



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany



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

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come on ya'll, let's worship our God. Come to Jesus, all you who have suffered a beat down this week.

ALL: Come to Jesus, all you who have experienced family turmoil this week.

ONE: Come to Jesus, all you who are tired of \$3.49 gas, tired of glass ceilings, quotas, minimum wage jobs and limited family values.

ALL: Come to Jesus, all you who have a job that is getting on your last nerve.

ONE: Jesus said, "I'll give you rest. I'll bring you relief. I'll provide your deliverance. I'll make a way."

ALL: And Jesus will give us wonderful rest! Come on ya'll, lets worship our God!

(from The Africana Worship Book, written by Joseph W. Daniels, Jr.)

*OPENING HYMN

We Are Marching

TFWS #2235-b

1. We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God. We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God. We are marching, we are marching, Ooo, we are marching in the light of God. We are marching, we are marching, Ooo, we are marching in the light of God.

2. We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God. We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God. We are singing, we are singing, Ooo, we are singing in the light of God. We are singing, we are singing, Ooo, we are singing in the light of God.

3. We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God. We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God. We are praying, we are praying, Ooo, we are praying in the light of God. We are praying, we are praying, Ooo, we are praying in the light of God.

4. Siya hamb ekukha nyen' kwen-khos', siya hamb' ekukha nyen' swen kohs, Siya hamb ekukha nyen' kwen-khos', siya hamb' ekukha nyen' swen kohs, Siya hamba, siya hamba, Ooo, siya hamba ekukha nyen' kwen-khos, Siya hamba, siya hamba, Ooo, siya hamba ekukha nyen' kwen-khos,

WORDS: South Africa; MUSIC: South Africa; © 1984 Utryck, used with permission of Walton Music Corp.; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S TIME

Deaconess Anne Hillman

PRAYER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

ONE: Black History Month has been observed nationally since 1986 and it aims to celebrate and honor the contributions and struggles of people of African and Caribbean heritage have made to American and global society. We want to remember the black voices and stories which were overlooked and marginalized and we want to encourage positive awareness about Black History.

Let us light a candle to remember that God is love. There is no fear in love, perfect love casts out fear. Let us celebrate the love that God has for all of God's creation.

ALL: God of love, you created all human beings in your image and likeness. Bearing your image, you call on us to reflect your goodness, justice, and love to all the world. Remind us of our call to follow Jesus and to speak out for justice, mercy and compassion. As we come before you in prayer, teach us to respect your image in all human beings, and teach us to respect your image in all human beings, through Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.

ONE: Let us light a candle to give thanks to God for Black men and women in every generation who have contributed to the growth of this country.

ALL: Gracious God, we give you thanks for all who have built up this country through their dedication, their witness and their faith in you. We give you thanks for those who have inspired us and challenged our way of life. Grant us the power to be the people you want us to be and to do what you want us to do. In Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.

ONE: Let us light a candle to remember those who have been affected by the transatlantic enslavement of African peoples and all who today are affected by slavery and its legacy. Let us pause to remember those who have been enslaved. We recall that for over 200 years, more than 15 million people were the victims of the transatlantic slave trade. During this time human beings made in the image of God were bought and sold, treated as property, and considered less than human.

Let us pause to remember the ways we continue in our world to treat others based on the financial profit we can derive from them; the persons who work in poor conditions and who are underpaid, the children who are forced to work and receive less than minimum wage, the migrant workers who are exploited.

Slavery still exists today. We remember the women who have been sold into slavery for prostitution. We remember the children who are sold into slavery, left vulnerable by poverty. We remember persons who are enslaved because of their addictions.

ALL: Gracious God, help us to regard all persons as made in your image. Create in us brave hearts to acknowledge and address our prejudices. Forgive the way we collude with silence and imprison others in it. Give us courage to speak words that liberate and heal, through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

ONE: We light a candle of hope. Hope because God is still at work in our world. We believe that love is stronger than all the ills of the world. The legacies of slavery still exist in our world, and persons from different ethnicities are still the recipients of racism and acts of discrimination. We are called to let the light of God's love shine in the world.

