

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



Fifth Sunday of Easter
2 May 2021 at 10:30 a.m.
Labour Sunday/Holy Communion Service
(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

SONG OF PREPARATION "Be Still and Know"

– Music Arr: Roland Fudge

CALL TO WORSHIP

* **HYMN "Great Is Thy Faithfulness."**

– Music: Thomas Chisholm/William Runyan

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "God Is Forgiveness"

– Music: Taize Community

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN "Amazing Grace - My Chains Are Gone."**

– Music: John Newton/Chris Tomlin

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 22:25-31 (OT)

Isaiah 58:1-14 (OT)

John 15:1-8 (NT)

Lord, may Your word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

FAMILY TALK

SERMON "The Delights of Sabbath"

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas"

– Music: Taize Community

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE PEACE

HYMN “Bread of Life from Heaven” – Music: Susan Briehl, Marty Haugen

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

* **HYMN** “Christ Be Our Light”

– Music: Bernadette Farrell

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

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CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

For the World and Hong Kong

- Yesterday was May Day, also called International Workers' Day. On this day, many countries around the world commemorate the historic struggles and gains made by workers and the labour movement. Let us remember these struggles and that there are still workers being exploited in many parts of the world. We pray to God that this movement may continue to protect the rights of workers to ensure their fair share of the economy.
- We pray for the people of India as the country has seen a dramatic rise of COVID-19 cases after mass gatherings of the Pilgrims to Kumbh Mela. Hospitals have been overwhelmed and patients have to be turned away because of lack of space and facilities to help them. We pray that the Indian government can take decisive actions to bring the pandemic under control and that the international community help to provide much needed supplies.
- At the Oscars last week, the much-acclaimed film Nomadland won Best Picture and Best Director for Chloé Zhao. This film follows the lives of people who are forgotten and downtrodden by the economy but display dignity and community spirit. It reminds us of the hope and restlessness left even in the wake of great tragedies. We give thanks to God for such hope even in the most desperate times.
- A study released on Thursday by Chinese University's Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies found that young people are becoming more pessimistic about the city's future, and that nearly 60 per cent of Hong Kong youth said they would emigrate if possible. We pray that stakeholders are alarmed by the pessimism and would take concrete steps to look into how young voices and concerns can be heard.

- The statistics from the government in 2019 revealed that youth unemployment was much serious than the general unemployment in Hong Kong. For those who are working, they may not able to earn a decent income and they still suffer from poverty. Working poor is thus a concern in the city and in other parts of the world.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.
- **We are thankful for** the magnificent landscapes in these Central Asian countries; the rich natural resources & the incredible ethnic diversity; cultural traditions and practices that have been preserved amid the challenges of modernization; Christians who have courage to witness to the gospel and find the strength to live according to God's word.
- **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.

For the Congregation

- Preparation class for baptism has started and gone well. We pray for June, Louis and Caden who have registered for the class. Thank you Hope to deliver a session on 'the Word of God' to the participants on Wednesday.
- The Trustees and Council will meet today after the worship. Please pray for the church leaders and may God bless the fruits of their labour and give them strength and wisdom to serve.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome!

Welcome all who join our Sunday Worship in person and through Facebook live streaming today.

A Note of Thanks

We are thankful to Revd. Po Kam Cheong to share God's message with us today. Revd. Po is the former General Secretary of HK Christian Council and is currently working with the HK Council of the Church of Christ in China as Associate General Secretary. He is also serving as the Chairperson at the HK Christian Industrial Committee.

Mid Week Guided Meditation Started This Wednesday

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.

Know Your Neighbour - KUC Sharing on Refugees

The Working Group on Peace Making Ministry will organize a sharing session about the situation of refugees in Hong Kong. It will be at 1pm on Sunday 9 May. Our brother Aimé Girimana, who has worked in this area for more than ten years will be the speaker. If you want to know more about refugee issues. Join us!

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on 16 May at 1pm. Members who are in HK but are not available to attend, please send us a proxy form. At the AGM, there will be election of new members of the Council (4 places to fill) and the treasurer. 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. Please keep this in your prayer.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity English Service: Tue, 18 May @8pm Registration: <https://forms.gle/kwyBxBEyL3hth2p58>

Weekly Programs in Church

- Bible study online at 10:30 am on Friday. Contact person: Pastor Maggie
- Peace Making Fellowship for Refugee Community at 10:30 am on Tuesday. Contact Person: Pastor Phyllis

	TODAY - Holy Communion
Liturgist/Celebrant:	Phyllis Wong
Preacher:	Po Kam Cheong
Pianist:	Han Inkyu
Lector:	Harry Chan
Intercessory Prayers:	Victoria Caplan
Family Talk	Maggie Mathieson
I.T. Team:	Lo Yuk Fai , Monkey

Last Sunday's offering: HK\$2,042 Promissory offering last week: HK\$6,490 Retiring Offering: HK\$700 Offering to Welfare Fund: HK\$5,000 Offering for Flower: HK\$200
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