



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867.

June 29, 2025

Third Sunday after Pentecost - Pride Month

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

PRELUDE

Brandon Reeves

The Prelude and the Postlude are times for silent prayer and meditation guided by some of our gifted musicians.

ACTS OF WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome! Today is our fourth and final Sunday in our Pride Month worship series. We close the series with reflections from several of our members about the intersection of their LBGTQIA+ identity and their faith. The scriptural focus for worship reminds us that we are freed in order to love our neighbor. In that spirit of liberation and love, let us pray together.

***OPENING PRAYER** (*enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

Liberating and Loving God, sometimes fear and old habits limit our sense of what's possible. Expand our imagination, that we might live into the abundance you intend for all of us. Guide us towards not a shallow freedom, oh God, but into deep wells of liberation. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

Love Astounding

Jeannette M. Lindholm

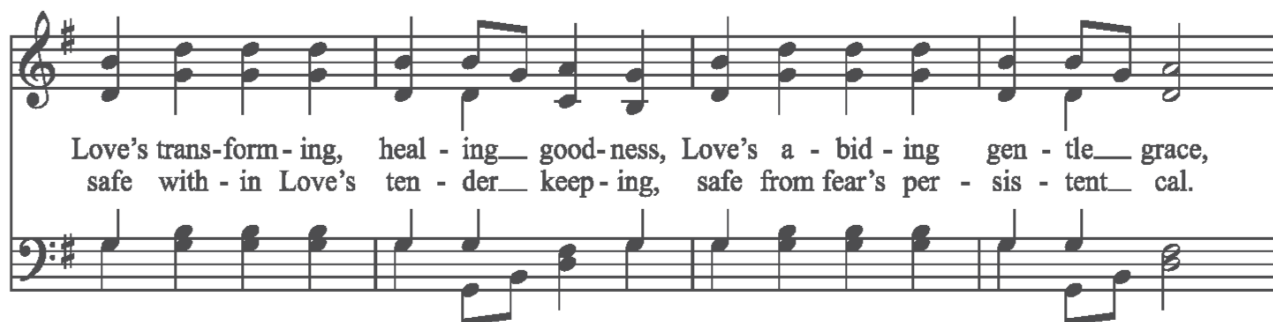
HOLY MANNA
William Moore, Columbian Harmony 1825



1. Love a - stound-ing, Love con - found-ing lim - its fear - ful minds im - pose.
2. Love re - ceiv - ing Love be - liev - ing, we re - joice with thanks and song,



Love re - new-ing, Love pur - su - ing ev - ery heart un - til it knows
faith re - gain-ing, hope pro - claim-ing; Love has taught us, we be - long



Love's trans-form-ing, heal - ing good-ness, Love's a - bid - ing gen - tle grace,
safe with - in Love's ten - der keep-ing, safe from fear's per - sis - tent cal.



Love's en - dur-ance, Love's as - sur - ance, Love's con - sol - ing strong em-brace.
Love de - fend-ing, Love un - end - ing, Love of God en - fold-ing all.

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 THE PEACE

Brandon Reeves

ACTS OF SHARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

ANTHEM

Help Us Accept Each Other by John Ness Beck

Joseph Stevenson

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Long Time Traveling, Edmund Dumas, arr. Sam Carter

Brandon Reeves



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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

*SCRIPTURE

Galatians 5:1, 13-14.

When Christ freed us, we were meant to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and don't submit to the yoke of slavery a second time!

My sisters and brothers, you were called to freedom; but be careful, or this freedom will provide an opening for self-indulgence. Rather, serve one another in works of love, since the whole of the Law is summarized in a single command. "Love your neighbor as yourself."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Central Speaks - Pride Month

Laura Burger,
Keith Livermore and Caitlyn Reames

*CLOSING HYMN

The Dove Will Fly on Mended Wing

Tim Reaburn

O WALY WALY

Traditional English, harm. CJ Redden-Liotta

1., 5. Re - lig - ion, cul - ture, creed and race each hu - man spir - it and each face
2. And take a - way a new found song, a new found voice to act on wrongs.
3. A peo - ple stand, a peo - ple call: come ga - ther here and wel - come all.
4. And chains will fall, the shack - les break, the earth will rise, and pow - ers quake,

we cel - e - brate, we dance and sing the tal - ents here each one might bring.
To trust, to heal, to help us cope, to stand as one, re - new - ing hope.
Di - ver - si - fy and cel - e - brate that hope - less - ness is not our fate.
just - ice will roll, and free - dom sing, the dove will fly on men - ded wing.

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BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION (*enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

It is for freedom we have been set free:

Freedom to play and rest. Freedom to learn and unlearn.

Freedom to expand the ways we love.

The Sacred One sends us to turn from the same weary-making cycles

and power-driven patterns,

to love each other creatively and courageously into collective freedom.

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Rev. Paul Perez, Lead Minister

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

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

Margaret Reese, Director of Music

Brandon Reeves, Collaborative Pianist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Angela Bakeley, Receptionist

Dave Wilson, Maintenance 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)