer: B & G Gaither

* **COMMISSION**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

For Wai Ji Christian Service & people with disabilities

- We seek God's protection to service users living in care homes. The pandemic has kept them from outside activities or visits. May God keep their body strong, their heart peaceful and joyful.
- We ask the Lord to watch over the clients who will be receiving vaccines, especially the elderly. We pray for their health following vaccinations.
- We remember the parents of the mentally challenged who still bear caretaking responsibilities every day. May the Lord lift their burdens and grant them with peace and hope. Pray that the services provided by the organization are helpful to them.
- We give thanks to God for the service and development of Wai Ji Christian Service in a time of uncertainty. Since the outbreak of the Coronavirus, there have been many fears, challenges and changes need to be coped with, we are grateful for the dedicated staff to keep the quality service every day and maintain the well-being of the service users. May God continue to guide the directors, workers and volunteers at Wai Ji Christian Service, taking care of their body, mind and soul. Give them strength and wisdom to serve. May Wai Ji continue be the light and salt of the world to reveal God's mercy and kindness to people with intellectual and other disabilities, as well as to their families.
- We also remember people with disabilities all around the world. The Bible speaks about diversity; it is a gift of God, gift from God. (Gen. 11:1-9) Therefore people with disabilities are also part of God's creation. Their presence shows the plurality of human beings and God's creation. Churches without the disabled people are the disabled Churches. We are called to build friendly, inclusive and accessible communities of all God's people. May the Wai Ji Sunday remind our church at KUC of our mission to welcome and serve those in need and those who are neglected by the community.

For the World/HK

- It will be International Mother Earth Day next week (22 April). Our oceans are filling with plastic and turning more acidic, and we see extreme heat, wildfires and floods, as well as a record-breaking Atlantic hurricane season. Biodiversity is deteriorating worldwide. Nature is suffering. Mother Earth is clearly urging a call to action. We pray that all nations respond constructively to the United Nation's Secretary General's call to "act decisively to protect our planet from both the coronavirus and the existential threat of climate disruption".
- Last week, we heard of a heart-breaking trial for the murder of a 5-year girl by her own parents in a tragic child abuse case in 2018. May all individuals, families, community and authorities take responsibility to take care of our little ones so to help eradicate such needless tragedies. Let everyone be aware that every human being has been made in God's image and is equally deserving of dignity and love.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine.

For the Congregation

- The Peacemaking Fellowship restarted last Tuesday. Pray that the Fellowship continues to share love and peace with our refugee community.
Any member from the church who wishes to know more about our peacemaking ministry and would like to be a volunteer, please be in touch with Pastor Phyllis.
- We keep praying for God's grace upon those who are encountering health challenges and life difficulties. Keep Jeanette in our heart for her ongoing treatment.
- Three friends have started the baptism preparation class last Thursday. May God bless them to learn and grow in Christ.
- Next Sunday we will receive new members of Tony Chan, Lydia Catedral and Carl Catedral at the worship service. Members please join us for this special time of welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome!

Welcome to all who join our worship service. A special welcome to friends from Wai Ji Christian Service in church and through livestreaming. This year service users and most of the staff are not physically present in church to worship together. But they are still actively participating in another way. Thank you for the pre-recorded singing, reading of scriptures and testimony. Thank you Michael for co-leading the worship service and staff for the technical support. Due to the 30% capacity restriction, we encourage friends to register before the worship to ensure a seat. We reserve some seats for walk in. Please be on time as God is waiting for us to worship.

Wai Ji Christian Service

Vision: Wai Ji Christian Service was set up by Kowloon Union Church in 1979. The organization strives for excellence and creativity in serving people with intellectual and other disabilities, promoting their well-being and advocating their social inclusion.

Mission: The mission of Wai Ji Christian Service is to reflect God's love to people with intellectual and other disabilities by offering them support, advocating their social inclusion, defending their rights and liberties, and empowering them to make contributions to the community.

** You may know more about the Agency from their leaflet available at the church entrance or from this link <https://www.wjcs.org.hk/en/>*

Today: Anti-harassment Workshop @2-4 pm Lower Fellowship Hall

Those who have registered please come on time.

Human Library: Sunday, 25 April @ 2pm | Fellowship Hall

Whenever and wherever human beings build, they build not just with purpose, but also meaning. There is spiritual significance in the geography, city planning, and architecture of a city like Hong Kong. Join us on Sunday, 25 April for a Human Library presentation

introducing Dr. Peter Youngblood's project on the visible and invisible "sacred spaces" of Hong Kong. Registration ~ <https://kuc.hk/humanlibrary>

Congregation Day Retreat : Saturday, 1 May 2021 @ 10am - 4pm

"Abide in My Love and You Shall Bear Much Fruit" (John 15)

You are cordially invited to join the retreat to Tao Fung Shan. Gathering time at 9:30 am in Tai Wai Train Station. Recommended donation: HK\$50 (include lunch). Registration ~ <https://kuc.hk/retreat>

Weekly Bible Study (Online Meeting)

At 10:30 am on Friday. For more details please contact Pastor Maggie.

Mid Week Guided Meditation

KUC will continue our practice of Lectio Divina which we began during the Lenten Season. The time of reflection will take place every first Wednesday of the month starting 5 May from 7:30pm to 8:30pm. Anyone is welcome to join! We'll have options to meet either in-person or online.

Visit kuc.hk/lectio for more information and to register.

Annual General Meeting (AGM): Sunday, 16 May @ 1pm

At the AGM, a new treasurer and council members will be elected. May God prepare members to take up various leadership roles in the church. Please contact Pastor Maggie, Pastor Phyllis, or Council Chair Hope Antone, if you are considering, or wish to recommend someone from among our members, to serve the church through the Council or as Treasurer.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity English Service: Tuesday, 18 May @8pm

Venue: St Francis of Assisi Church (58 Shek Kip Mei Street, Kowloon)

Theme: "Abide in My Love and You Shall Bear Much Fruit" (Jn 15:5-9)

Speaker: Revd Will Newman, St John's Cathedral /St Stephen's Chapel

Registration: <https://forms.gle/kwyBxBEYL3hth2p58>

Liturgist:	Michael Chan, Phyllis Wong
Preacher:	Phyllis Wong
Pianist:	Cheryl Hui
Lector:	Chow Lai Man, Wong Tse Yee, Maggie Mathieson
Intercessory Prayers:	Peter Leung
Sunday School	Jailyn Tomitis
Offering:	Rachel Ngugi, Stephanie Mumbi
I.T. Team:	Lo Yuk Fai, Chris Wong, Carl Cathedral

Last Sunday's offering: HK\$1,984-
Promissory offering last week: HK\$30,750-