

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



First Sunday after Christmas
27 December 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

(*: Congregation Stands)

APPROACH

SONG OF PREPARATION "Bless The Lord"

– Music: Taizé Community

CALL TO WORSHIP

* **HYMN** "Sing Hallelujah to The Lord" – Composed by Linda Stassen

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL RESPOND "Kyrie Eleison" (Lord Have Mercy)

– Music: Russian Orthodox Chant

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE WORD OF GOD

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall show forth Your praise.

* **HYMN** "Amazing Grace" – Music: Virginia Harmony; Words: John Newton

SCRIPTURE READING

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

A light to our path.

Psalm 148 (O.T.)

Galatians 4:4–7 (N.T.)

Luke 2:22–40 (N.T.)

Lord, may Your word live in us.

And bear much fruit for Your glory.

UCCP "Bring Forth the Kingdom" – Music: Marty Haugen

SERMON "A Light for Revelation"

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

THE OFFERTORY

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL RESPOND “Ubi Caritas” – Music: Taizé Community

OFFERTORY

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

(Pre-recorded Video, Played by Jessica Tso and Yvonne Lo)

* **SIGN OF PEACE**

* **HYMN** “Walk with Light in the Darkness”

– Music: Erling Lindgren; Words: Sten Kaalo, Edward Broadbridge

* **COMMISSION and BLESSING**

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CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

For the World and Hong Kong

- As many return to the warmth of their families this Christmas, we remember those left without a home. Today in particular we lift in prayer the 1,200 migrants who have been displaced from a refugee camp in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which closed this week. While they had been living in worrisome conditions, their situation may be even more dire now. We pray that God will work among the government and humanitarian organizations, opening a way for new accommodation and essentials as these migrants face the harsh winter ahead.
- An unknown variant of the coronavirus that appears to have emerged in South Africa and is spreading through the UK has thrown the country and its neighbors into chaos, spiking new fears and confusion as borders are shut. Thousands of truck drivers were trapped at the Port of Dover, unable to enter France and uncertain what to do. We pray for God's peace for those stranded and wisdom for those coordinating policies.
- At a time of abundance and rich material consumption we are reminded that poverty, not presents, is at the heart of Christmas celebration. This week, we learned from the government's annual report that in 2019, one in five Hong Kongers live in poverty. Around the world, the Covid-19 pandemic has forced many out of jobs and worsened people's economic burdens. May the very humanity of Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to be born in a manger, comfort all those in need and send angels to relieve their burdens.
- The central Chinese government is reportedly considering disqualifying elected district councilors and scrap their seats in the Chief Executive's election committee. If true, it would deal another blow to the democratic values and political freedom of Hong Kong, even as protesters deal with the legal consequences of last year's social movement. May God grant us

and the people of the city hope in despair and give us reasons to be joyful in this dark season.

For the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

- We lift up in prayer today the churches and people of all faiths in [Stateless people](#) .
- We give thanks for those who live with a sense of being valuable in God's sight, even if they officially lack a nationality or passport. We also thank God for those who reach out to stateless people, making them feel at home, and work to address the dilemmas the stateless face.
- We pray for an end to the discrimination and marginalization that leads some people to be stateless. We pray for those who lack support and feel they are in limbo while being stateless. We pray for churches and other organizations that reach out to provide stateless people with what they need to live; and for governments and international organizations to change policies and practices so that all people feel they belong somewhere.

For the Congregation

- Remember and pray for our ministers and church leaders. The Council has been doing an overall review of the KUC ministries. Please pray for the ministries of the church in the midst of changes and uncertainties.
- Remember and pray for friends who are facing life and health challenges. Pray for Paul Wong for his leg to be strengthened, for good health of Peter Chan, Sandy Hung, Emad and Nasr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

Welcome all who join the Sunday Worship through Facebook live streaming today. Today is the last Sunday of 2020. We wish you a happy and blessed new year of 2021. During this global health crisis, we pray that you and your family are all safe, healthy and blessed in God. Please be in touch with our ministers and church leaders if you need any support from us in this challenging time.

Timothy Chan

We are grateful for and appreciate Timothy's services to the church especially the peace-making ministry in the past five years. We pray that God will continue to guide him as he moves on in his life journey outside KUC.

Due to 4th wave COVID-19 pandemic in Hong Kong, we regret we cannot go ahead with our farewell gathering with him as scheduled.

The KUC Mission Outreach and Ecumenism set up the kudoboard, <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/8sAqx6Ei?fbclid=IwAR3P4juqKUoMXsQ14w4D1L97miOaifhMh4BTff8CS7Sr2BIQKP36P4DFoto>

an online board where our friends can put messages, love letters and whatever you wish to share with Timothy. Let's fill it up with love, laughter and good memories for Timothy!

Donation or Offering to the Church

If you wish to make a donation or offering to the church and support our ministries, you may send us a cheque payable to “Kowloon Union Church” and mail it to 4 Jordan Road, KLN. Or you can make a direct deposit to our church account: HSBC Account 018-1-080268. Please mail or email (kuc@kuc.hk) the bank receipt to us for our records. For more options, please visit the church website <https://kuc.hk/giving>

Flowers in Worship

You are welcome to make donation for the flowers for the worship services. The minimum amount for each week is \$100. Donations may be given to Pastor Maggie Mathieson and Pastor Phyllis Wong.

Become a Member of Kowloon Union Church

New members can be received by transfer, bond of union, restatement of faith, or baptism. Interested in talking about this further? Have a word with our ministers Phyllis Wong or Maggie Mathieson.

	TODAY
Liturgist:	Phyllis Wong
Preacher:	Timothy Chan
Pianist:	Cheryl Hui
Lector:	Maggie Mathieson
Intercessory Prayers:	Hope Antone
I.T. Team:	Lo Yuk Fai Bervinder Kaur