

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

12 September 2021

Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(* : Congregation stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG "Holy Spirit Come"

– Composer: Timothy Chan

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** "Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee" –Music: Beethoven; Lyrics: H. Van Dyke

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "Kyrie Eleison" (Lord, have mercy)

–Russian Orthodox

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** "All Heaven Declares"

– Composer: Noel & Tricia Richards

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Wisdom of Solomon 7:26 - 8:1 (O.T.)

Mark 8:27-38 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

* **HYMN** "Will You Come and Follow Me?"

– Composer: John Bell

FAMILY TALK

SERMON "The Suffering Messiah"

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER (in your own language)

ALL RESPOND "Ubi Caritas" (Where charity is, there God is)

– Taize

OFFERTORY

THE PEACE

* **HYMN** “In Christ Alone”

– Composer: Stuart Townend

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

*** **

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

- Yesterday, 11 September 2021 is the 20th anniversary of the infamous 9/11 terrorist attack in the US. It was a watershed moment and had an enormous impact on the US foreign policy for the past two decades, including its military engagement in Afghanistan in the name of fighting terrorism. On this 20th anniversary, we pray to God for peace and guidance, to remember the victims and their families so that we do not forget the tragedies of terrorism. May we learn from our past mistakes and find more effective ways to combat terrorism by understanding its causes and to try to eradicate the roots of hatred with love and mutual respect. We also pray for the people of Afghanistan, may the rest of the world work together to help the country restore rule of law, peace and protect basic human rights.
- In Guinea, its president, Alpha Condé, is being held in military detention, after a coup by an elite unit of the army. The events have upended the 11-year regime of the 83-year-old president and sparked political upheaval in the mineral-rich but impoverished west African country. Condé was a once beloved opposition activist who came to power in 2010 with popular support, yet under his rule, the country remains impoverished, and rights abuses have mounted in recent years, with dissenters jailed and abused. We pray that the world takes note on the political turmoil in the continent which is reflective of the exploitation and corruption that hinders the political and economic development in many countries.
- In Mexico, heavy rainfall caused flooding and more than 30,000 people in towns across the state have been affected. We pray for the safety and well-being for all the people affected by the flooding and may the state authorities do their utmost to co-ordinate emergency operations in the affected areas.
- A court in China has dropped a case against a former Alibaba employee accused of sexual assault. This case exposed the enforced drinking culture in work-related dinners. In one such incident, the woman colleague was forced to drink too much alcohol while on a business trip with her boss, who then went into her room and allegedly raped her as revealed by security cameras. However, the district court in north-eastern Shandong province ruled that the "forcible indecency" committed by the man was not a crime! This ruling has sparked fierce reaction on the social media as many people felt the ruling was unjust. We pray that this case would arouse public concerns for the dangerous and unethical enforced drinking culture

at work. All companies should adopt zero-tolerance policy against sexual misconduct and ensure a safe workplace for all employees to avoid such terrible injustice to recur again in future.

- In Hong Kong, the latest official data showed more than 15,000 students had quit school in a year. Educators warned of an increasing exodus of pupils as part of a wave of emigration following the introduction of the national security law. School principals also report a sharp rise in resignation of teachers. May the authorities reallocate resources to improve standards and help schools suffering from a high dropout rate to allow smaller classes and the option of running more foreign curriculum programmes in order to attract and retain talent from overseas.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in **Ghana and Nigeria**.
- **We are thankful for** Christians and Muslims who take risks to work for dialogue and reconciliation, and people of disparate ethnic groups who strive together for the common good; churches who have been faithful in spreading the Good News.
- **We pray for** those affected by violence and terrorism; leaders of churches, that they might speak out courageously against political, social and economic injustices; just and peaceful relations between members of different ethnic groups and between Muslims and Christians; those who suffer from malnutrition and diseases such as malaria, HIV and AIDS; better stewardship of the environment and natural resources; the spiritual growth of the churches and how they are cooperating with each other and those of other faiths and practices; the peace and stability after long years of civil war and political struggle.

For the Congregation

- We keep praying for Som, the mother of Sameth in Cambodia, Asha Melwani the mother of Alex, and Mrs Samuel, Jenny Alegre, Hend, Doris, Jeanette Lee, Rachel Perry, and Mirasol Bolanos.
- The Yum Cha lunch fellowship organized by the Care and Fellowship Committee was a great occasion for sisters and brothers share and know more of each other in the love of Christ. Thank you Kevin Ng and Paul Wong for coordinating the event.

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.

Today

Council will meet at 1:30pm in the Upper Fellowship Hall

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 @ 10:30 am. The Fellowship will celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival on 21 Sept. Friends from KUC are all welcome to join us.
- **Wednesday Evening Harambe Choir @ 6 pm**
- **Friday - Junior Choir @ 3 pm**

BBO at Lung Mei Beach – Tai Po

KUC Care and Fellowship Committee invites you to join!

When: Sunday 19 September

Leave from KUC: 12 noon; Return to KUC: 5 pm

Fee: Adult \$100, Concessionary \$50; Fee includes Food and Transportation

Please contact Kevin Ng and Paul Wong for more detailed information.

KUC Movie Sunday - “Bullet-laced Dreams” will be screened by MOE Committee on 26 September at 1:30pm in the fellowship hall.

Extra-ordinary General Meeting (EGM)

The EGM will take place on Sunday, 21 November after worship.

The purpose is to present and pass the budget for 2022.

Special Appeal to Support Children Education

This year our target to raise \$40,000 has been almost achieved. Thank you for the generous support from the donors.

We welcome any amount of donation in future.



TODAY	NEXT WEEK
Liturgist: Sunita Suna	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher: Phyllis Wong	Revd Dr. Bill Robertson
Pianist: Eric Sin	Han In Kyu
Lector: Caden Lam	Kurt Law
Intercessory Prayers: Rod Lam	Tory Caplan
Family Talk: Maggie Mathieson	Lydia Cathedral
Sunday School: Lydia Cathedral	Jaylin Tomitis
I.T. Team: Chris Wong, Monkey Lui	Lok Yuk Fai, Modeste
Offering: Aimé Girimana, Venus Cheng	Rey Asis, Chris Wong
Greeter: Edwina Antonio, Cecilia Yeung	Kevin Ng, Muriel Orevillo Montenegro
Last Sunday's offering: \$ 18,149	Promissory offering: \$6,540