



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

April 17, 2022

Easter 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

Ferland’s March by William P. Rowan

Cary Dumas

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: This day is not like any other day.

ALL: Today we slow down.

Today we take it all in.

Today we rest in good news.

ONE: This day is not like any other day.

ALL: Today we are singing.

Today we are full to the brim.

Today joy cannot be contained.

ONE: This day is not like any other day.

ALL: Today the stone was rolled away.

Today Mary saw the empty grave.

Today we know – death does not win.

ONE: This day is not like any other day.

ALL: Alleluia! Amen!

***OPENING HYMN** *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* adapted from UMH #302

1. **Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!**
Earth and heaven in chorus say:
Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs
high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens and
earth reply, Alleluia!
2. **Let the Victor's people sing, Alleluia!**
Where, O death, is now your sting?
Alleluia! Dying once, Christ lives to
save, Alleluia! Where your victory, O
grave? Alleluia!
3. **Love's redeeming work is done,**
Alleluia! Fought the fight the battle
won, Alleluia! Death in vain forbids
Christ rise, Alleluia! God has opened
paradise, Alleluia!
4. **Soar we now where Christ has led,**
Alleluia! Following our exalted Head,
Alleluia! Made like Christ, like Christ
we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the
grave, the skies, Alleluia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739; MUSIC: *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

CHILDREN'S TIME

Deaconess Anne Hillman

CALL TO CONFESSION

ONE: Family of faith, it is our tradition to have a prayer of confession each week – not to harp on ourselves or to drum up guilt, but because we believe God is not done with us yet. So, please join me in the prayer of confession, because God is always listening and God's grace is always full to the brim.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of new life,
we are a mixed bag.**

**We want to be full to the brim with hope and joy,
but often we overflow with comparison and doubt.**

**We want to embody the resurrection,
but often we'd rather stay the same than to begin again.**

**We want to have the courage to be like Mary on that Easter morning –
to run and speak truth,**

but often we are weary of courage and uncertain of our own voices.

Forgive us for all the ways we remain unchanged.

Break into our hearts.

Overflow here.

With hope we pray, amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

ONE: Family of faith, if there is life after death, then you can be certain – there is life after mess. There is life after mistakes.

There is life after doubt.

There is new life freely given, and that life is for you.

You are forgiven, loved and claimed.

May we live full to the brim in response.

ALL: Thanks be to God and let it be so. Alleluia! Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Come, let us look for the living – relationships and efforts that lead to the thriving of our spirits, our bodies, and our communities. Let us water seeds of solidarity, tend the soil of creativity, and relish the blooming of healing. As the body of the Risen Christ, we collect our offerings for the Love we want to grow.

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**

Living God, the tomb is empty; Mary told us herself. Women and gender oppressed people guide us in the way of New Life. They rise, even in death's wake. They keep telling their stories, persisting on sharing those that open and expand possibilities. Bless our offerings, that we might partner with those who lead us to the Way of Life and cultivate heaven on Earth. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

***CENTERING HYMN** *The Day of Resurrection* adapted from UMH #303

- 1. The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad; the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God. From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky, our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**
- 2. Our hearts be pure from evil that we may see aright the Christ who reigns eternal in resurrection light; We listen for the teachings once heard so calm and plain, for we, too, want to follow and raise the victor strain.**
- 3. Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin. the whole world keep high triumph, and all that is there-in. Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend, for Christ again has rise, our joy that has no end.**

WORDS: John of Damascus; trans. By John Mason Neale, 1862;
MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1835; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:1-18

from the Inclusive Bible

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance, so she ran off to Simon Peter and the other disciple – the one Jesus loved – and told them, “The rabbi has been taken from the tomb! We don’t know where they have put Jesus!”

At that, Peter and the other disciple started out toward the tomb. They were running side by side, but then the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He didn’t enter, but bent down to peer in, and saw the linen wrappings lying on the ground. Then Simon Peter arrived and entered the tomb. He observed the linen wrappings on the ground and saw the piece of cloth that had covered Jesus’ head lying not with the wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the disciple who had arrived first at the tomb went in. He saw and believed. As yet, they didn’t understand the scripture that Jesus was to rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Meanwhile, Mary stood weeping beside the tomb. Even as she wept, she stooped to peer inside, and there she saw two angels in dazzling robes. One was seated at the head and the other at the foot of the place where Jesus’ body had lain.

They asked her, “Why are you weeping?”

She answered them, “Because they have taken away my Rabbi, and I don’t know where they put the body.”

No sooner had she said this than she turned around and caught sight of Jesus standing there, but she didn’t know it was Jesus. He asked her, “Why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?”

She supposed it was the gardener, so she said, “Please, if you’re the one who carried Jesus away, tell me where you’ve laid the body and I will take it away.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary!”

She turned to him and said, “Rabboni!” – which means “Teacher.”

Jesus then said, “Don’t hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to Abba God. Rather, go to the sisters and brothers and tell them ‘I’m ascending to my Abba and to your Abba, My God and your God!’”

Mary of Magdala went to the disciples. “I have seen the Teacher!” she announced. Then she reported what the savior had said to her.

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

An Expansive Life

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

***CLOSING HYMN**

Up from the Grave He Arose

UMH #322

1. Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my
Savior, waiting the coming day, Jesus
my Lord. *(Refrain)*

2. Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my
Savior, vainly they seal the dead, Jesus
my Lord! *(Refrain)*

(Refrain) Up from the grave he arose, with
a mighty triumph o'er his foes, he
arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever, with his saints to
reign. He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

3. Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my
Savior, he tore the bars away, Jesus my
Lord! *(Refrain)*

WORDS: Robert Lowry, 1874; MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1874; CCLI
2815228

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.

POSTLUDE

Postlude by Douglas E. Wagner

Cary Dumas

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

Charles "Cary" Dumas, Guest Organist