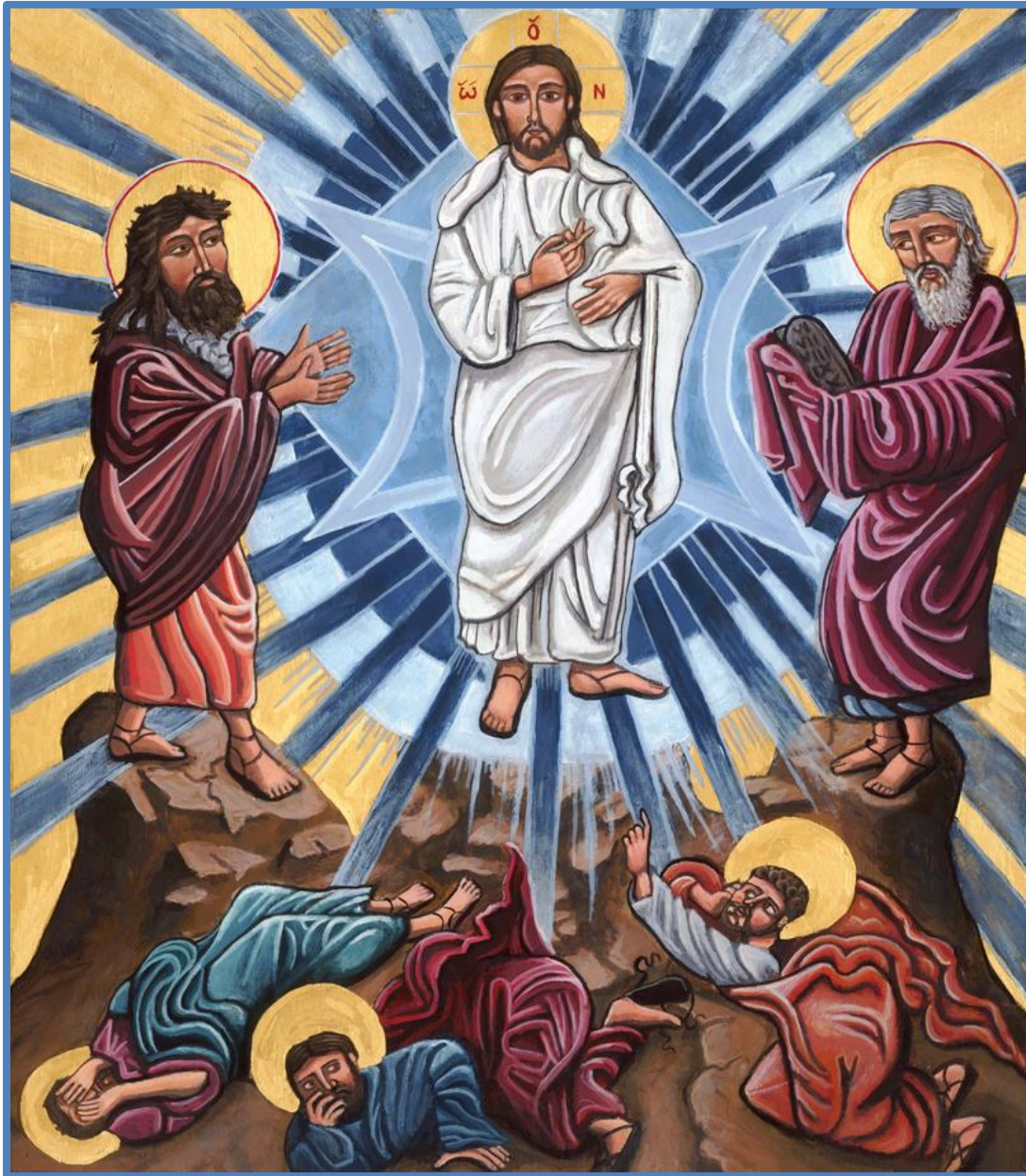


**Congregational Church of Birmingham
United Church of Christ**



Latimore, Kelly. **Transfiguration**, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

**Sunday
February 11, 2024
10:00 AM**

Welcome Visitors! Please take a moment to join us in signing and passing the Ritual of Friendship books in the pews. Welcome to our church family.

