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



Fourth Sunday in Lent 14 March 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

SONG OF PREPARATION "Bless The Lord" — Music: Br Roger, Taize **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God"

- Words: Martin Rinkart Music: Johann Cruger

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "Change My Heart"

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Composer: Ed Spinosa

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** "Praise the One who Breaks the Darkness"

Words: Rusty Edwards Music: 'Nettleton'

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Numbers 21: 4 - 9

Psalm 107: 1 - 3, 17 - 22

John 3:14-21

Lord, may Your word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

* HYMN "How Deep the Father's Love"

SERMON "Be The True Light"

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

- Composer: Stuart Townend

THE OFFERTORY

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

ALL RESPOND "O Lord Hear My Prayer" — Music: Br. Roger ,Taize

OFFERTORY

* SIGN OF PEACE

* **HYMN** "Christ Be Our Light" — Composer: Bernadette Farrell

* COMMISSION and BLESSING

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CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

For the World and Hong Kong

- Even as vaccines begin to be rolled out, we remember that in places like Brazil, the coronavirus outbreak is still out of control. We continue to pray for healthcare workers and others at high risk of contracting COVID-19; may the world never forget their sacrifices or the lessons from the pandemic. At least 3,000 nurses globally have been killed by COVID-19, according to the International Council of Nurses, as it warned of a looming exodus of health workers who are burned out and overstressed by the pandemic. May countries, rich and poor, come together for a global effort to combat COVID-19.
- Thirteen people have been killed in the northwest of Nigeria amid alarming incidences of school abductions and attacks. We pray for the kidnapped students and their families who suffered from this terrifying experience, and appeal to God for wisdom to deal with the criminal gangs behind these attacks.
- A fire at a clothing factory in Egypt claimed the lives of at least 20 people. At the same time, many garment workers around the world remain underpaid and exploited. We pray for fairer labor conditions and those pushing for them.
- This past week marked the 10-year anniversary of the Fukushima nuclear disaster. We pray for the people still healing from the catastrophe, while embracing the broader discussions about climate change that it helped to spur.
- China's top legislature approved a resolution to overhaul Hong Kong's electoral system, as part of a bid to ensure only "patriots" hold power in the city while pro-democracy politicians may be barred from elections. As Christians, we remember that our allegiances are ultimately to God. We pray for those who are already exiled or jailed due to their political activities, and for God to raise up a new generation of leaders with the needs of the people as their guiding light.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden.
- We are thankful for the spectacular beauty of the changing landscape of forests, lakes, mountains and glaciers; churches that are advocating and implementing measures to redress climate change that is dramatic here and throughout the world; those who have opened their doors and hearts to people migrating to these lands; the support for justice, peace and interfaith work that comes from these countries.
- We pray for the poor and marginalized who struggle in these rich countries; personal and investment practices that support environmental sustainability; growing openness to becoming more multi-ethnic, multi-faith societies; those who are affluent that they will contribute to making the world and their societies more just for all; a Church that is prepared to be a voice in the struggle for indigenous people rights.

For the Congregation

- The second round of scaffolding has been installed in church. We pray for the smooth works being carried, and God's protection to the workers and everyone who come in and out the church.
- Pray for sisters and brothers who are facing health challenges recently. Remember Ate Jenny, Jeanette, Tory, Victoria's sister and brother-in-law and Kevin's father.
- We uphold our senior members and children in our hearts. May God's peace be with them.
- Pray for our pastors and church leaders in their service to God through KUC. The Council will have its regular meeting this afternoon. May God bless them with a fruitful meeting with the guidance from the Holy Spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

Welcome to all who join the Sunday worship through Facebook live streaming today. Be in touch with our pastors and church leaders if you need prayers and any support from us. We pray that worship in person will be resumed soon.

Lenten Devotional - One in the Covenant of the Cross

As we enter into this time of Lent we journey together from Genesis to the cross. Together we consider the covenants formed between God and God's people. During this time let us focus ourselves on building and creating our personal covenant with our Creator God. Please don't miss the weekly readings and devotional each week we upload to the church Facebook. For 4th Sunday in Lent, we hear from Nam Boo Won as he shares his reflection on Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22. You may also listen to Judy Chan, Rey Asis and Lydia Catedral who shared in the previous weeks since Ash Wednesday.

If you are not on Facebook and would like to view the videos or read the written version, please contact Pastor Maggie.

Mid Week Guided Meditation (Online Meeting)

Held every Wednesday from 7:30pm to 8:30pm starting 24 February and going through 7 April. This is an opportunity for different members and friends of the church to get to know one another more as we participate in spiritual practices together. Specifically, Carl will be facilitating the practice of Lectio Divina, and the Scriptures we go through overlap with the devotionals being prepared as part of the church's Lenten theme of 'One in the Covenant of the Cross.'

See a short video in the link below if you are interested and would like to join. Feel free to let Carl know if you have any questions! https://kuc.hk/lent

Anti-harassment Workshop

You are welcome to join our anti-harassment workshop organized on 18 April Sunday, 2-4 pm. We will share about what is sexual harassment, theological reflection, myths and misunderstanding on sexual harassment, understanding of victims and appropriate way to support. Our church has committed to develop a zero tolerance on harassment of all kinds. Please contact Pastor Phyllis or Ching for further information.

Funeral & Thanksgiving Service for Calli Yau-Cooper

The service will be arranged in the United Kingdom at 2 pm UK time/10 pm HK time on 18 March. Friends who would like to join online together in the church, please be in touch with Pastor Maggie or Pastor Phyllis.

You may find the funeral notice at https://www.dignityfunerals.co.uk/funeral-notices/04-02-2021-calli-sze-tai-yaucooper/?ts=637496034850249825.

'A Time to Remember Calli'

For those who are not able to join the streaming on 18 March, KUC will host a memorial service on 19 March @ 7 pm.

Weekly Bible Study (Online Meeting)

We are currently meet on Friday Morning at 10:30 am. We join in the process of the Church as we journey towards the Cross and Easter. For more details please contact Pastor Maggie.

Young Adults Group (YAG) (Online Meeting)

The Young Adult Group (YAG), meets on Friday evenings at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be on 26 March. If you would like to learn more and find out about other upcoming events, please message Carl Catedral at 6851 3694.

Donation or Offering to the Church

If you wish to make a donation or offering to the church, you may visit the church website at https://kuc.hk/giving.

Become a Member of Kowloon Union Church

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

Preparation for Baptism

For any friend who would like to be prepared for baptism in the church, please be in touch with Pastor Phyllis or Pastor Maggie.

TODAY	
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Phyllis Wong
Pianist:	Lucy Lim
Lector:	Paul Wong
Intercessory Prayers:	Amber Tong
I.T. Team:	Lo Yuk Fai, Monkey, Bervinder Kaur