Kowloon Union Church *"Where all are one"* 4 Jordan Road, Kowloon Tel. 2367–2585 • kuc@kuc.hk • www.kuc.hk Secretary: Heddy Ha Minister: Maggie Mathieson Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2021

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 20 June 2021

Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

(* : Congregation stands)

APPROACH

PREPARATION SONG "Be Still and Know"

- Composer: Paul Armstrong

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

* **HYMN** "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" – Composer: Rick Founds "My Life is You Lord" – Composer: Daniel Gardner

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "Kyrie Eleison" ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS - Music: Russian Orthodox

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

KUC SINGERS "Wonderful Grace of Jesus"

- Composer Haldor Lillenas

SCRIPTURE READING

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

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 1 Samuel 17:1a, 4 – 11, 19 – 23 ; 32-49 Mark 4:35-41

Lord, may Your Word live in us. And bear much fruit for Your glory. HARAMBE "Hakuna Munga Kama Wewe"

(There is No God Like You)

FAMILY TALK SERMON * AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE OFFERTORY CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE LORD'S PRAYER (in your own language) ALL RESPOND "O, Lord Hear Our Prayer" – Music: Br. Roger OFFERING OFFERTORY PRAYER SIGN OF PEACE HARAMBE "Nitaitika" (When He Calls Me I Will Answer!) * COMMISSION and BLESSING

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CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

- World Refugee Day is marked on 20 June each year to celebrate the courage and resilience of the people forced to flee their home countries to escape conflict or persecution. This year's World Refugee Day comes in a time of the shared experience of COVID-19, which reminds us that only by working together can we recover from the pandemic. This year's campaign calls for the greater inclusion of refugees in health systems, schools, and sport. As Church, we remember Jesus was once a refugee. We are called to stand with the refugee community to heal, learn and shine together.
- As the world remains in the shadow of the Covid 19 Pandemic we have received good news as several of the world's richest countries are sending vaccines to those in the developing world. We thank God for this news and for all that will be helped through these vaccinations. May more countries make such contributions.
- The chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) has called for a full investigation into suspected crimes against humanity during a deadly drugs crackdown directed by the government of the Philippines. National data has registered over 6000 deaths since 2018, this being the official figure it is thought the true figure is much higher. The Philippines government have stated they will not comply with the ICC claiming they are no longer members. Many innocent lives have been taken and families are yearning for justice for their loved ones. We pray that this process will go ahead without interference that justice may be established for those who have died innocent of any crime and through this families may find the peace that has been missing in their lives.
- Israel's new Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has promised to unite a nation frayed by years of political stalemate. We pray for Israel and all her people that this may be so that they will be able to live as God intended as sisters and brothers.
- Let us pray for the people of Tigray in Ethiopia as they struggle to survive amid famine and war. Government troops with the backing of neighbouring Eritrea have been engaged in fighting with the ousted ruling party the Tigray People's Liberation Front. Both sides involved have been responsible for brutal acts against humanity perhaps one of the most severe being they have blocked humanitarian aid from reaching the people in greatest need.
- In the light of recent derogatory comments made by local lawmakers concerning the rights of sexual minorities, the chairman of the Equal

Opportunities Commission, Rick Chu, has alerted all that there is a need for Hong Kong to establish a Discrimination Law that would offer protection from such abuse to those from sexual minorities. Let us be reminded that we are all created equally in the eyes and hands of God and all people irrespective of creed, colour, faith, age or sexual orientation and should be treated equally.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in Malawi and Zambia.
- We are thankful for the biodiversity and natural wonders in these lands; church leaders who have spoken out and countered sexual violence and human rights abuses; those who are dealing with challenges of migrations within, and to, these countries; stable governance and economies, and rising living standards for the people.
- We pray for greater food security for those most vulnerable, especially in times of climate change; bring an end to political and economic corruption; rising standards of living, particularly for those poorest; an end to the exploitation of resources and of the people, especially those who are young and/or female.

For the Congregation

- We remember those near and far in need of our prayers. We pray for the healing hand of the Lord to rest on our dear Auntie Jenny in Kowloon Hospital, for Asha Melwani the mother of Alex and Mrs Samuel. We continue to remember Jeanette Lee, the sister of Doris in the USA, who has completed her chemotherapy, may God rebuild her strength and health. We remember Rachel Tan niece of Lucy Lim and Mirasol Bolanos sister of Anjanette.
- We pray especially this day for all those within our community who are now in the process of seeking Asylum here in Hong Kong and that our brothers and sisters will be given the courage and the strength to keep going in this long and arduous journey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome!

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

Mid Week Guided Meditation

We will take a summer break from our mid-week guided meditation. Our Lectio Divina session will resume in August. If this interests you and you would like to know more about Lectio Divina, please visit our web page <u>kuc.hk/lectio</u> for more information.

Weekly Programs in Church

- **Bible study online** at 11:00 a.m. on **Monday**. Contact person: Pastor Maggie.
- **The Church Council** will meet today after worship. Please remember the Council in your prayers in their service to God that they may be inspired through the power of the Holy Spirit, in leading us as we build the Kindom in this place.
- World Refugee Day Celebration To demonstrate solidarity with the refugee community, a food sharing program will be organized on 22 June (Tuesday) in KUCspace at 5 pm. This program is organized by Justice Centre and co-organized by our Peace Making Ministry. All refugees and asylum seekers friends are welcome to join. Please contact Aimé for more details on the program.
- **Sunday 27 June** the Care and Fellowship Committee will host an 'Alternative Workshop in the art of Pastel Nagomi Art'. The session will be led by Grace So. Please register if you wish to participate in the class as there are limited spaces.

Register at https://forms.gle/ZkPC9YmxAgpe4Lkn8

Special Appeal

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 covers 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.

TODAY
Liturgist: Aimé Girimana
Preacher: Phyllis Wong and Joel Chaukura
Pianist: Jessica Tso
Lector: Anjenette Bolanos
Intercessory Prayers: Constance Chaukura
Family Talk: Rey Asis
Sunday School: Hugo Lo
I.T. Team: Chris Wong and Louis Leung
Offering: Mercy Matilda, Chyita
Last Sunday's offering: \$1805.00

Promissory offering last week: \$ 1100.00