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

You May Contact Rev. Shane Montoya for any pastoral request or emergency by text or phone call to 248-633-8526 or email to: *pastorshane@ccbucc.org*

Get in the Loop! Stay current on CCBUCC news. Contact the office to receive our electronic communications.

View Sunday Worship Live Streams and all previously recorded services at: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CongregationalChurchofBirminghamUCC>

OUR SERVICE IS LIVE STREAMED on our YouTube channel (see link above). We're happy to be widely accessible and grateful to those who mastered the technology that made the stream possible. You're invited to learn how it works and help out. See Dan Jaros up in the Choir Loft.

THE NURSERY IS OPEN! Elie Schulz will care for our littlest ones during worship. On your child's first stay, an adult will fill out a registration form. For safety, children must be signed in and out only by an authorized adult. Invite visitors to meet Elie and register their little ones.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: All children (pre-K - 6th grade) are welcome. They will go to their lessons at the instructed time during worship each Sunday. Please pick them up from their classrooms no later than 11:15 AM.

PLEASE COMPLETE REGISTRATION FORMS for ALL children & youth in our Christian Education programming. Find the form at the back of the Sanctuary, on our website (www.ccbucc.org) or linked in the Weekly E-Update MailChimp email. Return completed forms to Carmel's mailbox, or email BOTH SIDES to her at: *cedirector@ccbucc.org*

WORSHIP GUIDE

(**Bold** indicates in unison.)

[Live Streaming Begins Here]

WELCOME

Pastor Shane

THRESHOLD MOMENT

"Amos, 1963"
by Margaret Walker

Larry Reeve

Amos is a Shepherd of suffering sheep;
A pastor preaching in the depths of Alabama
Preaching social justice to the Southland
Preaching to the poor a new gospel of love
With the words of a god and the dreams of a man
Amos is
our loving Shepherd of the sheep
Crying out to the stricken land
"You have sold the righteous for silver
And the poor for a pair of shoes.
My God is a mighty avenger
And He shall come with His rod in His hand."
Preaching to the persecuted and the disinherited millions
Preaching love and justice to the solid southern land
Amos is a Prophet with a vision of brotherly love
With a vision and a dream of the red hills of Georgia
"When Justice shall roll down like water
And righteousness like a mighty stream."
Amos is our Shepherd standing in the Shadow of our God
Tending his flocks all over the hills of Albany
And the seething streets of Selma and of bitter Birmingham.

PRELUDE

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

J. Barnby

OPENING LITANY AND PRAYER

Larry Reeve

One: Blessed are those who come and do not keep silent.

All: Blessed are those who came before us, whose wildest dreams we fulfilled.

One: Blessed are those whose lives are a testament to justice and righteousness.

All: Blessed are those who proclaim the image of God through their living.

One: With all of the blessed saints, let us pray:

All: O God of the covenant, the cloud of your splendor and the fire of your love revealed your Son on the mountain top. Continue to transform us in your image, writing your law of love on our hearts, and making us prophets of your glory, ambassadors of your love. Amen.

HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

CH #464

(verses 1, 3 & 5)

**God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy righteous goal,
lest we miss thy righteous goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.**

SCRIPTURE

2 Kings 2:1-12 (NRSVUE)

Cynthia Martin

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, (continued)

"As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Mark 9:2-9 (NRSVUE)

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one on earth could brighten them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son,

the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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!**

THE WORD IN MUSIC

“A Place to Belong”
CCBUCC Chancel Choir

Büda & Büda,
arr. Büda

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Dr. Carmel Tinnes,
Director of Christian Education

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

All People

**Abba God, your name is holy.
May your community come and your way be followed
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us, today, our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For yours is the way, the power and the glory,
now and forever. Amen.**

(Pre-K through 6th grade children may now go to their lessons. Please pick them up from their classrooms no later than 11:15 AM.)

OUR CONVERSATION

“Transfiguration”
Video Sermon

Rev. Shane Montoya and
Rev. Lawrence Richardson

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

Pastor Shane

How has your life changed in the past few years?
What changes have you embraced?
What changes are unwelcome?

