



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Women's History Month

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

ACT OF PRAISE

PRELUDE

Augustus Williamson & Brandon Reeves

The Prelude and the Postlude are times for silent prayer and meditation guided by some of our gifted musicians.

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (from *enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

ONE: The Holy is our Guide,

ALL: we are not alone.

ONE: She invites us to wide open fields of liberation

ALL: and leads us to protected sacred waters.

ONE: She refreshes our souls.

ALL: She lures us towards the Ways of Life

ONE: for the sake of Love.

ALL: Lead us today, Holy One,

ONE: guard us from the snares of life with your Wise Love.

***OPENING HYMN**

Bring Many Names

TFWS #2047

**1. Bring many names, beautiful and good,
celebrate, in parable and story,
holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!**

**2. Strong mother God, working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation,
setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna! strong mother God!**

**6. Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna!**

WORDS: Brian Wren; MUSIC: Carlton R. Young; Words © 1989, 1994;
music © 1989; descant © 1994 Hope Publishing Co.; 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 OF THE PEACE

Augustus Williamson & Brandon Reeves

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

All Things New, by Elaine Hagenberg



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 (from *enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

Wise Spirit, follow our gifts with your goodness and love all the days of our lives. That, together, we will dwell in your kin-dom on earth now & forever. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

POEM

Lois

Rebecca Wilson

ANTHEM

Praise to God, Immortal Praise, by Mary Lynn Lightfoot

*SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23

God, you are my shepherd—
I want nothing more.
You let me lie down in green meadows;
you lead me beside restful waters:
you refresh my soul.
You guide me to lush pastures
for the sake of your Name.
Even if I'm surrounded by shadows of Death,
I fear no danger, for you are with me.
Your rod and your staff—
they give me courage.
You spread a table for me
in the presence of my enemies,
and you anoint my head with oil—
my cup overflows!
Only goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in your house, God,
for days without end.,
ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
ALL: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Rev. Paul Perez

*CLOSING HYMN

Let There Be Peace on Earth

UMH #431

**Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.**

WORDS: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson; MUSIC: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1987;
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BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH (from *enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

Go forth shepherded by the Compassion of the Living God, who dreams with us of a world free from the evil of oppression where all beings may rest in pastures of abundance by streams of wonderful mercy. Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Brandon Reeves

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

CUMCdetroit1810@centralumchurchdetroit.org

<http://www.centralumchurchdetroit.org>

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)