

**Congregational Church of Birmingham  
United Church of Christ**

**A Just World for All**



**God Is Holding Your Life**

**Sunday ~ June 13, 2021 ~ 10:00 AM**

**WORSHIP GUIDE**

(**Bold** indicates in unison.)

PRELUDE "Awesome God" Mullins, arr. Ray

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Louise

**Welcome Visitors!** We heartily welcome you and hope you enjoy this church home.

**You May Contact** Rev. Ott for any pastoral request or emergency at 989-245-0092 or [REVLRO@aol.com](mailto:REVLRO@aol.com)

**Prayers?** Write them in the book on the Welcome Podium at outdoor worship, or email them to Rev. Ott ([REVLRO@aol.com](mailto:REVLRO@aol.com)) or the church office ([ccbinfo@ccbucc.org](mailto:ccbinfo@ccbucc.org)) to be included in the Sunday prayer time and the Weekly Prayers email.

**Are You in the Loop?** Stay current on all CCB news. Contact the church office to receive our email communications.

**View Sunday Worship Broadcasts** and all previously recorded services on the "Congregational Church of Birmingham, United Church of Christ" YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwfTgUDxKOY9u4KkZbExhpw>

## OUR MINISTRY UPDATES

**IF YOU ARE ABLE, PLEASE JOIN THE RUPERT'S TODAY** after outdoor worship for another garage painting work day. We'll work from 11 AM - 1:30 PM to paint garage trim. We have jobs that don't involve using a ladder. This is a big job & many hands make light work. Thank you!

**CHILDREN'S SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL DURING WORSHIP:** Before outdoor worship begins at 10:00 AM each Sunday (weather permitting), please bring your children (age 3-12) in gardening clothes & shoes, with masks, a full water bottle & child-sized garden tools, to the Community Garden area behind the arborvitae for their own faith exploration. Questions? Contact Carmel Tinnes at [carmelf711@yahoo.com](mailto:carmelf711@yahoo.com)

**SUNDAY MORNING INFO WITH ZOOM & YOU TUBE LINKS!** Check your email each Friday for the Weekly E-Update message. It contains important information and all the up-to-date Zoom and YouTube links for online Worship, Social Hour, and additional meetings and events.

**BLESSING THE ANIMALS!** Bring your pets (or a photo if they're not mobile or don't play well with others!) to be blessed at outdoor worship next Sunday, June 20, weather permitting. All are welcome!

**EMERGENCY WATER SITUATION IN BENTON HARBOR:** The city of Benton Harbor is experiencing some severe water shortages. Rev. Pinckney of God's Household of Faith, has informed us the water crisis in Benton Harbor has taken a turn for the worse. They have determined the water supply is contaminated with lead and bacteria. Peace Nick has shipped out full pallets of water (288 gallons) and would like to send more. Please donate to this effort. Simply proceed to the Peace Nick website ([www.peacenick.org](http://www.peacenick.org)) and click on "Water Crisis". Or directly link to the water donate page: [www.peacenick.org/cgi-bin/index.pl?fs=2&init=1](http://www.peacenick.org/cgi-bin/index.pl?fs=2&init=1). Questions? Call Greg Panzica (Executive Director of Peace Nick) at (313) 215-5767 or Paul von Oeyen at (248) 891-7509.

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WELCOME TO A SUMMER OF PSALMS

Pastor Louise

This week's Psalm brings home the message that we are in an intimate relationship with God. There is nowhere we go that God is not present – no state of our being, that results in our being abandoned. God, indeed, is holding our lives. Let us pray:

Dear and Near God, you never leave our side. Open us this day to feeling and knowing your presence deep in our hearts. Wherever we go may we live as an offering of right relationship on earth as it is in heaven. We praise you for your close attention, holding our lives together in care. Amen.

**OPENING SONG "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" Sing Along**

[FWS #2051]

**"I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.**

**"I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell.**

**"When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
you were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.**

**"If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk till rising sun.**

**"In the middle-ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.**

**"When the evening gently closes in  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
with just one more surprise.**

**"I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old,  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold."**

CCLI #741179

OUR PSALM READING Psalm 139:1-12, 17-18 NRSV

Matt Skrzycki

O GOD, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.  
You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O GOD, you know it completely.  
You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.  
Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?  
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.  
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night,"  
even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.  
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end—I am still with you.

For the word of God in Scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us, **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

OUR PSALM SONG

"Where Can I Go?"

Colligan

PSALMS WITH CHILDREN  
(Online YouTube worship only.)

Dr. Carmel Tinnes,  
Director of Christian Education

OUR CONVERSATION

"No Hiding"

Rev. Louise R. Ott

Where I wander – You!  
Where I ponder – You!  
Only You, You again, always You!  
You! You! You!  
When I am gladdened – You!  
When I am saddened – You!  
Only You, You again, always You!  
You! You! You!  
Sky is You, Earth is You!  
You above! You below!  
In every trend, at every end,  
Only You, You again, always You!  
You! You! You!

(From *Tales of the Hasadim*, by Martin Buber.)

MUSIC OF THE DAY

"Awake, My Soul, and Sing"

Pote

CCB-UCC Virtual Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor & People

Let us be in conversation with God as we consider all the areas of our concern. As each aspect of our collective life is named, we will pause to pray silently and then we will respond as indicated. As a prayer posture for this worship series, I invite you to cup your hands, ready to receive God's love and peace, and in preparation to be God's love and peace in the world.

