

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



Kowloon Union Church
WHERE ALL ARE ONE

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 29 August 2021

Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG “Holy Spirit Come”

– Composer: T. Chan

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** “Immortal Invisible God Only Wise”

– Music: Trad.; Words: Walter T Smith

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND “Change My Heart”

– Composer: Ed Spinoza

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** “Refiners Fire”

– Composer: Brian Doerksen

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 15 (OT)

James 1: 17 – 27 (NT)

Mark 7: 1 - 8, 14 - 15, 21 – 23 (NT)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

* **HYMN** “Take My Life ”

– Music: Henri A. C. Malan; Words: Frances R Havergal

FAMILY TALK

SERMON

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MISSION MOMENT – MALAYSIA CARE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER (in your own language)

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas "

– Composer: Taize

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE PEACE

* HYMN "God, What's the Shape of Mission"

– Music: S.S. Wesley Words: Caroline Winfrey Gillette

* COMMISSION and BLESSING

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CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

- Madagascar is on the brink of experiencing the world's first "climate change famine", according to the United Nations, which says tens of thousands of people are already suffering "catastrophic" levels of hunger and food insecurity after four years without rain. The drought - the worst in four decades - has devastated isolated farming communities in the south of the country, leaving families to scavenge for insects to survive. The UN estimates that 30,000 people are currently experiencing the highest internationally recognised level of food insecurity - level five - and there are concerns the number affected could rise sharply as Madagascar enters the traditional "lean season" before harvest. "This is unprecedented. These people have done nothing to contribute to climate change. They don't burn fossil fuels... and yet they are bearing the brunt of climate change," said UN World Food Programme's Shelley Thakral. May God have mercy on the people of Madagascar, we pray that food and supplies can be found and shared with the people.
- A new approach to protecting young African children from malaria could reduce deaths and illness from the disease by 70%, a study suggests. Giving them vaccines before the worst season in addition to preventative drugs produced "very striking" results, London researchers say. A clinical trial following 6,000 children under 17 months has yielded results that could help to control this killer illness. Following the steps of this trial could save the lives of millions in the African Sahel. As God has gifted the scientists to research and work on this trial, may the world enable this treatment approach through sponsorship and provision.
- We pray for Afghanistan and her people. We grieve and pray for the victims and wounded in Thursday's bomb attack at the airport. Since the fall of Kabul, many nations have been working round the clock and so far, 82,000 people have been evacuated out of the country. Thousands of others remain in the vicinity of the airport waiting to be on the next plane. Countries are rushing to evacuate people by the 31 August deadline. The recent G7 meeting has appealed that the deadline is extended to allow for a more thorough plan to be put in place. However, it is reported that US President Biden will not change the scheduled date. May God protect those involved in this mammoth task and protect those left behind. We thank those countries who have opened their doors and welcomed people in.

- The 2020 Tokyo Paralympics games have begun. Not even the fears of Japan's fifth virus wave could dampen the enthusiasm of the participants. Strict virus rules are enforced and there will be no spectators at the events - but as they say 'the games go on!'. May this be a time when all may see and learn from our brothers and sisters participating in these games.
- Malaysia faces yet another turnaround in her parliament with Ismail Sabri Yaakob taking over the post of Prime Minister by a slim majority. PM Yaakob has taken as one of his first priorities to gather a special committee to address the Covid- 19 crisis the country is facing. May his fervour to come to the aid of the people of Malaysia be an indication of his commitment to the people and the land.
- Students aged 12 or above can take their coronavirus jabs at 24 vaccination centres without a booking from Friday. Currently, people who are 60 or older can get a same-day ticket to receive a Covid-19 jab on a walk-in basis. The government decided to extend the arrangement to cover students studying at primary and secondary schools, as well as post-secondary institutions. Those aged 12 to 17 are required to bring along a consent form signed by their parents for vaccination.
- In another move to censor the arts, a proposal has been put forward in that the HK authorities would have the power to revoke approval already granted to movies for national security purposes under proposed legislation on film censorship unveiled by the government on Tuesday. The proposal would empower the Chief Secretary to direct the Film Censorship Authority to revoke certificates of approval or exemption previously issued for films if they go against national security interests. A list of 'banned films' has yet to be drawn up by the government. The proposal would also strip the Board of Review for Film Censorship of its power to consider appeals regarding films deemed to endanger national security. In a time of such uncertainty and insecurity, we seek the guidance of God and the Spirit to take us through these challenging times.
- Pray for our children as they venture back to school. We pray their education will not be disrupted as it has been in the past year.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in **Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and Senegal.**
- **We are thankful for** the many ways in which these countries have moved beyond their colonial histories, especially the scars related to the slave trade; this area's distinctive music and cultural practices of storytelling (griots); economic and educational advances that have lifted some out of poverty; promising transitions into democracy and changes in government leaders; the persistent, faithful witness of churches in the midst of other faiths.
- **We pray for** those people in these societies who continue to live in abject poverty; an end to policies, systems, and cultural practices that continue to exploit and marginalize some groups; the fair election of more just government leaders who respect the rights of all people; faith communities witnessing and working together for the common good.

For the Congregation

- We remember those near and far in need of our prayers. For all who are facing health challenges and undergoing treatment in hospital and at home. We pray for the healing

hand of the Lord to rest on Som, the mother of Sameth in Cambodia, Asha Melwani the mother of Alex, and Mrs Samuel. We remember Jenny Alegre in Queen Elizabeth Hospital and give thanks to God that Hend is now recovering at home with her family. We continue to remember Doris and her sister Jeanette Lee, Rachel Perry the niece of Tory Caplan and Mirasol Bolanos sister of Anjenette.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome!

Welcome, all who join our Sunday Worship in person and through Facebook live streaming today. It is good to have you together with us in this time of worship.

Weekly Programs in Church

- **Bible study online Monday at 11:00 a.m.** We are currently studying the New Testament books of 1, 2 & 3 John. Please contact Pastor Maggie if you are interested in joining the study group.
- **Peacemaking Fellowship** on Tuesday @ 10 am
- **Wednesday Evening Harambe Choir** @ 6 pm
- **Friday - Junior Choir** @ 3 pm

First Sunday Yum Cha

Sunday 5 September join in a time of fellowship, following worship – Yum Cha at Majesty Restaurant, Prudential Building, hosted by our Care and Fellowship Committee. A special Invite to those who have recently joined our community here in KUC. If you would like to join please speak to Paul Wong or Kevin Ng.

Special Appeal – We have almost reached our Goal!

The Peace-Making Ministry is appealing for your support in prayers and donation of funds, for our children within the community. We are launching the Education Fund Appeal – this year our target is to raise \$40,000. The money raised will be used to buy school books, uniforms, shoes and cover 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 for more detail on how you can donate to this appeal. And check on the fundraising pencil how much has been given already.



TODAY	NEXT WEEK
Liturgist: Maggie Mathieson	Phyllis Wong
Preacher: Hope Antone	Carl Cathedral
Pianist: Jessica Tso	Cheryl Hui
Lector: Anjenette Bolanos	Doris Lee
Intercessory Prayers: Paul Cheung	Judy Chan
Family Talk: Maggie Mathieson	Rey Asis
Sunday School: Jaylin Tomitis, Lucy Lim	Lucy Lim
I.T. Team: Louis Leung, Monkey Lui	Tony Chan, Modeste
Offering: Sunita Suna, Cynthia Leung	Aimé Girimana, Susan Babasa
Greeter: Peter Youngblood, Han In Kyu	Paul Wong, Ching So
Last Sunday's offering: \$ 10196.90	Promissory offering: \$700
Education Fund: \$100	