ALL: God of justice and compassion, let us commit ourselves to bear the light of the hope of our lives. By the power of your Spirit, you call us to be of one heart and mind and to the work of lament and action. From you comes power to give to others the care we have ourselves received so that we, and all who love your world, may live in harmony and trust, through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

ANTHEM

Oh Freedom arr. Brazeal Dennard

INVITATION TO OFFERING

No accumulation of resources squirreled away for the few!
No backlog of reparations unpaid!
But the free flow of resources to those dominated by systems of greed!
The rushing forth of Holy Enoughness to all beings everywhere!
We gather our offerings today to create the world of which we dream.

OFFERTORY *Communion Kum Ba Yah* arr. Brett Rhodes and Steve Kupferschmid

***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**

Prophet and scholar, James Baldwin, said "If I love you, I have to make you conscious of the things you don't see." God of Revelations, may this offering be used to fill in the gaps of what we cannot yet imagine. May we become conscious of possibility in our communities. May we envision expansive ways of being together infused with freedom and pleasure. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

***CENTERING HYMN**

Woke Up This Morning

SOZ #146

1. Woke up this morning with my mind,
stayed on Jesus, Woke up this morning
with my mind, stayed on Jesus, Woke
up this morning with my mind, stayed
on Jesus, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.
2. Can't hate your neighbor in your
mind, if you keep stayed on Jesus,
can't hate your neighbor in your mind,
if you keep stayed on Jesus, can't hate
your neighbor in your mind, if you
keep stayed on Jesus, Hallelu, Hallelu,
Hallelujah.
3. Makes you love everybody with your
mind, when you keep it stayed on
Jesus. Makes you love everybody with
your mind, when you keep it stayed on
Jesus. Makes you love everybody with
your mind, when you keep it stayed on
Jesus, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.
4. The devil can't catch you in your
mind, if you keep it stayed on Jesus,
the devil can't catch you in your mind,
if you keep it stayed on Jesus, the devil
can't catch you in your mind, if you
keep it stayed on Jesus, Hallelu,
Hallelu, Hallelujah.
5. Jesus is the captain in your mind,
when you keep it stayed on Jesus,
Jesus is the captain in your mind,
when you keep it stayed on Jesus,
Jesus is the captain in your mind,
when you keep it stayed on Jesus,
Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.

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ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 58:6-12

The Inclusive Bible

This is the sort of fast that pleases me: Remove the chains of injustice! Undo the ropes of the yoke! Let those who are oppressed go free and break every yoke you encounter! Share your bread with those who are hungry and shelter homeless poor people! Clothe those who are naked, and don't hid from the needs of your own flesh and blood! Do this, and your light will shine like the dawn, and your healing will break forth like lightning! Your integrity will go before you, and the glory of God will be your rearguard.

Cry and God will answer; call, and God will say, 'I am here; - provided you remove from your midst all oppression, finger pointing and malicious talk! If you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows will become like the noon. God will always guide you, giving relief in desert places. God will give strength to your bones and you will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry.

You will rebuild the ancient ruins and build upon age-old foundations. You will be called Repairer of Broken Walls and Restorer of Ruined Neighborhoods.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

What Does Resistance Look Like?

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(written by Rev. Mary C. Johnson)

ONE: God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

ONE: Black lives matter to you, and always have.

Black lives matter.

Black male lives matter.

Black female lives matter.

Black female trans lives matter.

Black female trafficked lives matter.

Black gay lives matter.

Black uneducated as well as educated lives matter.

Black poor as well as rich lives matter.

Black homeless lives matter.

Black Christians and non-Christians matter.

Black immigrants and refugees matter.

Black teens matter.

Their lives are sacred.

Their lives are valuable.

Their lives are precious.

Their lives are important.

Their lives are necessary.

Their lives are integral to Your magnificent beloved family.

