



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

April 10, 2022

Palm Sunday



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

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)

PRELUDE

Bobbi Thompson

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: It is holy to gather.

ALL: It is holy to sing.

ONE: It is holy to be generous, to throw our coats on the road.

ALL: It is holy to celebrate justice when we see it.

ONE: It is holy to shout, "Hosanna!"

ALL: It is holy to remember.

ONE: It is holy to gather.

ALL: It is holy to sing.

ONE: Here and now, let us do all of these things.

***OPENING HYMN** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* adapted from UMH #278

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.
2. From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving and chanting clear and loud. The one whom angels worship rode on in lowly state, and glad to see the children, slowed down the donkey's gait.
3. "Hosanna to the highest!" that ancient song is ours. We hail our great Redeemer and sing with all our powers; "Hosanna, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice. Hosanna! In your presence forever we'll rejoice

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkapelle*, 1784; adapt. and harm. by W. H. Monk, 1868 CCLI2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO CONFESSION

ONE: The word 'hosanna' is often sung with joy and glee on this day. We process in, we wave palm branches and it feels like a celebration. But the truth is, the word 'hosanna' actually means "save us." The people along that parade route so many years ago were crying out to Jesus for help, because they knew – this world is not as it should be. There is still too much hurt here. They were crying, "Save us!"

In the prayer of confession, we have our own hosanna moment, because we cry out to God, admitting the ways in which we have fallen short, and we ask for God's saving hand.

So, friends, let us pray together, for there is still too much hurt here.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: God of street parades and hosannas,

ALL: We know that you are counting on us to speak out against oppression,

ONE: To speak up for love and to speak hope to fear,

ALL: But so often we are silent.

ONE: We worry that we'll say the wrong thing,

ALL: So we don't say anything at all.

ONE: We worry that we'll offend,

ALL: So we keep our convictions to ourselves.

ONE: We worry that we'll speak up and won't be heard,

ALL: So we stay silent.

ONE: And meanwhile, the parade marches on.

ALL: Unravel our fears. Spark conviction in us. Give us the courage to yell, "Hosanna!"

ONE: Gratefully we pray, Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

ONE: Friends, even when we are silent, even when we are scared, even when we miss the moment, even when we choose to speak and say the wrong thing – we belong to God. There is nothing said or unsaid, done or undone that can undo that, so rest in this good news:

ALL: We are forgiven. We are known. We belong to God, every day and always. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We come with curiosity about how we can be part of each other's stories of salvation. Through subverting, organizing, and reciprocity, we long to create Ways of Life. Let us bring forth our gifts that we might offer ordinary acts of salvation to each other. I invite you to the 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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Subverting God, the logic of empire wants us to believe that we are each other's enemies and that we need to shore up what is ours. Reveal to us the wisdom of your ways, that we might offer one another compassion and resources. Bless our offerings to the redemption found in solidarity. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

***CENTERING HYMN** *All Glory, Laud and Honor* adapted from UMH #280

1. All glory, laud and honor to you, O Christ we sing, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring! The people of the Hebrews with palms adorned your way; our praise and prayer and anthems we offer you this day.
2. O Promised One of Israel, of David's royal line, the one called "God's beloved," of flesh and yet divine, to you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise, to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
3. As you received their praises, receive our prayers today, whose justice and whose mercy and sovereignty hold sway. All glory, laud and honor to you, O Christ we sing, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1615; harm. by W. H. Monk, 1861;
CCL12815228

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 19:28-40

from the Inclusive Bible

Jesus went ahead with the ascent to Jerusalem. Approaching Bethphage and Bethany, near what is called the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of the disciples with these instructions: “Go into the village ahead of you. Upon entering it, you’ll find a tethered colt that no one has yet ridden. Untie it and lead it back. If anyone should ask you, “Why are you untying it?” say, ‘The Rabbi needs it.’”

They departed on their errand and found things just as Jesus had said. As they untied the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you doing that?”

They explained that the Rabbi needed it. Then the disciples led the animal to Jesus and, laying their cloaks on it, helped him mount.

People spread their cloaks on the roadway as Jesus rode along. As they reached the descent from the Mount of Olives, the entire crowd of disciples joined them and began to rejoice and praise God loudly for the display of power they had seen, saying,

“Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

Jesus replied, “I tell you, if they were to keep silent, the very stones would cry out!”

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Even the Stones Cry Out!

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

*CLOSING HYMN

What Wondrous Love is This

adapted from UMH #292

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
O my soul! What wondrous love is this,
O my soul! What wondrous love is this!
That Christ should come in bliss to bear
the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the heavy cross for my soul!
2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I
will sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will
sing: To God and to the Lamb who is the
great I am, while millions join the theme I
will sing, I will sing; while millions join
the theme, I will sing.
3. And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing
on, I’ll sing on, and when from death I’m
free, I’ll sing on! And when from death
I’m free, I’ll sing and joyful be, and
through eternity I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on,
and through eternity I’ll sing on!

MUSIC: USA folk hymn; harm. by Paul J. Christiansen, 1955; Harm. © 1955,
renewed 1983 Augsburg Publishing House CCLI2815228

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

As you leave this place,
may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious.
May you overflow with love for those around you.
May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.
And in all of your living, and breathing and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit,
and may it change your life.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself –
go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.

Central United Methodist Church

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