



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

November 5, 2023

23rd Sunday After Pentecost – All Saints Sunday

OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

Central United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation. Regardless of your race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, age, ability, belief, or background, whether you are single or partnered, you are God's beloved and you are welcome here.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We envision Central United Methodist Church as a vital, diverse, River of Life nurtured by the light of Christ, rooted deeply in and living the scriptures, a holy presence in the center of the City of Detroit, transforming individuals, institutions, and the world, advocating peace and justice in all we do.

* Indicates when to stand, if able in body or in spirit. **Please silence cell phones. W&S=Worship & Song Hymnal Guide: UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal; TFWS = The Faith We Sing

PRELUDE

Bobbi Thompson

INTROIT

Augustus Williamson

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Seasons of the Spirit: WoodLake Publishing)

ONE: In all our weakness and strength,
with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,

ALL: we come to be your people, O God.

ONE: Strong in faith and eager with questions,
singing our praise and whispering our prayers,

ALL: we come to be your people, O God.

ONE: Filled with saintly determination
yet mindful of our human limitations,

ALL: we come to be your people, O God.

ONE: Made strong in your endless love for us,
we know ourselves to be yours and

ALL: we come to be your people, O God.

ONE: May we truly become your people today. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

For All the Saints, v. 1 & 4

UMH # 711

1. For all the saints, who from their
labors rest, who thee by faith before
the world confessed, thy name, O
Jesus, be forever blest. *(Refrain)*

4. O Blest Communion, fellowship
divine! We feebly struggle, they in
glory shine; yet hearts are brave
again, and arms are strong.
(Refrain)

(Refrain) Alleluia, Alleluia!

WORDS: William W. How, 1864; MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams,
1906; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETINGS AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Augustus Williamson

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

ANTHEM

Give Me Jesus, arr. by Jester Hairston

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

In Remembrance words by Claire Harner, music by Eleanor Daley



For electronic giving, please use this QR Code.

***DOXOLOGY:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Holy One. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A LITANY FOR ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

(Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchel, *Rev-o-lution*)

We remember the great ancestors of our faith,
from Abraham and Sarah, to Paul and Phoebe:
Ancestors of the faith, we remember you.

We remember the prophets and priests,
the ministers and teachers who have taught us the way of God:
Teachers of the faith, we remember you.

We remember our grandparents and parents, aunts and uncles,
those who have gone before us in our lifetime:
Family of our faith, we remember you.

We lift up the memories of children and grandchildren,
brothers and sisters, husbands and wives and parents
whose lives ended too soon:
Those close in our heart, we remember you.

We lift up to You, O God,
the names of those we have lost in this past year from our lives,
knowing that they are with Your heart forever.
As we read these names, we will pause after every name
to remember, pray, and give thanks for their life.

Celestine Powell
John Konyha
Phyllis Livermore
Rev. Eric Stone
Roslyn McClendon

Stephen Sutorka
Scott Oatley
Theodore F. Cadotte
Timothy Dean Ford

We celebrate the lives of those we have named, O God,
and lift up many more names in our hearts.

Family of God, we remember you, and we honor you.
We know you are with us in the spirit of worship,
and you will not be forgotten. Let us pray together ...

**We give thanks, O God,
for all who have gone on to join with You beyond this life.
We trust in the hope of resurrection and the promise of new life in Christ,
and know that in our grief and celebration, O God,
You are with us through it all, and we are not left alone.**

**In the name of Christ, in whom love lives forever, we pray.
Amen.**

HYMN OF REFLECTION

Hymn of Promise

UMH #707

1. In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, some thing God alone can see.

3. In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

2. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

WORDS: N Natalie Sleeth, 1986; MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986;
CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

***SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, Jesus began to teach them:

Blessed are those who are poor in spirit: the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Blessed are those who are mourning: they will be consoled.

Blessed are those who are gentle: they will inherit the land.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice: they will have their fill.

Blessed are those who show mercy to others: they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are clean: they will see God.

Blessed are those who work for peace: they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of their struggle for justice: the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.

MESSAGE

Downtown for Good: All Saints Sunday

Rev. Paul Perez

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

(adapted from Maren Tirabassi, *Gift of Open Hands*, and *UMC Discipleship Ministries*)

ONE: God is with you.

ALL: And with your spirit.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift our hearts to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

ONE: We do give you thanks, and we do praise you, God of all creation.

God of Abraham and Sarah,

God of Miriam and Moses,

God of Joshua and Deborah,

God of Ruth and David,

God of Mary and Joseph,

God of the apostles and the martyrs,

God of our ancestors,

God of our generations to come.

And so, with your creation across all time and space, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God. Hosanna in the highest.

ONE: For we, who follow the Way of Jesus, this is a day we remember all who gather to eat the bread and drink from the cup. We come together to re-member, that we are Christ's people, all around the world. On the night before he was taken to his death, Jesus gathered with his followers, he took bread, gave thanks to you, God of all creation, and offered it to those gathered at the table,

**ALL: Take this and eat. This is my life, given for you.
Each time you eat it, remember me.**

ONE: After the meal was over, he took a cup of wine, and gave thanks to you, God of all love. He offered it to those gathered at the table,

**ALL: Take this and drink. This is my promise, this is my love,
poured out for you. Each time you drink it, remember me.**

ONE: So we eat, we drink, and we remember. We eat, we drink, and we remember.

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

ONE: We celebrate that your Holy Spirit is present, in these gifts, and in us, that they – and we – can be Christ's gifts to the world.

**ALL: Make us one with you, one with each other, and one with the great cloud of witnesses across the generations. Your saints of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.
Amen**

SHARING BREAD & CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***CLOSING HYMN**

Blest Are They, v. 1, 2 and 4

TFWS # 2155

1. **Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God. Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled. (Refrain)**

2. **Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth. Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. (Refrain)**

(Refrain) **Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you. Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!**

4. **Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God. Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. (Refrain)**

WORDS: David Haas; MUSIC: David Haas; © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.; CCLI 2815228

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Bobbi Thompson



Please help us know you were here in worship today by scanning the QR code above with your phone. There is also a place for notes and prayer requests for the pastor.

**Central United Methodist Church
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Rev. Paul Perez, Lead Minister

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph.D. Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Margaret Reese, Music Director

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist

Brandon Reeves, Choral Accompanist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

Yvette Meadow, Receptionist

Angela Bakeley, Receptionist

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