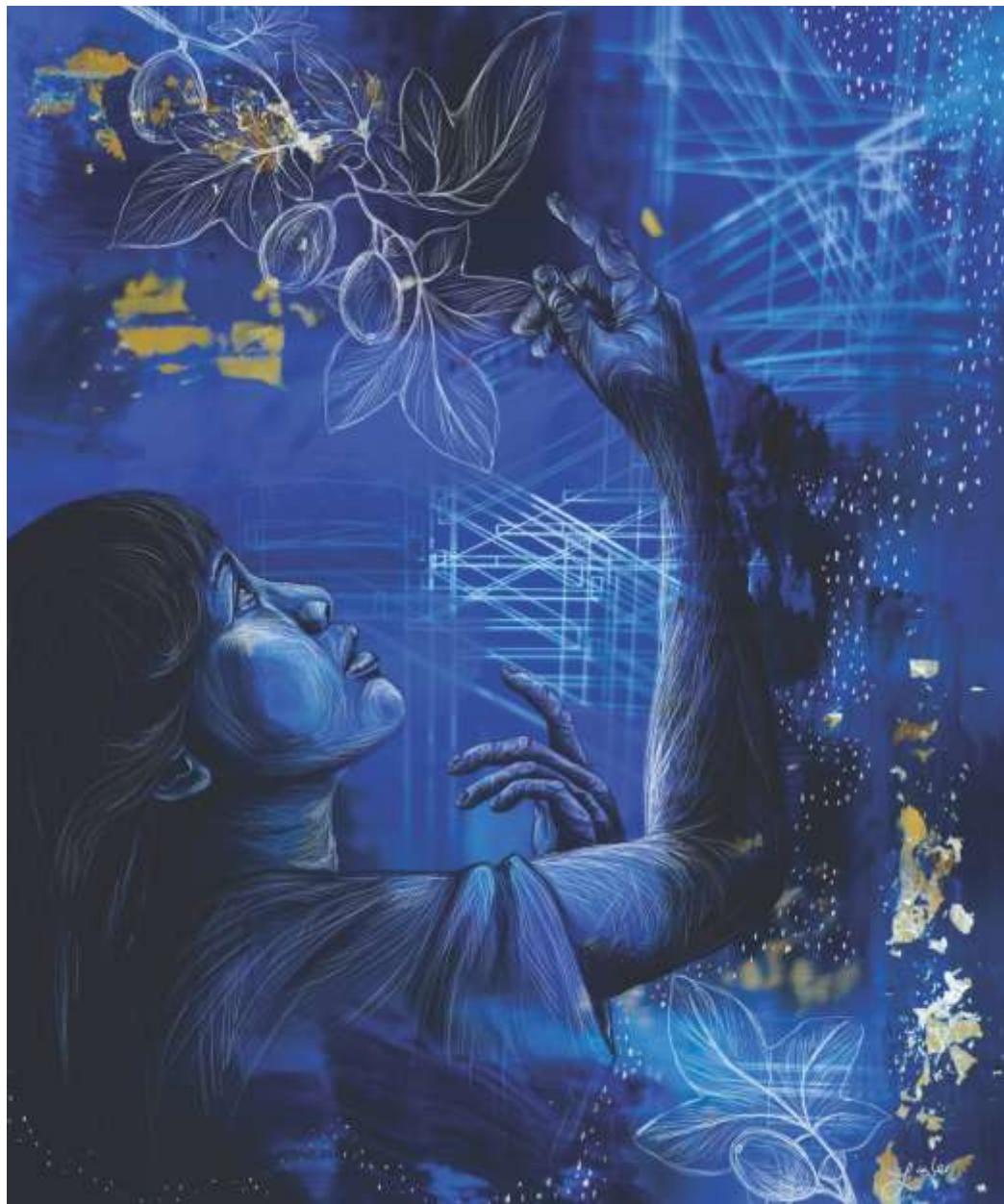


Congregational Church of Birmingham United Church of Christ



Close to Home: Advent 1 – “Homesick”

**November 28, 2021
10:00 AM**

Welcome Visitors! We hope you enjoy this church home. Please take a moment to join us in signing and passing our Ritual of Friendship book. We heartily welcome you to this church family.

Our Nursery is available during worship. An usher can direct you.

