

Kowloon Union Church

*"Where all are one"*

4 Jordan Road, Kowloon

Tel. 2367-2585 • [kuc@kuc.hk](mailto:kuc@kuc.hk) • [www.kuc.hk](http://www.kuc.hk)

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Secretary: Heddy Ha

Minister: Maggie Mathieson

Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



Kowloon Union Church

WHERE ALL ARE ONE

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**26 September 2021**

**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

(\* : Congregation stands)

### **APPROACH**

**PREPARATION SONG** "Be Still and Know" – Composer: Roland Fudge

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\* HYMN** "Sing for God's Glory That Colours the Dawn of Creation"

– Music: Joachim Neander; Lyrics: Kathy Galloway

**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.**

**\* HYMN** "The Summons" – Music: Trad Folk Lyrics: John L Bell

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

James 5: 13 – 20 (N.T.)

Mark 9: 38 – 50 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

**\* HYMN** "Bring Forth The Kingdom" – Composer: Marty Haugen

**FAMILY TALK**

**SERMON**

**\* 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 True Charity is, there God Is) – Taize

## **OFFERTORY**

## **THE PEACE**

\* **HYMN** "Walls that Divide"

– Music: Ron Klusmeier; Lyrics: Walter Farquharson

\* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

### **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

- The number of extremely hot days every year when the temperature reaches 50C has doubled since the 1980s, a global analysis has found. This is happening in more areas of the world than ever before. High heat can be deadly for humans and nature, and cause major problems to buildings, roads and power systems. "The increase can be 100% attributed to the burning of fossil fuels," says Dr Friederike Otto, associate director of the Environmental Change Institute at the University of Oxford. Creator God, help us to help ourselves and take heed of the warnings we have been given. Help us as we care for the Earth you lavishly have given to us.
- Last week the United States has started deporting migrants from a Texas border town which has seen an influx in recent weeks. It is thought most of those transported are Haitian. Those deported were taken back to Haiti. Thousands, mostly Haitians, are stranded near the border between Colombia and Panama in makeshift camps. Reports have been shared of the inhumane treatment shown towards those waiting and in hiding. May God prepare a way for these migrants desperately looking for acceptance and a place of safety.
- It has been alleged by the Ethiopian government that Tigray rebel forces have destroyed thousands of health facilities in the northern part of the country. Earlier in August, it was reported that the same group had destroyed over 7000 schools. The two have been in combat since November 2020. The general public has suffered greatly in this time of unrest, many suffering the effects of famine and lack of medical care. May God have mercy on all involved in the conflict and protect those working towards peace in the area.
- In Afghanistan, the Taliban as feared has tightened their grip on women's rights, slashing access to work and denying girls the right to secondary school education. After pledging to a softer version of their brutal and repressive regime of the 1990s a month after seizing power this façade is crumbling. In the past 20 years, Afghan women have fought and gained basic rights to which the current regime has shown no inclination to honour. Lord, may Your justice reign and all be treated equally irrespective of creed, colour, gender, sexual orientation or age.
- Nearly all the 8,000 residents of a town in Myanmar have fled following fighting between the army and militia forces opposed to the military coup. Many houses in Thantlang, Chin state, were set ablaze by artillery during fighting over the weekend. It is thought that thousands of residents have fled to India across the nearby border into Mizoram state. We pray Lord for the people of Myanmar and the conflict present among them, protect and provide for those in dire need, comfort those who have lost loved ones and their livelihoods.

- Hong Kong Education minister Kevin Yeung has announced the first school to resume whole day face to face classes for the whole school will do so next week. Partial resumption for certain form years has already resumed in 5 of the territory's schools, 29 schools have made applications for the partial resumption of classes. In the gathering of school admission figures, it is expected the figure may have dropped significantly due to emigration and the falling birth rate in Hong Kong. No matter the numbers, Lord, we seek your hand to be on our young people and those who teach. Keep them safe, strong and ready to face each new day.

