



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

October 23, 2022
23rd Sunday After Pentecost



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;
SOZ = Songs of Zion; WS=Worship & Song

PRELUDE

Bobbi Thompson

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Beloveds, come with eagerness and anticipation! The journey is calling.

ALL: God starts us on our way.

ONE: Beautiful travelers, everything needed is before us.

ALL: Jesus holds the map.

ONE: Blessed ones, the group is incomplete without you.

ALL: The Spirit unites and encourages us along as we make the way by doing.

***OPENING HYMN**

Guide My Feet

TFWS #2208

1. Guide my feet while I run this race.

4. I'm your child....

Guide my feet while I run this race.

Guide my feet while I run this race, for

I don't want to run this race in vain!

5. Search my heart....

6. Guide my feet...

2. Hold my hand....

3. Stand by me....

WORDS: African American spiritual; MUSIC: African American spiritual; harm. by Wendell Whalum; Harm. © Estate of Wendell Whalum; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S TIME

Deaconess Anne Hillman

SETTING THE PACE

As we continue on our way, take a moment to relax our shoulders, set our feet firmly on the floor, shift our posture, move to a comfortable position, feel our pulse, notice our breathing, and take a few deep breaths.

Let us set aside all distractions, setting our phones, worries and preoccupations to do not disturb.

We make the way by doing and the first step on the way is committing to being fully present. This first week of our Stewardship Journey we enter the Way of Necessity. I invite you to hold out your hands and receive the map that God provides. Allow it to guide your mind, your heart, and your steps.

PRAYER FOR DIRECTION

God of many names, today we will seek You as our guide. Tune our hearts to hear and to know Your voice. We acknowledge that we have not always listened to Your words or followed Your path. We have failed to stop and ask for directions. We have ignored warning signs, misread the map, gone astray with pride and fear, and wandered off in pursuit of our own ambitions. Trusting on our strength and relying solely on our own resources.

Help us, Great Spirit, to journey lightly and humbly, mindful of our impact on the land. May we travel with boldness and courage inviting those from the fringes to join us on the trail.

May we recognize the transformative power of our gifts when we offer our whole lives for peace and justice, and the building of beloved community.

Remind us of the ways you have provided in the past. Give us this day our daily bread and water. Bless us with all the sustenance and resources we need for our sojourning. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ONE: God honors our intentions, provides manna to fill our hunger, and water to quench our thirst. The way before us is holy ground, lined with grace and abundance. There is more than enough of everything we need.

ALL: For the journey and for our Guide, praise, praise, praise!

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Randy and Linda Priest

OFFERTORY

***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.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Tender Parenting God, you heal wounds left by the love we wish we could have had and by needs we wish could have been met. May our shared resources do the same – meet needs with care. May no one go without food, shelter or healthcare. May no one go without rest, play or love. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

***CENTERING HYMN**

Spirit of the Living God

UMH #393

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

WORDS: Daniel Iverson, 1926; MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1986; © 1963 Moody Bible Institute, CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 11:1-18

The Inclusive Bible

The apostles and the community in Judea heard that Gentiles, too, had accepted the word of God. As a result, when Peter went up to Jerusalem, some of the Jewish believers took issue with him. “So you have been visiting the Gentiles and eating with them, have you?” they said.

Peter then explained the whole affair to them step by step from the beginning. “One day when I was in the town of Joppa, I fell into a trance while at prayer and had a vision of something like a big sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners. This sheet came quite close to me. I watched it intently and saw in it all sorts of animals and wild beasts – everything possible that could walk, crawl or fly. Then I heard a voice that said to me, ‘Now, Peter, make your sacrifice and eat.’ I replied, ‘I can’t, my God. Nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth!’ And a second time the voice spoke from heaven. ‘Don’t call profane what God has made clean.’ This happened three times, then the sheet and what was in it was drawn up to heaven again.

“Just at that moment, three couriers stopped outside the house where we were staying; they had been sent from Caesarea to fetch me, and the spirit told me to have no hesitation about returning with them. These six believers came with me as well, and we entered Cornelius’ house. He told us he had seen an angel standing in the house who had said, “Send messengers to Joppa and bring back Simon, known as Peter; he has a message for you that will save you and your entire household.’

“I had hardly begun to speak when the Holy Spirit came down on them in the same way she came on us in the beginning, and I remembered what Christ had said: ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ I realized then that God was giving them the same gift that had been given to us when we came to believe in our Savior Jesus Christ. And who am I to stand in God’s way?”

This account satisfied them, and they gave glory to God, saying, “God has granted the repentance that leads to life – even to Gentiles!”

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

The Way of Necessity

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

*CLOSING HYMN

The Spirit Sends Us Forth To Serve

TFWS #2241

- 1. The Spirit sends us forth to serve, we go in Jesus' name we go in Jesus' name to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.**
- 2. We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free; where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.**
- 3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed and, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.**
- 4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim. God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.**

WORDS: Delores Dufner, OSB; MUSIC: USA folk melody; Words © 1993 Delores Dufner, admin. by OCP Publications; CCLI 2815228

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

The map has been given,
the path is before,
we make our mark
in walking in faith. Go in peace. Amen.

(The Stewardship Theme is based on 2014 UMC Stewardship resources and scripture texts provided by UMC Discipleship Ministries.)

Calls to worship, prayers, litanies, and communion liturgy are original works of Rebecca Wilson unless otherwise attributed)



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.

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Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

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

Bobbi Thompson, Interim Music Director

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Yvette Meadows and 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)