You May Contact Rev. Ott for any pastoral request or emergency at 989-245-0092 or REVLRO@aol.com

Prayers? Text them to Rev. Ott (989-245-0092) before 11:30 AM Sunday mornings, or email them to the church office (ccbinfo@ccbucc.org) by 3 PM Friday, so they can be included in the Weekly Prayers email.

Get in the Loop! Stay current on CCB-UCC news. Contact the church office to receive our email communications.

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

WORSHIP GUIDE

(**Bold** indicates in unison.)

(Live Streaming Begins Here)

WELCOME

Pastor Louise

(Please sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pad in your pew.)

PRESERVICE CAROL SINGING

Sing Along

"People Look East"

(stanzas 1-2)

[CH #142]

**People, look east, the time is near
of the crowning of the year.**

**Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.**

**People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.**

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

[CH #160]

**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophet's sung;
it came a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter
when half spent was the night.**

**Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore to us a Savior
when half spent was the night.**

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory" (stanzas 1 & 3)

[CH #149]

**Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Sages, leave your contemplations
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations,
you have seen the natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD INTO WORSHIP
Pastor Louise

PRELUDE

"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"
from Harmonia Sacra

**G.F. Handel,
arr. L. Larson**

THE ADVENT WREATH

Isaiah 60:2

For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and the glory will appear over you.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE

We light this candle to proclaim the coming of the light of God into the world. With the coming of this light there is hope. Because of the Christ we not only have hope, but we believe that good is stronger than evil. God wants us to work for good in this world.

ADVENT PRAYER IN UNISON

God, without beginning and without end, your promise comes to us, bringing hope. May we in turn come to you, seeking instruction, and walking in your light; in the name of Jesus the Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 21:25-28

There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. On the earth, there will be dismay among nations in their confusion over the roaring of the sea and surging waves. The planets and other heavenly bodies will be shaken, causing people to faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world. Then they will see the Human One coming on a cloud with power and great splendor. Now when these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your redemption is near.

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!**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Dr. Carmel Tinnes

(Pre-K through 8th grade children may now go to their lessons.)

SONG

"When God Is a Child"
(stanza 1)

Sing Along
[CH #132]

**Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.**

***Refrain: When God is a child
there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first
and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.***

OUR CONVERSATION

"Homesick"

Rev. Louise R. Ott

MUSIC OF THE DAY

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Joe Bentley & Yalan Piao

Latin Hymn,
French Melody

CLOSE TO GOD IN PRAYER

Pastor Louise

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:

- Afghanistan citizens in dire circumstances
- All at risk in contracting COVID-19
- Ally, Cynthia Martin's granddaughter, whose face was bitten by a dog
- Annabelle, Cindy Kyle's mother, frail and living alone at a distance
- Barry McBride, in rehab at home with Susan
- Ben Sharpe, with depression challenges
- Calliope, daughter of Melissa Crook, granddaughter of Brenda, and niece of Kristine, as the courts make custody decisions
- David, brother of Paul von Oeyen, in stem cell transplant treatment for leukemia
- Drew Sharpe and family, mourning the death of his mother-in-law, Elizabeth (Gray) Krage

(continued)

- Greg Peterson and family, mourning the death of his mom, Wilda, and extended family member, Nate
- Jacquie & Cliff Wagoner, both transitioning to new homes at Blossom Springs and Blossom Ridge, respectively
- John Lindstrom, working with his physician and dentist to clear infection and congestion
- Judy, Greg Peterson's aunt, in palliative care with terminal cancer
- Rob, Sue Potter's brother, with metastasized cancer in his bones
- Ruth Biersdorf, in treatment for cancer
- Suzy, Pastor Louise's California cousin, in hospice care
- Victims of war, violence, and natural disasters everywhere
- Youth and adults with mental health challenges

OUR GIFTS & SERVICE

Your offering is welcomed in support of our ministry and may be made online at www.ccbucc.org; placed in the offering bags at the worship welcome area before, during, and after worship; or mailed to the church.

CLOSING SONG "Come, O Long-expected Jesus"

Sing Along
[CH #125]

**Come, O long-expected Jesus,
born to set your people free.
From our fears and sins release us;
Christ, in whom our rest shall be.
You, our strength and consolation,
come salvation to impart;
dear desire of many a nation,
joy of many a longing heart.**

**Born your people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
born your gracious realm to bring.
By your own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by your all-sufficient merit
raise us to your glorious throne.**

OUR BLESSING FROM GOD

Pastor Louise

The peace of Christ is with you!
And also with you! Amen.

