

**Kowloon Union Church**  
*"Where all are one"*  
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**Kowloon Union Church**  
WHERE ALL ARE ONE

**Secretary: Candy Lam**  
**Social Ministry Worker: Cecilia Yeung**  
**Minister: Maggie Mathieson**  
**Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong**

**31 July 2022**  
**Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

(\* : Congregation stands)

### APPROACH

**PREPARATION SONG** "Holy Spirit Come To Us" – Taize Community

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** "The Love Of God" – Composer: Frederick M. Lehman

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL RESPOND** "Kyrie Eleison" (Lord, Have Mercy) – Trad. Orthodox

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.**

**KUC SINGERS** – "I Stand Amazed in the Presence" – Composer: C H Gabriel

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

Colossians 3:1-11 (N.T.)

Luke 12:13-21 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

**And bear much fruit for Your glory.**

\* **HYMN** "Jesus Put This Song Into Our Hearts" – Composer: Graham Kendrick

**FAMILY TALK**

**SERMON** "Is It Worth It?"

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

## THE OFFERTORY

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**ALL RESPOND** "Ubi Caritas" (Where there's charity, there is love)

– Taize Community

**OFFERTORY**

**THE PEACE**

\* **HYMN** "God, In Your Grace" – Music: Per Harling; Words: Shirley E Murray

\* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

## CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*God does nothing except in response to believing prayer.* – John Wesley

**Please remember as you pray. . .**

- We continue to pray for all in the world living under the threat of COVID. As the number of daily new cases topped 4,500 here in Hong Kong, the health authority is looking into expanding the use of oral antivirals. We seek God's hand of healing and sustenance on those who have contracted the virus and God's comfort on those who have lost loved ones.
- Pope Francis has formally apologised to Canada's native people for the Church's role in schools where indigenous children were abused, branding forced cultural assimilation "evil" and a "disastrous error". He also called for a "serious investigation" of the so-called residential schools and more assistance to help the survivors and descendants heal. His words have comforted those who have heard them. May they now be put into action.
- More than 200 people were killed in gang violence in Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, in the space of 10 days. Almost half of those who died were residents caught in the crossfire without ties to the gangs. Locals have reported running out of basic supplies as all deliveries have ceased amid the shoot-outs. We remember those trying to maintain the peace and seek God's protection on those seeking to mediate between the rival gangs.
- Flash flooding has claimed the lives of at least 21 people and left at least 55 needing rescue in Iran's southern Fars province. After several droughts over the last decade, any rainwater that falls cannot permeate the sun-baked earth. Climate change and overuse have brought about this human-made phenomenon. When will we learn!
- The Nigerian Army has found two more Chibok girls over eight years since their abduction. Both girls are mothers now and are soon to reunite with family and friends. What a time of joy that will be. God bless this reunion and restart of life.
- Myanmar's military has executed four democracy activists in what is believed to be the first use of capital punishment in decades. Protestors took to the streets as news of the executions spread throughout the country. World leaders have condemned the actions of the Junta, offering their support to the people of Myanmar and their struggle for democracy. Let us do the same!

- A shallow but powerful earthquake hit the province of Abra in the Northern Philippines on Wednesday. We thank God that the fatalities are low, but the damage to property and infrastructure is great. May God provide and protect the people through yet another natural disaster.
- Ukraine says work has started at three shipping ports to form "green corridors" to allow grain exports to leave the country. The Ukrainian navy will lead the ships through the minefields in the Black Sea. We pray this will be achieved as the world, particularly the developing world, is feeling the effects of war on their economy and food banks.
- AIDS researchers announced this week that a fourth person has been 'cured' of HIV, but the dangerous procedure for those also battling cancer may be little comfort for the tens of millions living with the virus worldwide. Let us hope that the research will continue and be possible for all living with HIV.
- During these days of sweltering weather here in Hong Kong, let us remember those in our prayers who cannot find any relief from the heat, those who work outdoors, and those who are homeless.
- As schools break up for summer, we pray for God's protection on all children and their families who may struggle to make provision for the children being home.

### **For the Congregation**

- We pray for the mothers of Alex Melwani, Helen Lee and Florence Tse, for Mrs Samuel, Jenny Alegre, Hend, Jeanette Lee, Rachel Perry, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Chung Yoke Chin, Chui, Ramon Bultron, Kevin Ng and Stella Chan. We remember those caring for loved ones at home and in care facilities.
- We thank God for the successful surgeries of Ramon and the mother of Florence Tse and continue to pray for them as they recuperate.

### **For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

We lift in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in the Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe.

We are **thankful** for:

- wildlife and rainforests in these lands, and those who protect this habitat
- the oral traditions, folklore, and good practices that have been preserved
- rich minerals and economic development, although benefits need to be shared more fairly
- healing from exploitative practices that began under colonial rule.

We **pray** for:

- democratic, fair elections and political stability in this region
- economic development that benefits all the people, especially those living in poverty
- preservation of the wildlife and the land
- the witness of the churches and other faith groups amid the challenges.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Today**

Welcome to all who join our worship in church and through Facebook live streaming.

## **Weekly Programs in Church**

- Sunday – Following Worship – Mandala workshop at 1:30 pm  
Tuesday – Peacemaking Fellowship at 10 am (No. 2 Jordan Road)  
Wednesday – Harambe Choir at 6:30 pm  
Friday – Bible Study – online at 10:30 am  
– Junior Choir in KUC at 4 pm

## **Do you like to connect with people through letter writing?**

If you do – why not join our letter-writing ministry and share a little joy with another. We write to ladies incarcerated in two of Hong Kong's correctional facilities, sharing news of the 'outside' world and the Good News of the Gospel. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please talk to Pastor Maggie Mathieson.

## **Flowers in Church**

If you would like to arrange the flowers in Church, please sign up on the Flower Chart on the Notice board.

## **Special Appeal – The Education Fund**

The Peace-Making Ministry is appealing for your support in prayers and donation of funds for children within the community. Once again, this year, our target is to raise \$40,000. The money raised will be used to buy school books, uniforms, and shoes and covers non-refundable school fees for our children. No matter how large or small your donation, it will make a difference in a child's life. Thank you and God Bless. Please see the insert or the notice board for more details on how you can donate to this appeal.

## **Become a Member of Kowloon Union Church**

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

	<b>TODAY 31 July</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK 7 August</b>
Liturgist:	Phyllis Wong	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Maggie Mathieson	Phyllis Wong
Pianist:	Lucy Lim	Lucy Lim
Lector:	Harry Chan	Stanley Ho
Intercessory Prayers:	Chris Wong	Tory Caplan
Family Talk:	Lydia Cathedral	Chan Beng Seng
Greeter:	Stanley Ho plus others	Paul Wong plus others
Offering Rota:	Aimé Girimana Journaliz Badon	Cynthia Leung Jennifer Chan
Sunday School Leaders:	Lydia Cathedral	Jailyn Tomitis
I.T. Team:	Tong Chong Sze	Chris Wong

Last Sunday's offering: HK\$3,494.60-  
Promissory offering last week: HK\$100-  
Retiring Offering: HK\$1,110-