



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

January 1, 2023
New Year'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;

SOZ = Songs of Zion; WS=Worship & Song

PRELUDE

Bobbi Thompson

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: A new day has dawned, a new year begun

ALL: O God, call us so we may hear Your voice.

ONE: The world turns to hopes and dreams of the future.

ALL: O God, keep us in Your ways and on Your path.

ONE: We enter this new year with hope and excitement.

ALL: O God, guide us as we look to you and worship you. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

This is a Day of New Beginnings

UMH #383

1. This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.

3. Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.

2. For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then, can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.

4. Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1978; alt. 1987; MUSIC: Carlton R. Young, 1984;
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Co. CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Dear God, thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said "no", "not yet," or "wait." We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

God has filled our lives with sources of wisdom and surrounded us with an abundance of divine messengers. The land is a teacher. The prophets, a lighthouse. Our bodies, carriers of stories ancient and intimate. For God dwells here among us, incarnate in flesh. For these gifts of divine presence, let us bring our offerings in thanks.

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

Guiding One, we know there are times we have turned against your messengers. When our certainties are troubled or our comfort is threatened, we can push truth away. Still, we pray our community becomes a faithful and trustworthy friend to all your prophets and wisdom. Bless this offering to furthering the good news in all its liberative forms. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

*CENTERING HYMN

Star Child

TFWS #2095

1. Star Child, earth Child, go between of God, love Child, Christ child, heaven's lightning rod. *(Refrain)*

3. Grown child, old child, memory full of years, sad child, lost child, story told in tears, *(Refrain)*

(Refrain) This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

4. Spared child, spoiled child, having wanting more, wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store, *(Refrain)*

2. Street child, beat child, no place left to go, hurt child, used child, no one wants to know, *(Refrain)*

5. Hope for peace Child, God's stupendous sign, down to earth Child, Star of stars that shine, *(Refrain)*

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

EPISTLE LESSON *Ephesians 4:17-24*

The Inclusive Bible

So I declare and testify together with Christ that you must stop living the kind of life the world lives. Their minds are empty, they have no understanding, they are alienated from the life of God – all because they have hardened their hearts. They've dulled their sense of right and wrong, for they have abandoned themselves to sensuality in order to indulge in every form of licentiousness and greed.

That is hardly the way you have learned from Christ, unless you failed to hear properly, when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which is being corrupted by illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution, so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's likeness, in the justice and holiness of truth.

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Prayer Stations

***CLOSING HYMN**

Love Came Down at Christmas

UMH #242

**1. Love came down at Christmas, Love
all lovely, Love divine; Love as born at
Christmas; star and angels gave the
sign.**

**3. Love shall be our token; love be yours
and love be mine; love to God and
neighbor, love for please and gift and
sign.**

**2. Worship we the Godhead, Love
incarnate, Love divine; worship we
our Jesus, but where-with for sacred
sign?**

WORDS: Trad. Puerto Rican carol; trans. By George K. Evans; MUSIC:
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BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

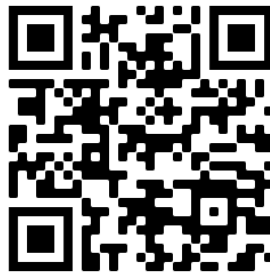
As you leave this place, may you go knowing that
from generation to generation,
we have been claimed and loved.

From generation to generation,
God has been by our side.

From generation to generation,
we are not alone.

The God of yesterday and the God of tomorrow
knows you by name, loves you, and calls you forth,
saying, “Go be the person you are called to be,
love wildly, do justice, and come back soon.”

May it be so. Amen.



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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Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus
Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph.D. Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries
Maggie Reese, Interim Music Director
Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Soloist
Debra Cox, Office Administrator
Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent
Dave Wilson, Building Maintenance
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)