POSTLUDE

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

arr. L. Larson,

Traditional German Melody

(Live Streaming Ends Here)

Credits: A Sanctified Art LLC, www.sanctifiedart.org; CCLI #741179.

WE THANK our greeters, ushers, Advent candle lighters, reader, Tech Team: Andre Sigur & Chris Hiner, Worship Design Team: Leslie O'Day-Benyo & Elaine Winter, and Music Team: Joe Bentley & Yalan Piao, for all their help with today's service.

PRAYERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Louise

OUR MINISTRY UPDATES

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who contributed to our very successful Lighthouse Thanksgiving Food Drive. Together we raised over **\$1,650** in addition to **35 bags** of groceries. That's a lot of turkey dinners. It is always amazing and gratifying to see what we can accomplish together!

WELCOME TO CCB-UCC LIVE STREAMING! Worship in our Sanctuary is live streamed so that those unable to be with us in person can worship online via our YouTube channel (see link below). We are now accessible to everyone. We are grateful to Chris Hiner for creating the technological set up, and to our Media & Communications Specialist, Andre Sigur, who runs that technology during the service. Interested in how it works? Worship in the balcony and learn the ropes!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwfTgUDxKOY9u4KkZbExhpw>

YOUR GIVING COMMITMENT FOR 2022 is dedicated to God and the ministry of this church. If you are still in prayerful discernment, your Giving Commitment slips can be emailed to ccbtreasurer@gmail.com or mailed by post to CCB-UCC, 1000 Cranbrook Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-2725, Attn: Treasurer.

ALL CHILDREN & YOUTH ARE WELCOME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL: Pre-K through 8th graders will go to their classrooms after Children's Time in worship each Sunday, to be collected there later at 11:15 AM after worship. The Leadership Club (confirmation students) will meet again on Sunday, December 12, at 11:15 AM in the Library after worship, to explore their own faith in God. Questions? Contact Carmel at: carmelf711@yahoo.com

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER POINSETTIAS! We invite you to give a poinsettia or two to decorate our Sanctuary and enhance our Christmas spirit. You may also designate your donation for other seasonal decorations in the Sanctuary. Poinsettias can be ordered for \$14.00 per plant. You are welcome to take your plant home after our 9 PM Christmas Eve service. Please find the order and dedication form in this bulletin and return it to the church office no later than tomorrow, Monday, November 29. Thank you!

LAST WEEK FOR BOOK SWAP! Colder weather is here. Curling up with a good book has a lot of appeal. So that no one runs out of reading material, CCB is hosting a Book Swap during Fellowship Time each Sunday in November. All are welcome to join in and share a book or take a book...the more, the merrier. And the books can all be recycled again during our CCB spring rummage sale! Here are some guidelines:

- Both adult and children's books are welcome
- Newer releases are most desired
- Thrillers, mysteries, romances, current histories and biographies are in highest demand
- If your books are not selected by month-end, please take them back home to save for the rummage sale

TOY BOX COLLECTION FOR TRINITY-ST. MARK'S UCC: We'll continue our annual tradition of providing toys to children in Southwest Detroit.

Trinity St. Mark's UCC (TSM) is partnering with the Bennett Elementary School to identify families in need. Like last year, the pandemic prevents us from collecting and distributing actual toys. Instead, \$50 gift cards will be provided to the identified families. TSM is hoping to provide gift cards for at least 50 families. CCB-UCC's collection is being held NOW through Sunday, December 12. To contribute please write a check to CCB with "Toy Box" in the memo, or donate online at our website (www.ccbucc.org) using the *myEoffering* link Toy Box Collection option. Contact Greg Panzica with questions at (313) 215-5767.

BENEFIT RETIREMENT CONCERT - ALL ARE WELCOME! Please join us for a benefit concert performed by Dr. Yalan Piao this Saturday, December 4, 2021, to honor Pastor Louise's retirement from ministry. Wine & Cheese reception: 6:30 PM, Concert begins: 7:00 PM. Proceeds of the Free Will Offering will benefit Rippling Hope.

We will also be hosting a small reception after the worship service on Sunday, December 19, 2021, to give the congregation an opportunity to thank Pastor Louise & Elaine for their ministry at CCB-UCC. Pastor Louise's last sermon will be Sunday, December 26th. Please mark your calendar for both events and plan to join us. More information will follow.

