



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822,
Sanctuary completed 1867.

April 26, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF 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. Hymnal Guide:
W&S=Worship & Song, UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal, TFWS = The Faith We Sing

ACTS OF PRAISE

PRELUDE

Augustus Williamson and Brandon Reeves

WELCOME

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

ONE: Beloved One,

ALL: you are a protector, a healer, a friend.

ONE: You place feasts before the hungry

ALL: and welcome strangers with shelter.

ONE: Come and deepen our capacity to practice love that is as substantial as yours.

***OPENING HYMN**

As a Fire is Meant for Burning

TFWS #2237

- 1. As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.**
- 2. We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening Spirit we would live to God's delight.**
- 3. As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,
so may we be signs of oneness 'mid earth's peoples, many hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,
may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.**

WORDS: Ruth Duck; MUSIC: From *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; Words © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.; CCLI 2815225

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Augustus Williamson & Brandon Reeves

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

ACTS OF SHARING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Every Valley by John Ness Beck



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.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Brandon Reeves

Central United Methodist Church
23 East Adams, Detroit, Michigan 48226, 313.965.5422

CUMCdetroit1810@centralumchurchdetroit.org

<http://www.centralumchurchdetroit.org>

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
Brandon Reeves, Collaborative Pianist
Debra Cox, Office Administrator
Angela Bakeley, Receptionist
Dave Wilson, Building Manager

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)