So we join with them and all the others who are just as sacred, valuable, precious, important, necessary, and integral to Your plan of salvation to sing your praises.

We join with all the angels and archangels, the great choir of saints before Your throne, from every nation, from every culture, who speak every language, worshiping endlessly before Your throne of grace saying:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.
Hosanna in the highest.**

ONE: You are holy, and so is your presence with us in Jesus Christ.

Jesus was not white.

Jesus did not speak English.

Jesus was not a Christian.

Jesus lived as the citizen of an occupied nation.

Jesus was part of an oppressed people.

Jesus was a refugee who found protection on the Continent of Africa.

Jesus experienced mob violence.

Jesus experienced police brutality.

Jesus was lynched.

Jesus gave up his own divine privilege and chose to live as a slave and to live a life of service. These acts defined his greatness and defines our discipleship. Giving up his own divine privilege, Jesus took the bread used as a call to compassion for the oppressed. Gave thanks for it, broke it and shared it with the whole community, saying: "Take and eat, this is my body given freely for you." Remember how this act defined his greatness and defines our discipleship.

Giving up his own divine privilege, Jesus took the cup used as a call to hope for Divine deliverance, gave thanks for it, and shared it with the whole community saying: "Drink from my cup, each of you; This is my life poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Remember how this act defined his greatness and defines our discipleship.

Christ's life mattered.

Christ's abuse by religious authorities mattered.

Christ's murder mattered.

Christ's resurrection mattered.

And so do our lives and so we choose to follow Christ and choose to live according to this divine mystery, we now declare"

ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

ONE: Life, Meaning, Giver of Sacred Worth, cause these gifts of bread and wine to become for us the body and life of Christ, the reason our lives matter.

Life, Meaning, Giver of Sacred Worth, cause the gift of our lives to become for our neighbors, Your church, the living presence of Christ, a reason for their lives to matter.

Life, Meaning, Giver of Sacred Worth, touch the lives of any who feel that their lives don't matter, who feel they are not valued, who are treated with disrespect and fear that their precious lives will be thrown away.

Change us, so others might have hope.

Change us, so others might be valued.

Change us, so that no one will have to stand before their oppressors alone.

Change us, so Christ's life will matter.

Change us, so the Holy Spirit's life will matter.

Change us, so our Creator's life will matter, and that we might more fully give them the honor, glory and praise due their holy name, today, tomorrow and always, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Do, Lord, Remember Me

UMH #527

- 1. Do, Lord, do, Lord, do Lord,
remember me; do, Lord, do, Lord, do
remember me; do, Lord, do, Lord, do
remember me; singing do, Lord
remember me.**
- 2. I took Jesus as my Savior, do, Lord
remember me; I took Jesus as my
Savior, do, Lord remember me; I took
Jesus as my Savior do, Lord remember
me; singing, do, Lord, remember me.**
- 3. When I'm in trouble, do Lord,
remember me; when I'm in trouble, do
Lord, remember me; when I'm in
trouble, do Lord, remember me;
singing do, Lord, remember me.**

- 4. When I am dying, do, Lord remember
me; when I am dying, do Lord
remember me; When I am dying, do
Lord remember me; singing do, Lord,
remember me.**
- 5. I got a home in gloryland that
outshines the sun; I got a home in
gloryland that outshines the sun; I got
a home in gloryland that outshines the
sun; singing do, Lord, remember me.**

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual; MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual;
adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986; Adapt. and arr. © 1989
The United Methodist Publishing House; CCLI 2815228

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Go forth with the authority Christ gives to his church. Cry out against wrong. Heal where there is hurt. Feed, clothe, and defend those who live on the margins. Train up children in the ways of God. Show no contempt for youth; comfort the elderly.

In all things, give God the glory and praise, now and forever, Amen.



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.

**Central United Methodist Church
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Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph.D. Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Maggie Reese, Interim Music Director

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Soloist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Dave Wilson, Building Maintenance

Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

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)

