



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

August 29th, 2021
14th 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

PRELUDE

Daniel Dillingham

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Here, our Beloved speaks to us; the voice of our Beloved sounds in our hearts.

ALL: Calling us to generous acts, to share the gifts we have been given.

ONE: Now, our Beloved speaks to us; the voice of our Beloved sounds in our land:

ALL: Calling us to generous acts, to open our hearts to all in need.

ONE: In every place, in every moment, our Beloved speaks to us; the voice of our Beloved sounds in all creation;

ALL: Calling us to generous acts, to stand with God's people: the least, the lost, the little, the last.

(written by Thom Shuman on Lectionary Liturgies)

***OPENING HYMN**

For the Beauty of The Earth adapted from UMH #92

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the
splendor of the skies, for the love which
from our birth over and around us lies,
(Refrain)
2. For the wonder of each hour of the day
and of the night, hill and vale, and tree
and flower, sun and moon, and stars of
light, *(Refrain)*
3. For the joy of human love, brother,
sister, parent, child, friends on earth and
friends above, for all gentle thoughts
and mild, *(Refrain)*
4. For the good that love inspires, for a
world where none exclude, for a faith
that never tires, and for every heart
renewed, *(Refrain)*

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ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of justice and righteousness,

Your call beckons to us:

to live faithful lives,

to turn from wickedness,

to walk in your ways;

yet it is so easy to turn aside;

to speak a thoughtless word,

to ignore those in need,

to strike out in anger,

to forget your ways.

Forgive us.

Implant your word in our hearts,

and cleanse us from all evil.

By the power of your love, save our souls,

that we might faithfully serve you. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ONE: God's word has the power to save your soul
God has anointed you with gladness.
You are forgiven to live in joy. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

Great Is Your Faithfulness adapted from UMH #140

1. Great is your faithfulness, O God,
Creator, with you no shadow of turning
we see. You do not change, your
compassions they fail not; all of your
goodness forever will be. *(Refrain)*
2. Summer and winter, and springtime and
harvest, sun, moon and stars in their
courses above, join with all nature in
manifold witness to your great
faithfulness, mercy and love. *(Refrain)*
3. Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,
your own dear presence to cheer and to
guide, strength for today and bright hope
for tomorrow, blessings all mine with
ten thousand beside. *(Refrain)*

(Refrain) Great is your faithfulness! Great
is your faithfulness! Morning my
morning new mercies I see; All I have
needed your hand has provided, great is
your faithfulness, God unto me.

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ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE *James 1:17-27*

The Inclusive Bible

Every worthwhile gift, every genuine benefit comes from above, descending from the Creator of the heavenly luminaries, who cannot change and is never in shadow. God willingly gave birth to us with a word spoken in truth, so that we may be, as it were, the first fruits of God's creatures.

Remember this, my dear sisters and brothers: be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to anger; for God's justice is never served by our anger. So do away with all your filth and the last vestiges of wickedness in you. Humbly welcome the word which has been planted in you, because it has power to save you.

But act on this word – because if all you do is listen to it, you're deceiving yourselves. Those who listen to God's word but don't put it into practice are like those who look into mirrors at their own faces; they look at themselves, then go off and promptly forget what they looked like. But those who look steadily at the perfect law of freedom and make it their habit – not listening and then forgetting, but actively putting it into practice – will be blessed in all that they do.

If those who don't control their tongues imagine that they are devout, they're deceiving themselves and their worship is pointless. Pure, unspoiled religion, in the eyes of our Abba God, is this: coming to the aid of widows and orphans when they are in need and keeping oneself uncontaminated by this world.

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Remember What You Look Like

Karen Knight Price

VIDEO

I Want to Be Different

Micah Tyler

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFT0zoKQWaM>

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

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

Daniel Dillingham, Minister of Music

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Soloist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists