

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

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**25 July 2021**  
**Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

(\* : Congregation stands)

**APPROACH**

**PREPARATION SONG** "Holy Spirit Come to Us"

– Composer: Ateliers et Presses de Taize

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

\* **HYMN** "Gather Us In"

– Composer: Marty Haugen

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ALL RESPOND** "God is Forgiveness" – Composer: Ateliers et Presses de Taize

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**THE WORD OF GOD**

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.**

\* **HYMN** "Seek Ye First"

– Composers: Karen Lafferty; David Huff

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

Psalm 145:10-18 (OT)

Ephesians 3:14-21 (NT)

John 6:1-21 (NT)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

\* **HYMN** "Trust and Obey" – Words: John H Sammis; Music: Daniel B Towner

**FAMILY TALK**

**SERMON** "Truly a Miracle"

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**THE OFFERTORY**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

## **MISSION MOMENT**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**LORD'S PRAYER** (in your own language)

**ALL RESPOND** "Ubi Caritas"

– Music: Ateliers et Presses de Taize

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

### **SIGN OF PEACE**

\* **HYMN** "How Great Thou Art"

– Composer: Carl Boberg

\* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

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### **CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

- Covid – 19 continues to rear its ugly head controlling the lifting and enforcement of lockdown throughout the world. For all in the world dealing with this virus, we pray God's hand of protection and healing for those who have tirelessly served others. We pray for God's added strength as areas throughout the world open up. May people not forget those who have lost their lives or suffer long-term health challenges due to the virus.
- Ariel Henry has been sworn in as Haiti's new prime minister, nearly two weeks after the assassination of the country's President Jovenel Moïse. We pray that in his new post he will take time to listen to the cries of the people he has been called to lead and instil some calm to a land and people in turmoil.
- The British Home Secretary has established a multi-million pound deal with the French Government in an attempt to stem the rising number of migrants crossing the English Channel. The deal agreed will see France double the number of police patrolling its beaches. It will also fund improved intelligence sharing and introduce better technology to target the gangs who organise the crossings for a profit. It is indeed a way forward to stop the trafficking of human lives for profit but we can also see that this action puts more pressure on those trying to find a place of safety. Yet another path is narrowed. May God's hand of protection be on all.
- The deployment of troops in South Africa has subdued the civil unrest seen in the last few weeks. The number who have lost their lives during this time has reached an estimated 260 people, businesses are desperately trying to recoup from the endless looting and those with next to no food or provisions seek to survive. May the Lord bring peace to those who have lost loved ones and may the necessary provisions be found particularly for the most vulnerable.
- The Islamic State (IS) has claimed responsibility for a recent bomb attack that has claimed the lives of at least 30 people and wounded dozens more in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad. This has been the most severe bombing in the last six months. The bombing was planned on the busiest of days for families preparing for the feast of Eid al-Adha. Let us pray for peace in these lands where life, it seems, is no longer sacred, praying for all involved, that there may be a greater understanding of the other.
- Tokyo saw the opening of the '2020 Olympics' a year after the proposed date. Much of the games will continue behind closed doors as the country struggles with surging numbers of Covid-19 cases. Many countries and individual athletes have withdrawn from the games and these games are not without internal scandal and changes.  
Yet we all can join in and agree with the words of WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus in his keynote address for the International Olympic Committee, "May these

Games be the moment that unites the world, and ignites the solidarity and determination we need to end the pandemic together."

- Adverse weather conditions throughout the world continue to threaten and endanger many parts of the world in the USA and Canada as wildfires continue to rage. The people of Germany set to recover from the devastating floods of last week, and closer to home the heavy rain of the last week has caused havoc and claimed many lives. May God comfort all who have been bereaved, strengthen those who continue the rescue and recovery mission. May God help us to understand more of this wonderful creation and let us take responsibility for all that we have or have not done to maintain that which we have been given.
- As our eyes and hearts follow the many court cases here in Hong Kong arising from the aftermath of 2019 and the installation of the NSL we pray that Justice will prevail and the truth be made known.
- Many congratulations to our Brothers and Sisters of the United Church of Christ in the Philipines, Hong Kong, as they celebrate the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the church here in Hong Kong. May God continue to bless this ministry.

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

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in **Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda.**
- **We are thankful for** the abundant natural resources in the DRC and the mountainous beauty of Rwanda; those who have worked for healing and reconciliation in Rwanda, especially after the genocide; the tireless efforts of churches and community organizations, working with the support of humanitarian organizations, to improve the living conditions of the people.
- **We pray for** an end to poverty and hunger, and improved access to health services, especially for the young, that they might have hope for their future; an end to rebel movements across borders and the political instability this stirs up; just economic development that does not exploit Creation and people; democratic election of clean governments that work for the sake of all.

### **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 the mother of Sameth in Cambodia, Asha Melwani the mother of Alex, and Mrs Samuel. We continue to remember Doris and her sister Jeanette Lee, we remember Rachel Perry the niece of Tory Caplan and Mirasol Bolanos sister of Anjanette.
- We seek your special prayers at this time for our dear sister Jenny Alegre who remains in Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

## **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.

### **Weekly Programs in Church**

**Following Worship, today** is Movie Sunday – “Bending the Arc” (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

The MOE Committee will screen a documentary on Sunday, 25 July, "Bending the Arc" (2017, 102 minutes). It tells the story of 'Partners in Health' (PIH).

Starting in Haiti in 1983 and using insights from Liberation Theology, PIH has expanded its scope to work in Peru, Rwanda, Russia, the Navaho Nation, and beyond. "They averted a deadly MDR-TB epidemic; took on HIV/AIDS—becoming the first doctors in the world to treat patients in rural settings with full courses of anti-retrovirals. ... Reaching far beyond the issue of health care, Bending the Arc shows how moral imagination, strategy, and sheer will together can change the trajectory of the world, bending the arc of the moral universe closer to justice."

- **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.
- **Tuesday Peacemaking Fellowship** – 10:30 am @ KUC.

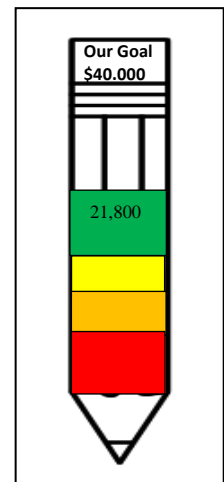
**Calling for Volunteers - VBS ( 9 Aug – 13 Aug from 13:30 - 16:00)**

We have come to that time of the year again when we are getting ready for our VBS – Vacation Bible School – This year we will venture to the Castles of the North – Jordan. Volunteers are needed for the preparation of materials as well as helping out during the programme.

Donations are also gratefully received – please talk to Pastor Maggie if you have some time to spare or would like to make a donation. 😊

**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 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	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher: Judy Chan	Phyllis Wong
Pianist: Jessica Tso	Han In Kyu - Viola: Caden Lam
Lector: Elim Mok	Paul Wong
Intercessory Prayers: Nam Boo Won	Elim Mok
Family Talk: Rey Asis	Maggie Mathieson
Sunday School: Jaylin Tomitis	Jaylin Tomitis
I.T. Team: Lo Yuk Fai, Monkey Lui	Lo Yuk Fai; Modeste
Offering: Hope Antone, Lucy Lim, Modeste	Doris Lee; Joel Chaukura
Greeter: Kevin Ng, Tory Caplan	Nam Boo Won; Muriel Orevillo-Montenegro

Last Sunday's offering:\$22,029	Promissory offering last week: \$300
Education Fund: \$8300	Supermarket Vouchers \$100
	VBS: \$2000