



# Central United Methodist Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

October 3, 2021  
World Communion 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

## 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** (Written by Ana and Tod Gobledale, Global Ministries Associates)

**ONE:** We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ's followers.

**ALL:** We gather to share Word and sacrament, to discern the ways of faithful service.

**ONE:** Where in the world shall we serve our God?

**ALL:** At home and school and business place – in this community and throughout every land.

**ONE:** How in the world shall we serve our God?

**ALL:** By working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred.

**ONE:** Why in the world shall we serve our God?

**ALL:** Because the Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith. Let us now worship the one who calls us!

## \*OPENING HYMN

*My Life Flows On*

TFWS #2212

1. My life flows on in endless song, above  
earth's lamentation. I hear the clear,  
though far-off hymn that hails a new  
creation. *(Refrain)*

3. What though my joys and comforts  
die? I know my Savior liveth. What  
though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth. *(Refrain)*

*(Refrain)* No storm can shake my inmost  
calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since love of God of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?

4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my  
heart, a fountain ever springing! All  
things are mine since I am his! How  
can I keep from singing? *(Refrain)*

2. Through all the tumult and the strife, I  
hear that music ringing. It finds an  
echo in my soul. How can I keep from  
singing? *(Refrain)*

WORDS: Robert Lowry; MUSIC: Robert Lowry; CCLI2815228

# ACTS OF SHARING

**GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

**Almighty God, even as the drums of warfare beat on through the night, even as the cries of injustice linger in the morning, even as the hustle of busyness rumbles through the day, quiet our hearts. Still our thoughts. Join us in our worship. Remember us in your mercy as we try to remember you, through the proclamation of your good news, in story and song, and through the hospitality of your gracious table. Welcome us again, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

We live through violence to which we do not consent – wars, pandemics, abusive relationships, an endless struggle of making ends meet. Let us gather our offerings that, through our shared resources, we might have space to co-create lives of mutuality, abundance and rest.

## **OFFERTORY**

*What a Wonderful World*

Brandon Spencer

**\*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**

**God of mutuality, we dedicate our offerings to work that looks with reverence to the belovedness of all beings. May our resources flow where there are needs to be met and where there is consent to receive. Amen.**

## **SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **HYMN**

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

UMH #521

**1. I want Jesus, to walk with me. I want Jesus to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**3. When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me. When I'm troubled, Lord walk with me. When my head is bowed in sorrow, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**2. In my trials, Lord, walk with me. In my trials, Lord, walk with me. When my heart is almost breaking, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual; MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. by William Farley Smith, 1986; Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House; CCLI2815228

# ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

## GOSPEL LESSON

Psalm 19:1-6 The Inclusive Bible

The heavens herald your glory, O God, and the skies display your handiwork. Day after day they tell their story, and night after night they reveal the depth of their understanding.

Without speech, without words, without even an audible voice, their cry echoes through all the world, and their message reaches the ends of the earth.

For in the heavens the sun has pitched a tent. It comes forth with the grandeur of a wedding procession, with the eagerness of an athlete ready to race. It rises at one end of the sky and travels to the other end, and nothing escapes its warmth.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE

*Listening and Hearing*

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

## SOLO

*All Good Gifts*

Brandon Spencer

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ONE: God is with us. I invite you to take a moment and close your eyes, draw your awareness to the presence of the divine in this space...and in each person gathered here.

Draw your attention to your heart and imagine breathing in and out of your heart-opening it up to the divine with gratitude as we pray...

Loving one, close to us as breathing yet reaching into eternity, we give you thanks. Your outpouring of radical love has brought forth life among us. You have shown yourself to us as parent, creator, lover, and friend. In whatever image will bring us healing, you come to us. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with all of creation, all of heaven and earth who forever sing this hymn:

**ALL: “Holy, holy, holy One, God of Love and Light. Heaven and Earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name, O God. Hosanna in the Highest.**

ONE: Blessed are you and blessed is your child, Jesus Christ. He showed us the ways of justice and mercy, turning the norms of society upside down. He welcomed and empowered the outsider and stood in resistance to the powers of oppression. Like so many among us today, Christ’s choice to live his truth and challenge oppression put him at risk.

And yet, on the night in which death, hatred, and betrayal would seek to have the last and lasting word, Christ remained centered in radical peace and showed us love embodied by washing the feet of his beloved's and serving them at your table.

At the table he took the bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread saying "take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, and said, "Drink from this, all of you, this is my life poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts of love in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves and all of who we are in union with Christ's offering as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**ALL: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

ONE: Pour out your holy spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the Body of Christ, that we might become interdependent with each other as Christ's body, reflecting your diverse image in the world.

By your spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other and in each other's struggles, until we feast at your heavenly banquet. Through your beloved Jesus Christ, with the love of the Holy Spirit, in your church – all love and devotion is yours, O God. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN**

*One Bread, One Body*

UMH #620

*(Refrain)* **One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless. And we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.**

**1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. *(Refrain)***

**2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. *(Refrain)***

**3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. *(Refrain)***

WORDS: John B. Foley, 1978; MUSIC: John B. Foley, 1978; harm. by Gary Alan Smith, 1988; © 1978, 1989 John B. Foley and North American Liturgy Resources; CCLI2815228

# BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

**\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

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