



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

January 14, 2023

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr 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. W&S=Worship & Song Hymnal Guide: UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal, TFWS = The Faith We Sing

PRELUDE

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Worship Words*, Thandiwe Dale-Ferguson)

ONE: This morning we remember dreams and dreamers. Joseph, Jesus' father, dreamt about uncertainty.

ALL: We, too, know the uncertainty of dreaming. May we, like Joseph, respond in faith.

ONE: Mary, Jesus' mother, dreamt about a child, a new beginning.

ALL: We, too, dream of new beginnings. May we, like Mary, respond in hope.

ONE: The Magi dreamt about going home by a different way.

ALL: We, too, know how dreams can alter our plans. May we, like the Magi, respond with our feet.

ONE: There have been many dreams, many dreamers. Today we remember Martin Luther King Jr. who dreamed of justice rolling down like the waters, of a beloved community where all people find kinship, belonging, dignity and love.

ALL: We, too, dream of justice and your beloved community. May we, like Dr. King, respond with our voices, with our lives and in your love.

ONE: Awaken us to our dreams, Holy God — and to your voice speaking from within them.

ALL: Awaken us to your world, Holy God — and to the places where our greatest joy can meet the world's greatest need.

***OPENING HYMN**

Lift Every Voice and Sing, v1 and 3

UMH #519

1. Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty; let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us; facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way; thou who has by thy might led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray. 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; shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

WORDS: James Weldon Johnson, 1921; MUSIC: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921; © 1921 Edward B. Marks Music Co.; renewed; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETINGS AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Dream a Dream by Ed Robertson

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. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM

Set the Sun Dancing

music by Phillip Orr
and words by Shirley Murray

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

*SCRIPTURE

Amos 5:18-24

You who wish for the Day of God to come—why do you want it? What will the Day of God mean to you? It will be a day of darkness, not light!

It will be like running from a lion only to meet a bear, or like getting home safe at last, only to get bitten by a snake hiding in the corner!

Rest assured: the Day of God will be darkness, not light. It will all be gloom, without a single ray of light.

I despise and reject your feasts! I am not appeased by your solemn assemblies!

When you offer me burnt offerings, I reject our oblations, and refuse to look at your sacrifices of fattened cattle!

Spare me the racket of your chanting! Relieve me of the strumming of your harps!

Instead, let justice flow like a river, and righteousness flow like an unfailing stream.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Rev. Paul Perez

*CLOSING HYMN

We Shall Overcome, v1-3

UMH #533

1. We shall overcome, we shall overcome, we shall overcome someday! Oh, deep in my heart I do believe we shall overcome someday!

3. We shall all be free, we shall all be free, we shall all be free someday! Oh, deep in my heart I do believe we shall all be free someday!

2. We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand someday! Oh, deep in my heart I do believe we'll walk hand in hand someday!

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual; MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. by William Farley Smith, 1986; Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House; CCLI 2815228

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

CHORAL BENEDICTION

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.

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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

Margaret Reese, Music Director

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist

Brandon Reeves, Choral Accompanist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

Yvette Meadow, Receptionist

Angela Bakeley, Receptionist

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 Waawiyataanong (“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)