



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

April 14, 2024

Third Sunday Easter

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

INTROIT

The prelude and introit are times for silent prayer and meditation guided by some of our gifted musicians.

ACTS OF PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

ONE: What of the Gospel can heal us? In times of sickness and sorrow,

ALL: what does it mean to be made well?

ONE: Finding ease in the creatureliness of our bodies,

ALL: we live our questions with our lives.

ONE: Treasuring our interdependence,

ALL: we live our questions with our lives.

ONE: Holding both beauty and grief as sacred,

ALL: we live our questions with our lives.

ONE: Let us worship God, who accompanies us in our questions

ALL: and lures us towards collective flourishing.

***OPENING HYMN** *Where Charity and Love Prevail*, vs. 1, 3, & 6 UMH #549

**1. Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found; brought
here together by Christ's love, by
love are we thus bound.**

**6. Love can exclude no race or creed if
honored be God's name; our
common life embraces all whose
Maker is the same.**

**3. Forgive we now each other's faults
as we our faults confess; and let us
love each other well in Christian
holiness.**

WORDS: 9th cent. Latin; trans. by Omer Westendorf, 1961; MUSIC:
Alexander R. Reinagle, 1836; harm. from *Hymns Ancient and
Modern*, 1861; Trans. 1961 World Library Publications, Inc.;
CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETINGS AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS



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.

ANNOUNCEMENT

PASSING THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

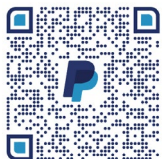
Deaconess Anne Hillman

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Joy in the Morning, by Natalie Sleeth

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 (enfleshed: liturgy that matters)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM

The Gift of Love, by Hal Hopson

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

*SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:36-48

While they were still talking about this, Jesus actually stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

In their panic and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. Jesus said to them, “Why are you disturbed? Why do such ideas cross your mind? Look at my hands and my feet; it is I, really. Touch me and see—a ghost doesn’t have flesh and bones as I do.” After saying this, Jesus showed them the wounds.

They were still incredulous for sheer joy and wonder, so Jesus said to them “Do you have anything here to eat?”

After being given a piece of cooked fish, the savior ate in their presence.

Then Jesus said to them, “Remember the words I spoke when I was still with you: everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets, and the psalms had to be fulfilled.”

Then Jesus opened their minds to the understand of the scriptures, saying, “That is why the scriptures say that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead on the third day. In the Messiah’s name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of all this.

ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Better When Shared

*CLOSING HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other

UMH #560

1. Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, God, among us, and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

2. Teach us, O God, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

3. Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter’s healing art.

4. God, for today’s encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; renew us with your Spirit; God, free us, make us one!

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH (*enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

Go forth in your tender, temporary body,
honoring the echo of the eternal in all beings,
that we might co-create a world of easeful access
and compassionate care

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

POSTLUDE

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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, Director of Music

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Brandon Reeves, Choral Accompanist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

Yvette Meadow, & Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

This service is live-streamed under CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Central United Methodist Church acknowledges that the building in which we carry out our collective life together occupies and is built upon land that is part of what was first known as Waawiyaataanong (“At the curved shores.”), the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy, but which is now referred to as Detroit. In 1807 the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi, and Wyandot nations granted use of these sovereign lands to the US government through the Treaty of Detroit. Central United Methodist Church affirms the continued Indigenous sovereignty over these lands and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit. We commit ourselves to working together with our native brothers and sisters to advance equity in all dimensions of life and to promote a better future for the earth and all its peoples. (Adopted by the Ministry Team -April 22, 2021)