ONE: Let us pray for the leaders of this world and this church community...  
The God of Justice –

**ALL: hears our prayer.**

ONE: Let us pray for those who live in conflict around the world...  
The Prince of Peace –

**ALL: hears our prayer.**

ONE: Let us pray for all who are experiencing loss of any kind in this pandemic...  
The Comforting Healer –

**ALL: hears our prayer.**

ONE: Let us pray for those who are homeless, hungry and alone...  
Emmanuel, God-With-Us –

**ALL: hears our prayer.**

ONE: Let us pray for those who live in comfort, for Christ-like hospitality and generosity...  
God's Transforming Spirit –

**ALL: hears our prayer.**

ONE: Holy and Living One, we pray for those we have named and the ones whose names we do not know ...  
As your well-known people, created in your image,  
we join our hearts and voices  
to pray the disciples' prayer of Jesus, saying...

## **THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER OF JESUS**

**All People**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

We continue to pray for:

- All at risk in contracting COVID-19
- Annabelle, Cindy Kyle's mother, frail and living alone at a distance
- David, brother of Paul von Oeyen, diagnosed with aggressive leukemia
- Educators in pandemic challenges
- Hoban family, grieving the death of John's father
- Jackie Wagoner, recovering from hip replacement surgery
- Joyce, Pastor Louise and Elaine's friend, with terminal ALS; and cousin Suzy, in hospice care
- Karyn Walack-Otani, grieving the death of her father, Norman
- Kevin Wilson, grieving the death of his father, Neal
- Melissa and Calliope Crook, to be reunited permanently
- Sue Potter, recovering from hip surgery; grieving the death of her Dad; and praying for her brother, Rob, with metastasized cancer in his bones
- Ruth Biersdorf, in treatment for cancer
- Victims of war, violence, and natural disasters everywhere
- We hold CCB families in supportive prayer, especially working adults with children educating at home
- Youth and adults with mental health challenges

## HONORING OUR GRADUATES AND BROOKER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

(In person worship only.)

Graduates share their commencement experience and tell us what's next. James Brooker awards this year's CCB-UCC Brooker scholarships.

### GOD'S LOVING SPIRIT

Pastor Louise

God has no anonymous children. We are all known and loved for who we are, not in spite of who we are. May the constancy of God's knowing us, be our journey's home from our borning cry to the last surprise.

### **CLOSING SONG "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry" Sing Along**

(Reprise of last stanza.)

[FWS #2051]

**"I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old,  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold."**

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### OUR BLESSING FROM GOD

Pastor Louise

Now go in the knowledge that  
God is holding your life  
even as we hold each other.

You are not alone.

You are loved.

You are blessed to be a blessing! Amen.

### POSTLUDE

"Heavenly Sunlight"

Cook, arr. Hayes

### OUR GIFTS & SERVICE

Offering bags are affixed to the welcome table to receive your gifts at in-person worship. You may also give electronically using the "Donate" link on our website at [www.ccbucc.org](http://www.ccbucc.org), log in and donate to whatever fund you choose – Giving Commitments, the five UCC Offerings, other Outreach partners, and more! Or mail your donation check to CCB-UCC, 1000 Cranbrook Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-2725, Attn: Treasurer. Questions? Please contact our Treasurer, Lynn Wilsher, at [treasurerccb@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerccb@gmail.com).

CREDITS: [www.worshipdesignstudio.com./life](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com./life), CCLI #741179.

**WE THANK** our greeters, ushers, set-up helpers, scripture reader, choir, Tech Team: Michael Barconey & Chris Hiner, Worship Design Team: Leslie O'Day-Benyo & Elaine Winter, Joe Bentley, and Yalan Piao, for all their help with today's service.

# A Just World for All

**Third Sunday After Pentecost.....June 13, 2021**

## **Welcome to CCB-UCC an "Open and Affirming" Church**

We warmly welcome everyone to worship and into the full life and leadership of the church. Whatever your background - your race, your nationality, your physical or mental condition, your gender, your sexual orientation - whoever you are and wherever you come from, we welcome you in love as Jesus Christ welcomes all. Gathered by the Holy Spirit, may the comfort and challenge of God's presence renew and inspire us all throughout the coming week. Again, welcome!



### **A Stephen Ministry Congregation**

Contact a Stephen Minister Leader:

Dr. Paul von Oeyen 248-646-0837

Rev. Louise R. Ott 989-245-0092

### **THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BIRMINGHAM**

1000 CRANBROOK ROAD (@ WOODWARD AVE)  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48304-2725



a just  
world  
for all  
ucc.org

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**CCB WEBSITE:** [www.ccbucc.org](http://www.ccbucc.org)

**MICHIGAN CONFERENCE WEBSITE:** [www.michucc.org](http://www.michucc.org)

**DENOMINATIONAL WEBSITE:** [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

### **CHURCH LEADERSHIP & STAFF**

Rev. Louise R. Ott, Pastor

Dr. Joe Bentley, Choral Director

Michael Barconey, Media Specialist

**Office Hours:** Open Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM, lunch break 12:30 PM-1:00 PM

### **Ministers - The Congregation**

Dr. Carmel Tinnes, Director of Christian Education

Dr. Yalan Piao, Accompanist

Beth Prevost, Church Administrator