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

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in **Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru.**
- **We are thankful** for the distinctive rhythms, music, dance, food and natural medicine in this area; the beauty of the region, forests, mountains, rivers, lakes, and ocean coastlines, and especially indigenous peoples' relationship with, and care for, the natural environment; churches who witness and work both ecumenically and with those of other faiths to build relationships of trust and commitment amid ongoing injustice and oppression; the diversity of languages and cultures flourishing in the region despite disruptions that have occurred through colonization, and political and economic turmoil.
- **We pray** for Christians to have the courage, imagination and energy to build bridges of peace and understanding against conflict and division, and to pursue justice for the poor, marginalized and dispossessed; an end of corruption in all levels of the society, including economic exploitation which impoverishes and hinders economic growth from benefitting all; immigrants and refugees seeking a new home, and those who accompany and support them; coca farmers to find sustainable incomes from other crops, for an end to drug trafficking, and effective assistance for those who are addicted.

### **For the Congregation**

- We to pray 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 Ng Kam Lee, a friend of Lucy.
- We remember the Bolanos family as they mourn the death of Mirasol. Mirasol, younger sister of Anjenette, passed away on Monday 20 September in the Phillippines after a long illness. We thank God for her life and continue to pray for the family especially remembering Anjenette and her children here in Hong Kong.

## **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.**

- **Movie Sunday – “Bullet-laced Dreams”- Upper Fellowship Hall @ 1:30 pm**
- **Bible study online Monday at 11:00 a.m.** We continue to take a look at “The Fruit of the Spirit”. Please contact Pastor Maggie if you are interested in joining the study group.
- **Peacemaking Fellowship** on Tuesday @ 10:30 am.
- **Wednesday Evening Harambe Choir @ 6 pm**
- **Friday - Junior Choir @ 3 pm**

## **‘Bethune House: Grateful and Hopeful @ 35!’**

Bethune House celebrates 35 years of service to migrant women in need of shelter and care. In the past year alone she has opened her doors and sheltered 940 migrant women in crisis. For three-and-a-half decades, Bethune House has been in operation and she continues to offer this service to those in need. Bethune House and her staff also need your help to continue this vital work.

Today, Sunday from 4 – 6 pm Bethune House will celebrate her 35 years online. If you would like to join the celebrations the Zoom link is

<https://zoom.us/j/95083140009?pwd=MjVUOUtWeVlpUTduMEI4VVBjcjhiUT09> - If you would like to donate to the work of Bethune house, please speak to Edwina Antonio or one of our ministers for more information.

## **Dates for Your Diary**

### **First Sunday Yum Cha – Sunday 3 October**

Following worship next Sunday – please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the notice board.

### **Monthly Lectio Divina Practice**

We will resume our monthly practice of Lectio Divina on Wednesday, 6 October from 8 pm to 9 pm. We will meet every first Wednesday of the month beginning this October. Anyone is welcome to join! Visit: [kuc.hk/lectio](http://kuc.hk/lectio) for more information and to register.

### **Care and Fellowship Alternative Workshop – ‘Soap Making’**

When: Sunday 17 October                      Time: 1:30 pm – 3:00pm

Where: Lower Fellowship Hall

Register <https://forms.gle/KeqUemhtRVYKUPq78>

We have a limited number of places, only 15, registration will close automatically.

### **Extraordinary 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.

TODAY	NEXT WEEK
Liturgist: Rey Asis	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher: Maggie Mathieson	Aime Girimana
Pianist: Lucy Lim	Han In Kyu
Lector: Harry Chan	Team readers
Intercessory Prayers: Nam Boo Won	Hope Antone
Family Talk: Chan Beng Seng	Lydia Cathedral
Sunday School: Jaylin Tomitis	Lydia Cathedral
I.T. Team: Carl Cathedral, Monkey Lui and Modeste	Chris Wong Bervinder Kaur
Offering: Hope Antone, Robert Lam	Cynthia Leung, Chan Beng Seng
Greeter: Peter Youngblood, Han In Kyu	Paul Wong . Susana Babasa
Last Sunday's offering: \$ 2991: Promissory offering: \$ 2100 : Welfare fund: \$5000	