

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



“Where all are one”

## **Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **23 August 2020 at 10:30 a.m.**

(\* : Congregation Stands)

### **APPROACH**

**SONG OF PREPARATION** “Lead Me Lord” – Text: Psalms 5:8, 4:8  
Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** “10,000 Reasons” – Text and Music: Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL RESPOND** “God Is Forgiveness” – Taizé Community

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

Lord, open our lips.

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

\* **HYMN** “El Shaddai” – Text: Michael Card. Music: John Thompson

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Romans 12:1-8

Matthew 16:13-20

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

\* **HYMN** “Inspired by Love and Anger” – Text: John L Bell. Music: Trad. Folk

**SERMON** “Who Is The Messiah?”

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** (in your own language)

**ALL RESPOND** “Ubi Caritas” – Music: Taizé Community

**A TIME OF OFFERING**

\* **SIGN OF PEACE**

\* **HYMN** “Gifts of the Spirit” – Text: John L Bell. Music: Piae Cantiones

\* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

**RECESSIONAL**

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### **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

*“The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.”  
(Psalm 116:5)*

#### **For the World and Hong Kong**

- Major protests have broken out in Belarus in response to the disputed 14 August election. Hundreds of thousands have rallied across the country, calling for the resignation of long-time President Alexander Lukashenko. Thousands have been arrested, hundreds injured, and at least four people have died. Pray for fair elections, clean government and protection of protesters.
- In Thailand, a wide coalition of activists, students, and artists have been protesting the current military-backed government since February. Among their demands are democratic reforms and limitations on the power of the monarchy. May the people’s voices be heard and heeded.
- The killing of Zara Alvarez, the human right activist in the Philippines, reminded us of the serious human rights abuse and the problem of extrajudicial killing in the country. Pray for justice for Alvarez and all victims of extrajudicial killings. May God comfort and mercy reign for those who are in grief.
- In the US, many communities in the state of Iowa are still recovering from a powerful storm, called a "derecho." Hurricane-force winds destroyed homes and buildings and devastated the state's corn crop, leaving lasting economic damage. May emergency relief and aid be given quickly for the people to restore electricity, housing and livelihood. We also remember the US Presidential election in November. May the citizens elect the right leader who can bring unity, justice and peace to the nation and the world.
- 22.5 million people throughout the world have contracted the coronavirus, the number of fatalities 790,000 people with 14.4 million recovered as of 21 August. In Hong Kong, the total number of confirmed cases is 4,605 with 75 deaths from the virus and 3,827 recovered. Keep praying for healing and the vaccines to be ready for use soon. Remember the vulnerable, the poor, the medical staff and cleaners who are working in the forefront. May God’s mercy and provision be with those who suffer from the economic downturn due to Covid-19.
- Many cases related to the protests have been trialed in the courts. May justice reign for the righteous. With the postponement of the LegCo

election, we pray for unity, calmness and resilience of the democratic political leaders. May God give them wisdom and humility to serve the city and bring the best to the people in this time of trial.

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

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths of Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal. We give thanks for the many ways in which these countries have moved beyond their colonial histories such as scars related to slave trade; economic and educational advances that have lifted some out of poverty. We pray for eradication of poverty, promising transitions into democracy and changes in government leaders; the persistent, faithful witness of churches in the midst of other faiths.

### **For the Congregation**

- Good news to share about Lucy who was discharged from hospital last Friday. May God continue to heal and give her strength.
- Let us remember Mrs Samuel and her family as they are remembering late Bishop Samuel in this month for his birthday and anniversary of passing.
- Remember and pray for our elderly friends and our sisters employed as domestic workers amid continuing confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hong Kong. May God bless and protect them. We uphold our children and their parents in our heart.
- Continue to uphold Pearl in our hearts as she is going through the process of grieving after the passing of her sister Jade.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Today**

Welcome to all who join our Sunday Worship through Facebook live streaming. Wherever you are, the love of God unites us as One, so we worship together in spirit and truth. A big thank you to our IT team who have been working so hard to improve the online system for our worship and those who lead the Service today.

### **Together We Stand Against COVID-19**

We are glad that the number of confirmed cases has dropped and yet we the Government's social distancing measures are still in place. We have to be patient and continue to have our Sunday Worship with Facebook streaming at 10:30 am. We will monitor the situation and pray that we will keep contact by different means. Please don't hesitate to be in touch with the church pastors and our church leaders if you or anyone you know of need help and prayers. Remember to take good care of yourself and your loved ones with good hygiene, good food, good rest, good exercise, and being a good neighbor to love and care for those around you that may need your help. **REMEMBER to PRAY and SMILE. Know that God who lives within and all around will guide and bless us always.**

## **HK National Security Law Talk Series**

The second forum will be organized on 30 August 2020 (Sunday) at 1:30 pm. Ms Jane Hu, originally from Shanghai, now living in Hong Kong, doing a PhD in Cultural and Religious Studies Department of Chinese University, will be our speaker sharing her views and experiences on Chinese churches under the Communist Party Rule. The forum will go online. Congregational Members who are interested please click in the link and register:

<https://forms.gle/tiaqqbcGid6rFcjv8>

## **KUC's COVID-19 Emergency Fund**

The Church has set up this Fund to help people whose lives have been battered by the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Fund is looked after by the Mission, Outreach and Ecumenism Committee (MOE). The second organization that was given support from this Fund was God Is Love Ministry in Nagaland, Eastern India.

## **Thank you to Hong Kong Christian Council (HKCC)**

With the funding from the Sharing and Church Witness Committee of HKCC, we are able to allocate funds to support five organizations in India and Malaysia: Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), Love India, Need India Trust, Posco Pratirodh Sangram Samiti (PPSS) and Sandakan, Sabah, Malaysia.

## **Appeal for Funding Support**

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to create suffering and hardship for people in Hong Kong and around the world as people become infected with the disease and others lose their jobs and income. The MOE would like you to consider contributing part or all of the Hong Kong government's COVID-19 handout of \$10,000 to the church's COVID-19 Emergency Fund. MOE thanks you for considering this request.

## **Donation/Offering to the Church**

If you wish to make a donation/offering to the special appeal for Covid-19 Emergency Fund and to the church for our ministries, you may go to the link [www.kuc.hk/giving](http://www.kuc.hk/giving) for details.

	<b>TODAY</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Phyllis Wong
Pianist:	Jessica Tso
Lector:	Rey Asis
Intercessory Prayers:	Peter Youngblood
I.T. Team	Lo Yuk Fai Carl Cathedral Timothy Chan