GETTING TO KNOW US 2.0... Pair up and use the video camera on your phone to record each other introducing yourselves. Use our beautiful grounds, the patio, the Memorial Garden, the sanctuary, the kitchen, whatever place makes sense for you and tell us where you are from, how you got here, and what occupies your life! Email that recording right from your phone to Andre – www.uccbirminghammedia@gmail.com

MINISTRY TEAMS SIGN-UP: We will be using the following link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1-SdAgQsKF_zVLNdWYhS-UYs8cuhK1U48_GWqE3PH-Bs/edit#gid=0 for the Google sheets document to sign-up for Ministry Teams throughout the winter. Please check it to see continuing and new opportunities to participate on CCB-UCC teams. You may access the document as many times as you wish and change your choices as needed. Paper sign-up sheets will also be available in the Narthex. Questions? Email Cathy Rupert at cathyrupert@hotmail.com

What's Happening @ CCB-UCC This Week

Bold indicates CCB and/or UCC related event. Regular font indicates outside usage.

<u>Sunday</u>	9:45 AM	Nursery
<u>11/28/21</u>	10:00 AM	Worship (S and/or YouTube)
	10:15 AM	Sunday School (classrooms)
<u>Monday</u>	7:00 AM	Sober Morning AA (outside or AR)
<u>11/29/21</u>	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
	7:30 PM	Leadership Assembly Meeting (Zoom)
<u>Tuesday</u>	6:00 AM	Madeleine's French Patisserie (K & P)
<u>11/30/21</u>	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
<u>Wednesday</u>	7:00 AM	Sober Morning AA (outside or AR)
<u>12/1/21</u>	10:00 AM	New Beginnings Al-Anon (outside or AR)
	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
	7:00 PM	Survivors of Suicide Loss (L)
<u>Thursday</u>	6:00 AM	Madeleine's French Patisserie (K & P)
<u>12/2/21</u>	9:30 AM	Birmingham Strings Rehearsal (FH)
	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
	7:30 PM	Nan's Group Women's AA (outside or AR)
<u>Friday</u>	7:00 AM	Sober Morning AA (outside or AR)
<u>12/3/21</u>	12:00 PM	New Beginnings of B.H. AA (outside or AR & FH)
	1:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Zoom)
	2:00 PM	Family Farms Cooperative (FH)
<u>Saturday</u>	9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal (S)
<u>12/4/21</u>	6:30 PM	Wine & Cheese Reception (FH)
	7:00 PM	Retirement Benefit Concert (S, FH, YouTube)
<u>Sunday</u>	9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal (S)
<u>12/5/21</u>	9:45 AM	Nursery
	10:00 AM	Worship w/Communion (S and/or YouTube)
	10:15 AM	Sunday School (classrooms)
	11:30 AM	Ed Price Retirement Celebration (S & FH)

The complete church calendar is on our website: www.ccbucc.org

LAST CHANCE: Christmas Decorations in the Sanctuary



We invite you to offer a poinsettia or two to decorate our Sanctuary for Christmas and celebrate that we are back together in worship. Alternatively, you may designate your donation for other seasonal decorations in the Sanctuary. Poinsettias can be ordered for \$14.00 per plant (about 7-10 blooms each). You may take your plant home after our Christmas Eve late night service (on a first come, first served basis).

Please turn in BY TOMORROW, Monday, November 29.

You may put your donation in the offering plate with this form, place it in the mail slot on the church office door, or email it to the church and pay by *myEoffering* as "Sanctuary Flowers." Please write "Sanctuary Decorations" on the memo line of your check.

Thank you for your generous support!
Worship Ministry

***** No need to tear here, just return entire page to Church Office. *****

I'd like to order _____ poinsettia(s) x \$14.00 ea. = \$_____ Total

In lieu of poinsettias, I am donating \$ _____ to keep our Sanctuary festive in every season.

Please complete this dedication for the Bulletin:

Your Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

A Just World for All

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 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



PHONE: 248-646-4511

EMAIL: ccbinfo@ccbucc.org

CCB WEBSITE: www.ccbucc.org

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE WEBSITE: www.michucc.org

DENOMINATIONAL WEBSITE: www.ucc.org

CHURCH LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Ministers - The Congregation

Rev. Louise R. Ott, Pastor

Dr. Carmel Tinnes, Director of Christian Education

Dr. Joe Bentley, Choral Director

Dr. Yalan Piao, Accompanist

Jasmin West, Preschool/Early Elementary Teacher

Andre Sigur, Media & Communications Specialist

Beth Prevost, Church Administrator

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