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

Sixth Sunday of Easter 9 May 2021 at 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

(\*: Congregation stands)



Kowloon Union Church

### **APPROACH**

PREPARATION SONG "Adoramus te O Christe"

(We adore you Jesus Christ) – Composer: Br. Roger

- \* CALL TO WORSHIP
- \* HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God"

- Music: Johann Cruger; Lyrics: Martin Rinkart

**CALL TO CONFESSION** 

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**ALL RESPOND** "Kyrie Eleison"

Music: Russian Orthodox

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

# THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

KUC SINGERS "Hidup ini adalah Kesempatan"

'This Life is an Opportunity' – Composer: Wilhelmus Latumahina

# SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 98:1-4 (OT)

1John 5: 1-6 (NT)

John 15: 9 -17 (NT)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

\* **HYMN** "Jesus Put This Song" — Composers: Graham Kendrick

**FAMILY TALK** 

**SERMON** "You Are My Friends if..."

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

## **THE OFFERTORY**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL RESPOND** "Ubi Caritas et Amor" — Composer: Br. Roger

**OFFERING** 

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** 

**SIGN OF PEACE** 

\* **HYMN** "That Great Love" – Tune: Nettleton; Lyrics: Brenton Prigge

\* COMMISSION

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### **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

## For the World and Hong Kong

- Remember the people in India as the country is still critical in fighting against the rampaging second wave of COVID-19. Recent news show that the virus spread from cities to villages that were poorly equipped to cope. We pray that the dead can rest in peace and their families be comforted. Pray to God for good support from the government and the international community to help the situation. Remember the people who work in the health care systems. May they be given enough equipment to save lives and gear to protect themselves from the virus. Pray for the poor and the vulnerable in particular as they are usually more badly affected. May there are be enough vaccines to prevent the spread of virus in the long run.
- In Hong Kong, the city has detected 10 variant cases in the community, seven of which have been identified as local infections. Since there were domestic workers who contracted this variant virus, over 300,000 of these workers were asked to do the mandatory test for Covid-19 and vaccination if they need to extend their contract. May the demand placed upon the domestic workers be fair and not out of discrimination. Adequate information and support to this community should be given to reduce their anxieties. The government should work closely with the stake holders with openness and respect when they are making policies that are related to them.
- More than 200 global organisations urged the UN Security Council on Wednesday (5 May) to impose an arms embargo on Myanmar, saying the time for statements has passed and immediate action is needed to help protect peaceful protesters against military rule and other opponents of the junta. We keep praying for the dead and their beloved, several thousand activists, journalists, civil servants, politicians, and hundreds of others who have disappeared since 1 Feb coup. May God's justice and mercy reign.
- Remember dissenters in the city who were sentenced to jail for participating
  in an unauthorized vigil last year to commemorate the 1989 crackdown in
  Tiananmen Square. Pray for the persecuted and that justice and civil rights for
  peaceful assembly be preserved.

## For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in **India**, **Pakistan**, **Sri Lanka**.
- We are thankful for the diversity of peoples in these countries: their cultures, values and spirituality; for the resilience of minority religious groups and those on the margins of society such as indigenous communities, Dalits, women, youth, the disabled and sexual minorities, amid discrimination and persecution; for the contributions of Christians and Christian churches in these countries to education and health services; efforts to forge inter-religious solidarity for the sake of the common good.
- We pray for those who struggle to overcome grinding poverty; Christians and others who selflessly work in the community, their efforts at ensuring the rights of all citizens, and their collaborative work; efforts to build understanding and harmony among peoples across religious, caste and ethnic identities; peoples' movements struggling for the rights of women, Dalits, Indigenous peoples, and the integrity of the earth; leaders to keep priority on the wellbeing of the people and the earth itself amid demands for economic growth.

## For the Congregation

- Remember members and friends who are facing health and life challenges. Pray for healing and recovery of our sister Constance.
- Preparation class for baptism has started and gone well. We pray for June, Louis and Caden who have registered for the class.
- 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. Thank you Dr. Hope Antone to share the word of God with us this morning.

# **TODAY - Know Your Neighbour - KUC Sharing on Refugees**

The Working Group on Peace Making Ministry will have a sharing session about the situation of refugees in Hong Kong. It will be held at 1pm today in the Lower Fellowship Hall. 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!

# **Mid Week Guided Meditation**

The next session of our practice of Lectio Divina will be held online on 2 June (Wednesday) at 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Carl will continue to lead and facilitate. Anyone is welcome to join! Visit <a href="kuc.hk/lectio">kuc.hk/lectio</a> for more information and to register.

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The Annual General Meeting will be held next Sunday, 16 May at 1pm. Apart from the reports and plans for the next year, the AGM will be a time for KUC members to elect new members of the Council. With the resignation of Chris Wong; with Norma Diaz completing a maximum of two terms (four years) in May; with Edwina Santoyo and Sunita Suna finishing their first term but are eligible for re-election, there will be four places to fill in. The AGM will also elect a new treasurer as Jennifer Chan will finish her term in May and has announced she wishes to step down from the role. 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

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

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: <a href="https://forms.gle/kwyBxBEyL3hth2p58">https://forms.gle/kwyBxBEyL3hth2p58</a>

## World Refugee Day 2021: Sat, 19 June @2-4pm

The Refugee Ministry Group will organize an event to demonstrate solidarity with refugees and asylum seekers. The theme this year is "**Stand Together In Hope"**. Our Harambe Choir will sing in the event. Come and join us! Venue: Church of Christ in China - Wanchai Church.

# **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

	<b>TODAY - Holy Communion</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Hope Antone
Pianist:	Lucy Lim
Lector:	Paul Wong
Intercessory Prayers:	Sunita Suna
Family Talk	Hugo Lo
Sunday School	Jaylin Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Lo Yuk Fai; Chris Wong

Last Sunday's offering: HK\$ 1,519.3
Promissory offering last week: HK\$ 3,600