



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

August 14, 2022

Women's Equality Day 2022

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

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)

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We come this morning standing high on the shoulders of the women and men of this congregation who came before us – Evelyn Strong, Mary Ann Mahaffey, Grace Paisley, Richard Miller, Clara Webb, General Baker, Jackie Washington. In their presence we are reminded of who we are.

ALL: A servant community working for peace and justice.

ONE: We are a voice speaking out from within our city, like a conscience speaks to the person to whom it belongs and whose life it shares.

ALL: Counting on the rock of our faith in Christ, we proclaim, follow and worship a God who calls us to create a faith-powered, justice-seeking, reconciling and peace-loving world for all people.

*OPENING HYMN

God of the Women

1. God of the women who answered your call, Trusting your promises, giving their all, Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth, Give us their courage to live in your truth.

4. God of the women who ran from the tomb, prayed with the others in that upper room, then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day. May we so gladly proclaim you today.

2. God of the women who walked Jesus' Way, Giving their resources, learning to pray, Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more. May we give freely as they did before.

5. O God of Phoebe and ministers all, may we be joyful in answering your call. Give us the strength of your Spirit so near that we may share in your ministry here.

3. God of the women long put to the test, left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed, quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

SLANE 10.10.9.10 ("Be Thou My Vision"); CCLI2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOMING OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S TIME

Deaconess Anne Hillman

LITANY

ONE: O Living God, we pray for your people. We ask that we may be freed to serve you in truth and grace. We remember our foremothers. We remember all women who have recognized that to be a person of faith is to respond in action. We give thanks for Hagar, cast out in the wilderness, Miriam, poetess of the Exodus, leader through the wilderness, Deborah, a mother and a judge in Israel, the woman who bathed Jesus' feet with her tears, the Samaritan woman at the well, who was one of the first to spread the good news, Mary Magdalene, first apostle of the resurrection.

ALL: We give you thanks, O God.

ONE: Let us remember all those women who have faced the unknown in faith and met fear with courage. We give thanks: for all those women who have dared to step forward and lead, for all those women who have challenged the stereotypes of society and risked standing alone.

ALL: We give you thanks, O God.

ONE: Let us remember women who have struggled to reform our history, who have sought in their time to minister to the needs of those who are hurt, disadvantaged and alienated in our land. We give thanks: for those women whose faces and names are unknown, yet whose work helps to fulfill your vision of shalom on earth.

ALL: We give you thanks, O God.

ONE: Let us remember those women, known and unknown, who have labored in the struggle before us.

ALL: We give you thanks, O God. O holy and sustaining God, make us worthy to inherit their valour and visions. As your daughters and sons, may we be brought nearer to a new vision of your love, through the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(from "Celebrating the Decade" © 1997 WCC)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY

Deaconess Anne Hillman

***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

Accept our gifts, O God, because we need to give. Use our gifts to the greatest good they can accomplish here in our midst and far beyond our individual reach. We present them in thanksgiving for all you have given us and in gratitude for the privilege of sharing in your work. Amen

(Holy Covenant UMC)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

*CENTERING HYMN

O God of Truth and Glory

Tune UMH #545

1. **O God of truth and glory, in listening to your Word, We sometimes miss the story of voices seldom heard. Forgive our poor attention to women who were there — to those we hardly mention in scripture, hymn or prayer.**

3. **Young Miriam saved her brother; she found the boy a home. And so the Pharaoh's daughter raised Moses as her own. You called on countless women to work and serve and pray. Lord, may we, too, be listening when you call us today.**

CCLI2815228

2. **For Eve was Adam's partner, and Noah had a wife. And Sarah laughed in wonder at how you changed her life. Rebekah, strong and forceful, knew just what she would do. And Rachel was resourceful, and Dinah mattered, too.**

SCRIPTURE

Acts 9: 36-43

The Inclusive Bible

Now in Joppa, there was a disciple, a woman named Tabith – “Dorcas,” in Greek – who never tired of doing kind things or giving to charity. About this time she grew ill and died. They washed her body and laid her out in an upstairs room.

Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples sent two couriers to Peter with the urgent request, “Please come over to us without delay.” Peter set out with them as they asked.

Upon arrival, they took him upstairs to the room. All the townswomen who had been widowed stood beside him weeping and showed him the various garments Dorcas had made when she was still with them.

Peter first made everyone go outside, the knelt down and prayed. Turning to the body, he said, “Tabitha, stand up.” She opened her eyes, then looked at Peter and sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her to her feet. The next thing he did was to call in those who were believers – including the widows – to show them that she was alive.

This became known all over Joppa and, because of it, many came to believe in Jesus Christ. Peter remained awhile in Joppa, staying with Simon, a leather tanner.

MESSAGE

Tabitha the Disciple

Rev. Cora Glass

*CLOSING HYMN

O For A World

Miriam Therese Winter

1. O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways, where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.
2. O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved, where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.
3. We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.
4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise. Tell all who mourn, outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.
5. O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace, where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Tune: AZMON Carl Glaser, 1828 Text: Miriam Therese Winter 1982;
CCLI 2815228

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Cora Glass

Central United Methodist Church
23 East Adams, Detroit, Michigan 48226 ~ 313.965.5422
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

Bobbi Thompson, Interim Music Director

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

Rev. Cora Glass currently serves at Lake Huron Retreat Center in Burtchville, MI as the Program and Hospitality Manager. Helping individuals and communities find nourishment for their body and soul is one of her passions. Cora is the artist behind Recreate Art and Retreats, offering art for your favorite spaces and painting retreats for groups of all sizes. Subscribe to her newsletter at www.recreateartandretreats.com or contact Cora at RecreateArtandRetreats@gmail.com

This service is live-streamed under CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425.