



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

June 18, 2023

Juneteenth
Father's Day



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: UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal; TFWS = The Faith We Sing; W&S = Worship & Song

PRELUDE AND INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: God of justice and peace,

On this day of freedom, we celebrate triumphantly with all people of goodwill that we might walk arm in arm towards justice for all.

ALL: Breathe into us your eternal breath, that we may never tire of ensuring a flourishing life for all people, but most especially, those beloved siblings whose growth has been stifled by the trauma of being enslaved.

ONE: O God, we know and have seen your goodness, and because of it, we cling to the hope that unity and liberation for all are within our grasp. Continue to show us your goodness, that we may have the strength to advance your kin-dom with humility and grace.

ALL: Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

O Freedom

TFWS #2194

1. O freedom! O freedom! O freedom over me.

5. There'll be shouting, there'll be shouting, there'll be shouting over me. *(Refrain)*

(Refrain)

And before I'll be a slave I'd be buried in my grave and go home to my God and be free.

6. There'll be praying, there'll be praying, there'll be praying over me. *(Refrain)*

WORDS: African American spiritual; MUSIC: African American spiritual, arr. by John Bell. CCLI2815228

4. There'll be singing, there'll be singing, there'll be singing over me. *(Refrain)*

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A LITANY ADAPTATION OF “LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING”

ONE: Celebration rises, up from the deep places,
finding voice in the light and air no longer denied.

**ALL: Lift every voice and sing, sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.**

ONE: Celebration rises, not blind to the suffering, not blind to the sorrow.
Celebration comes at a cost.

**ALL: Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn
had died; yet with a steady beat have not our weary feet come to the place for which
our parents sighed.**

ONE: Celebration rises, remembering the way we have come, the paths taken that have brought
us here now to this place and time of celebration. Celebration rises, up and up, full of
remembering. Remembering the ones led to freedom by Harriet; Remembering lives and
freedom stolen...

[Speak the names of those you would remember and celebrate this Juneteenth.]

**ALL: We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past till now we stand at last where the white gleam
of our bright star is cast.**

ONE: Celebration rises, recognizing what has been done and left undone,
knowing there is still and yet much to do, so much further to go.
Celebration rises, naming the victories, recognizing the challenges yet ahead.
Celebration rises on voices offering unfinished praise.

**ALL: Lest our feet stray from the places, our God where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world we forget thee;**

ONE: Celebration rises, resisting illusions, to be embraced by the real and abiding presence of
God who breaks our chains, and sets us free for freedom, in power and love and joy.

**ALL: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears
thou who hast brought us thus far on our way;
thou who has by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.**

ONE: Celebration rises, with the power of healing wings and promise to endure.
Celebration rises, celebrating that by God's grace,
I am because You are, You are because I am;
Celebrating that the fullness of my humanity does not diminish yours
and the fullness of your humanity does not diminish mine.

**ALL: Shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our
native land. True to who we are, True to who we have been and who we are
becoming, thanks be to God.**

The litany uses text adapted from "Lift Every Voice and Sing"
by James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938). In public domain.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

A FATHER'S DAY LITANY

ONE: God of love, today we ask your blessing on all who give their lives with a father's love.

ONE: Bless new fathers and wise grandfathers.

ALL: Bless loving uncles and caring godfathers.

ONE: Bless fathers who await the birth of their child with joy.

ALL: Bless those who did not expect or want to become fathers.

ONE: Bless those who embrace fatherhood through adoption or foster parenting,
step-parenting or single parenthood.

ALL: Bless those still waiting and hoping to become fathers.

ONE: Bless fathers whose work takes them away from their children.

ALL: Bless fathers whose work is with their children.

ONE: Bless fathers whose lives are shaped by war, poverty, or violence.

ALL: Bless fathers who work for peace, freedom, and justice.

ONE: Bless teachers and mentors who serve as father figures.

ALL: Bless pastors and ministers who lead as loving parents.

ONE: Bless fathers who are separated from their children, by force or choice.

ALL: Bless families without fathers and all who love in abundance in their absence.

ONE: Bless those who identify as fathers and must fight for that recognition.

ALL: Bless those who deny their role as fathers and lead them with your love.

ONE: Bless fathers who have lost a child.

ALL: Bless children who have lost a father.

ONE: Bless all whose fathers were loving.

ALL: Bless all whose fathers failed to meet their needs for love.

ONE: Bless all who celebrate today.

ALL: Bless all who struggle today.

ONE: In the name of the Trinity – Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer – we pray.

ALL: Amen.

ANTHEM

How Can I Keep from Singing.

Megan Mueller

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace

Megan Mueller

***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

God, we give these gifts in gratitude for your blessing. We give these gifts with hope, as we hunger and thirst for righteousness. May our offerings of money, time, and talent be used To comfort those who mourn, to extend mercy, to make peace, To help us all more clearly see and live your presence in our lives and in our world. **Amen.**

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

SHARING OF BLESSINGS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

* HYMN

Cast Out, O Christ

W&S #3072

1. Cast out, O Christ, cast far away the demons that destroy; the haunting dreads that choke our souls; the hates that stifle joy.
2. Our raging griefs, our jealous fears are Legion in their name Our shackled hearts implore your grace to loose our binding shame.
3. Once long ago, from Galilee, you sailed to storm-tossed shores. And still, in power, you brave new paths to breach our bolted doors.
4. Your word breathes life and health and hope that break through evil's thrall. You send us, strengthened, home in peace to live your Gospel call.
5. So come, O Christ and cast away the demons that destroy. Transform our lives to sense your love and spread abroad your joy.

WORDS: Mary Louise Bringle. MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. by Dean McIntyre, alt. CCL12815228

*GOSPEL LESSON

When Jesus Commissioned the 12 (Luke's version)

Then Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases... Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Speaking with Authority

Marcus W. Dickson

***CLOSING HYMN**

House of God

W&S #3132

1. This is the house of God. This is the gate of heaven. This is a holy place. You are always welcome. Trust and know I'm always with you through all changes and all seasons. When you wake and when you're sleeping, All is well.
2. Live in the house of God. Live at the gate of heaven. Live in a holy place. You are always welcome. You are always precious to me. You are always perfect to me. Stop your worry, your excuses. All is well.

3. You are the house of God. You are the gate of heaven. You are a holy place. I am always welcome. Through your tears and through your courage, through all trials and all stories. Cradled in my arms please hear me. All is well.
You are the house of God. You are the gate of heaven. You are a holy place. I am always welcome. This is the house of God.

WORDS Marianne Kreitlow; MUSIC: Marianne Kreitlow;; © 2000 Marianne Kreitlow, Living Song; CCLI 2815228

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Marcus W. Dickson

On Juneteenth this year, we ask You to guide our nation. May the good news of the gospel motivate us to love each other. May the ideals of our words match the practices of our lives. May a fresh empowerment of Your Spirit unite us together. May we claim the authority you have given us. Give us eyes to see and ears to hear Your will and leading. **Amen.**

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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www.centralumchurchdetroit.org

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

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
Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent
Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager
Yvette Meadows, Receptionist
Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

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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)