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Shane

(Please email your Continuing Prayer requests to the Church Office or Pastor Shane to have them included on this list and in the Weekly Prayers email.)

We Continue to Pray for:

- All those imprisoned, and all those who are mistreated and tortured
- All victims, survivors, families and communities, grieving in the wake of gun violence
- All victims of war, violence and natural disasters
- Youth and adults with mental health challenges

OUR GIFTS & SERVICE

Pastor Shane

Your offering is welcomed in support of our ministry. Make it online at: www.ccbucc.org; place it in the offering plate at the entrance to the worship area (before, during, or after worship); or mail it to us Attn: Treasurer.

HYMN

"Transform Us"

CH #182

**Transform us as you, transfigured,
stood apart on Tabor's height.
Lead us up our sacred mountains,
search us with revealing light.
Lift us from where we have fallen,
full of questions, filled with fright.**

**Transform us as you, transfigured,
once spoke with those holy ones.
We, surrounded by the witness
of those saints whose work is done,
live in this world as your Body,
chosen daughters, chosen sons.**

**Transform us as you, transfigured,
would not stay within a shrine.
Keep us from our great temptation—
time and truth we quickly bind.
Lead us down those daily pathways
where our love is not confined.**

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Pastor Shane and All

One: May we encounter God on the Mountaintop.

All: May we encounter God on the highways and byways of life.

One: Ever transforming us, ever drawing us closer to our God.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” arr. M.K. Sallee
with “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

[Live Streaming Ends Here]

WE THANK our greeters, ushers, readers, Tech Team: Dan Jaros & Sam Srauy, Worship Design Team: Leslie O’Day-Benyo & John Benyo, and Music Team: Joe Bentley & Yalan Piao, for all their help.

JOYS, CONCERNS & MINISTRY UPDATES

Pastor Shane

(Please sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pad in the pews. Thank you.)

MINISTRY UPDATES

CRITICAL NEED! Due to declining contributions and increasing need, Lighthouse has been forced to provide one box of food to its clients instead of two. Accordingly, CCBUCC is conducting a special offering during the month of February to help Lighthouse buy their nonperishables. We have set up a special myEoffering fund for Lighthouse Emergency Food to contribute online at our website (www.ccbucc.org), or you can make a check out to CCB with Lighthouse Emergency on the menu line. Please see Deuane or Mary Ann Martin, Chris Mead, or Pat Parker if you have questions. Thank you for your generosity.

VALENTINE’S LUNCHEON - Join us this Tuesday, February 13, 12 PM in Fellowship Hall for a warm cup of chili and joyous fellowship. Bring a friend, everyone is welcome to share special Valentine memories. RSVP to Margherita Fisher (mzanif@aol.com or 248-761-6780) ASAP if you plan to attend. Thank you.

ASH WEDNESDAY: This Wednesday, February 14, is the beginning of Lent. Our sanctuary will be open from 10 AM to 5 PM for quiet prayer and meditation. Pastor Shane will be available for the marking of ashes if you so desire from noon to 1:00 PM and again from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

OUR LENTEN WORSHIP THEME & ADULT STUDY BEGINS THIS WEEK.

Based on the Sanctified Art Series "Full to the Brim" two sessions of adult education classes are being offered. Pastor Shane will lead an in person and/or Zoom study (your choice) at 10:30 AM each Wednesday. It will focus on the text(s) for the upcoming Sunday and explore the art from the devotional. Use this link for Pastor Shane's Wednesday morning Zoom class: *Wednesday AM Lent Study*

Carmel will lead a Zoom only study at 6:30 PM each Thursday. This class will be more reflective and meditative, but will also cover the text for the upcoming Sunday's worship. Carmel's group should bring the following materials to this week's 1st class: a Bible, the Lenten Devotional (pre-read the First Week of Lent section), a blank sheet of paper, a pair of scissors, and at least 2 colored pencils, markers, or crayons. This "Materials" list will change each week. Use this link for Carmel's Thursday evening Zoom class: *Thursday PM Lent Study*

It's possible to attend BOTH studies and have very different experiences! The **Lenten Devotional** for the studies (or for your own use) is available at church. See Pastor Shane for more information.

