



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

November 9, 2025

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

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 PRAISE

WELCOME

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

God of dreams and visions, you unleash the imaginations of our hearts. In you, we catch sight of holy possibilities for thinking and living differently. Make us open to the wisdom of the past and to your promises of the future that today, we might be transformed by the mystery of your love. Amen

***OPENING HYMN** *In the Midst of New Dimension, v.1,2 & 5* TFWs #2238

**1. In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,
who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways? (Refrain)**

(Refrain) **God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
we your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.**

**2. Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,
who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care? (Refrain)**

**5. Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,
may your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again. (Refrain)**

WORDS: Julian B. Rush; MUSIC: Julian Brush; © 1994 Julian B. Rush; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Sylvia Oatley

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

God Believes in You, by Pierce Pettis

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION***SCRIPTURE***Haggai 2:1-9*

In the second year of Darius the ruler, on the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of God came through the prophet Haggai and told him, "Speak to Zerubbabel ben-Shealtiel, the high commissioner of Judah, and to Joshua ben-Zehozadak, the high priest, and to all the remnant of the people. Ask them, 'Who is there left among you who saw this Temple in its former glory? And how does it look to you now? Doesn't it seem like nothing in comparison? But take courage now, Zerubbabel!—it is God who speaks. Courage, High Priest Joshua ben-Zehozadak! Courage, all you people of the country!—it is God who speaks. To work! I am with you—it is God Omnipotent who speaks—as I promised I would be when you came out of Egypt, and my Spirit remains among you. Don't be afraid! For God Omnipotent says this: A little while now, and I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, and the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations, and the treasures of all the nations will flow in, and I will fill this Temple with glory, says God Omnipotent. Mine is the silver, mine the gold! Says God Omnipotent. The new glory of this Temple is going to surpass the old, says God Omnipotent, and in this place I will give peace, says God Omnipotent.'"

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Rev. Paul Perez

CLOSING HYMNTogether We Serve*, v. 1, 3 & 4

TFWS #2175

1. Together we serve, united by love, inviting God's world to the glorious feast.

**We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,
extending your love to the last and the least.**

**3. We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.**

**We offer a home to those who will come,
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.**

4. Together, by grace, we witness and work, remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.

Together we serve in Spirit and truth, remembering love is the strength of our song.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH (from *re: Worship: Scripturally-based resources* for worship planners and leaders, based on Haggai 2:1-9)

Hear again the promise God made to his people long ago:

Do not be discouraged!

Be strong and courageous.

Keep working,

for I am with you.

My Spirit remains with you

and is living among you.

So do not be afraid!

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Brandon Reeves

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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, Director of Music & Brandon Reeves, Collaborative Pianist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator & Angela Bakeley, Receptionist

Dave Wilson, Building 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)