

Kowloon Union Church  
“Where all are one”  
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CCLI Licence 5075510  
Secretary: Candy Lam  
Minister: Maggie Mathieson  
Minister-in-charge: Phyllis Wong



### **Lent 3**

**20 March 2022**

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

**PREPARATION HYMN** “Lead Me Lord” – Composer: Samuel S Wesley

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**HYMN** “As the Deer” – Composer: Martin J Nystrom

**SCRIPTURE READING**

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

**A light to our path.**

Isaiah 55: 6 - 9 (OT)

1 Corinthians 10: 1 - 13 (NT)

Luke 13: 1 - 9 (NT)

Lord, may Your Word live in us.

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

**SERMON** “If It Bears Fruit.....”

**MUSIC MEDITATION** “Refiner’s Fire ” – Composer: Brian Doerksen

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**RESPONSE** “Ubi Caritas” (Where charity and love are, God is there) – Taize

**THE PEACE**

**HYMN** “For the Fruits of All Creation”

– Music: Trad Folk; Lyrics: Fred Pratt Green

**\* COMMISSION and BLESSING**

**RECESSIONAL** “Lord of All Being Throned Afar”-

Composer Oliver Wendell Holmes

## CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*God does nothing except in response to believing prayer.* – John Wesley

**Please remember as you pray. . .**

- The number of people who have had COVID continues to be high but there is hope that this 5th wave has hit its peak and numbers will soon start to drop. Hospitals continue to be operating at full capacity and our frontline staff are under huge pressure.
- Another week has passed in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, another week of destruction and death. The number of casualties is not yet known as a theatre sheltering civilians has been shelled. It is believed that there may have been up to 1200 people sheltering in the building. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) has ordered Russia to cease military actions immediately in a 13-2 decision. This includes all activities carried out against the people of Ukraine by the Russians or those representing the Russian forces. Although the court rulings are binding, there are no direct means of enforcing them.
- Researchers have revealed that the Amazon rainforest is moving towards a “tipping point” where trees may die en masse. After years of damage caused by drought, fires and deforestation the rainforest is losing its ability to heal and recover. In the past the rainforest trapped carbons that would add to global warming. Now studies are showing areas of the Amazon emitting more carbon dioxide than can be absorbed.
- The number of fatalities has risen as a result of Cyclone Gombe in Mozambique. Gombe has destroyed thousands of homes and has crippled the infrastructure making it almost impossible to travel by land.
- Throughout the world, several countries and their people are facing a hunger crisis and starvation, in Afghanistan, Yemen, Madagascar, Ethiopia to name just a few. The largest group affected are the most vulnerable – the young and the elderly. May we in the developed countries find ways to offer our support to these, the least in greatest need.
- Yet another sector of local employment is coming under the dark shadow of the pandemic. It is feared that at least 150 gyms could close down in the coming months if they can not reopen by 20 April. This comes after the announcement that Fitness First will close all eight branches in Hong Kong.

## **For the Congregation**

- We pray for Asha Melwani the mother of Alex, Mrs. Samuel, Jenny Alegre, Hend, Jeanette Lee, Rachel Perry, Ng Kam Lee, Raymond Lau, Chung Yoke Chin, Ramon Bultron, Bhim Maya Pun, Kathy Chan, Louis Lo and Tong Chong Sze. We remember those who are providing care for loved ones at home and in care facilities. We particularly pray for Nam and Inkyu who are currently in Korea attending Nam's mother who remains in critical condition.
- We remember particularly at this time the Leung family. Peter's father Tony Leung passed away last week after a short stay in hospital. May he rest in peace and the family know that peace and comfort that comes only from the Lord.
- Pray for the continued efforts of our Peacemaking team and our licensees serving the marginalized in our community. They are providing medical and psychological support as well as accommodation and food supplies. Pray that the Lord will continue to strengthen and keep them safe as they serve.
- Congratulations to Mok, Kwan Ho, and Lee, Hiu Wing Hilfie who were married in KUC yesterday. May they always know the blessings of God as they start their life together as husband and wife.

## **For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

We lift in prayer the churches and people of all faiths in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania.

We are **thankful** for:

- preservation of the distinct cultural practices, literature, music and natural resources in these countries.
- the faithful witness of Christians during times of persecution and for those who survived times of occupation.
- how these countries peacefully became independent after 1918 and 1991.
- new-found freedoms that the people here have experienced, that they might be used for the good of all.

**We pray for:**

- peaceful relations with Russia and among all the ethnic groups in these lands.
- the healing of old wounds remaining from 20th century struggles.
- just economic development that benefits all citizens in these countries, and for those who live and work abroad.
- governmental leaders and all people, that they might together strive for justice, peace and the well-being of all.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Welcome!

Welcome to all who join our Sunday Worship online today. It is good to have you together with us in this time of worship.

### Weekly Programs in Church.

All face-to-face activities are suspended in Church until 20 April 2022 due to the Government's expanded Covid-19 restrictions. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

### Season of Lent

The Lenten Season is an important time of the year for Christians to reflect on our faith and our life with God in our daily life. We pray that together we undertake the spiritual journey and discover a deeper meaning of life in Christ, our redeemer, who lived, died, and was resurrected to save the world and all humanity. Lenten Devotionals on the theme of "Grace Through the Darkness" are shared through KUC's Facebook – three devotions per week – Monday/Wednesday/Friday - during the Lenten season.

### Donation/Offering to the Church

If you wish to make a donation/offering to the church and support our ministries, you may send us a cheque payable to "Kowloon Union Church" and send it to 4 Jordan Road, KLN, or by direct deposit to our church account: HSBC Account 018-1-080268. Please mail/email the bank receipt to us for our records.

### We Seek Your Prayers

Please pray for our church community as we prepare for our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in May. Apart from the reports and plans for the next year, the AGM will be a time for KUC members to elect new members to serve on both the Council and the Trustees. As several members have completed their terms, others have stepped down, and others have left Hong Kong, we have several vacancies to fill. We seek your prayers that God will prepare the right people to take up various leadership roles in the church. Please contact Pastor Maggie, Pastor Phyllis, or a Council member, if you are considering such a position, or wish to recommend someone from among our members, to serve through one of these governing bodies of the Church.

	<b>TODAY</b>
Liturgist:	Maggie Mathieson
Preacher:	Hope Antone
Lector:	Venus Cheung
Intercessory Prayers:	Chan Beng Seng
I.T. Team:	Bervinder Kaur