SUNDAY COMMA CONVERSATIONS ARE BACK! Mark your calendars:

- February 25 (Fellowship Hall) – Information/Discussion from Retreat
- March 10 (TBD) – Exploration of the book: *Remove the Pews: Spiritual Possibilities for Sacred Spaces* by Donna Schaper (2021)
- March 24 (TBD) – Review of Lent Series and Labyrinth Walk Promotion

PLEASE SEND ALL BULLETIN & E-UPDATE CONTENT to the church office (ccbinfo@ccbucc.org) by 9 AM Tuesday for the Sunday Bulletins, and by 12 PM Thursday for the Friday Weekly E-Update emails.

MINISTRY TEAMS SIGN-UP: Link (<https://tinyurl.com/ccbminsignup>) to the Google sheets sign-up documents for all CCBUCC Ministry Teams throughout the year. Check for continuing and new opportunities to participate. Access the document whenever you wish and update your choices as needed. Questions? Email Justin Zeller at jzeller12@gmail.com

What's Happening @ CCBUCC This Week

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

<u>Sunday</u> <u>2/11/24</u>	9:45 AM 10:00 AM 10:15 AM 11:00 AM 7:00 PM	Nursery Worship (S and/or YouTube) Sunday School (Classrooms) Social Hour (FH) Manresa 2.0 AA (AR)
<u>Monday</u> <u>2/12/24</u>	7:00 AM 12:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Sober Morning AA (AR) New Beginnings of Bloomfield Hills AA (AR) CA Group (AR) Stephen Ministry Meeting (Zoom)
<u>Tuesday</u> <u>2/13/24</u>	12:00 PM 12:00 PM 8:00 PM	Valentine's Luncheon (FH & K) New Beginnings of Bloomfield Hills AA (AR) SA Northwest (AR)
<u>Ash</u>	7:00 AM	Sober Morning AA (AR)
<u>Wednesday</u> <u>2/14/24</u>	10:00 AM 10:00 AM 10:30 AM 12:00 PM 12:00 PM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM	New Beginnings Al-Anon (AR) Quiet Prayer & Meditation (S to 5 PM) Adult CE Lent Study (Cnf & Zoom) New Beginnings of Bloomfield Hills AA (AR) Receiving of Ashes (S to 1 PM) Receiving of Ashes (S to 5 PM) CA Group (AR)
<u>Thursday</u> <u>2/15/24</u>	9:00 AM 12:00 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM	Birmingham Strings (FH) New Beginnings of Bloomfield Hills AA (AR) Manresa 2.0 AA (AR) Adult CE Lent Study (Zoom) Nan's Group Women's AA (AR)
<u>Friday</u> <u>2/16/24</u>	7:00 AM 10:15 AM 12:00 PM	Sober Morning AA (AR) Yoga Class (AR) New Beginnings of Bloomfield Hills AA (AR)
<u>Saturday</u> <u>2/17/24</u>	1:00 PM	New Beginnings of BH Big Book Study (AR)

See the complete church calendar on our website at: www.ccbucc.org

A Just World for All

Transfiguration Sunday February 11, 2024

Welcome to CCBUCC, 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, nationality, physical or mental condition, gender, 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!

Rev. Shane Montoya

pastorshane@ccbucc.org

248-633-8526

To schedule a meeting go to:

<https://calendly.com/ccbpastor/meet> or scan this QR Code:



Contact a Stephen Minister (Lay Pastoral Care) Leader:

Dr. Paul von Oeyen 248-646-0837

The Congregational Church of Birmingham

1000 Cranbrook Road (@ Woodward Ave)

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304-2725

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:30 PM



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world
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ucc.org

Phone: 248-646-4511

Email: ccbinfo@ccbucc.org

CCBUCC Website: www.ccbucc.org

Michigan Conference Website: www.michucc.org

Denominational Website: www.ucc.org

CHURCH LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Ministers - The Congregation

Dr. Carmel Tinnes, Director of Christian Education

Dr. Yalan Piao, Accompanist

Elie Schulz, Nursery Care Provider

Rev. Shane Montoya, Pastor

Dr. Joe Bentley, Music Director

Dan Jaros, Media & Communications Specialist

Beth Prevost, Church Administrator