



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

February 27, 2022

Transfiguration Sunday/Black 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: 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 Roddy Hamilton)

ONE: Come and follow Christ, to the places where the heavens and earth meet.

ALL: The Holy is so near.

ONE: When we are weary or afraid,

ALL: When we question the path ahead,

ONE: Christ reveals the Sacred with us.

ALL: We never go alone.

ONE: As close as our own breath,

ALL: God is here.

***OPENING HYMN**

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=senZKuOrvcl>

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN OF THE MOVEMENT

Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney



TIME FOR CHILDREN

Deaconess Anne Hillman

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Mysterious One, as we draw near to the season of Lent, you fill us where we are empty, preparing us for the journey. Lingering in your presence, we are nourished by the remembrance of those who came before us. We are encouraged by our present companions on the journey. We are inspired by your promises of what's to come. As we gather; may we hear your voice among us, whispering words of assurance and calling us to courage. Thanks be to you, O God. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Friends, we never know what the days ahead will bring. We may be moving into seasons of struggle or of release, seasons of blessing or of loss. But however our path may be unfolding, we do know this; we do not go alone. When we journey together, the Presence of God is never far. In the spirit of our commitment to this collective journey with Christ, let us bring our offerings to God.

OFFERTORY

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy One, when we gather together to linger in your Sacred presence, we are transformed. You provide us with all that we need to live lives of meaning, connection, and healing. For these gifts, we give you thanks. Lead us from these places of restoration back into the places where the world is aching and guide us in collective pursuit of your justice. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 34:29-35

The Inclusive Bible

As Moses came down from Mount Sinai carrying the two tables of the Covenant, he was not aware that the skin on his face was radiant from speaking with God. When Aaron and the other Israelites saw Moses, they were afraid to approach him because of the radiance of the skin of his face. Only when Moses called to them did Aaron and the leaders of the community come near, and then Moses spoke to them.

Later, all the Israelites gathered around, and Moses gave them the instructions he had received from God on Mount Sinai. When he was finished speaking to them, Moses put a veil over his face. Whenever Moses entered the presence of God, he would remove the veil until he came out again, and when he would come out and tell the Israelites what had been commanded, they would see that the skin on his face was radiant. Then he would put the veil over his face again until he went in to speak with God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

***CENTERING HYMN**

Holy Ground

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJFDM9Fcguy>

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 9:28-36

from the Inclusive Bible

About eight days after saying this, Jesus took Peter, John and James and went up onto a mountain to pray. While Jesus was praying, his face changed in appearance and the clothes he wore became dazzlingly white. Suddenly two people were there talking with Jesus – Moses and Elijah. They appeared in glory and spoke of the prophecy that Jesus was about to fulfill in Jerusalem.

Peter and the others had already fallen into a deep sleep, but awakening, they saw Jesus' glory – and the two people who were standing next to him. When the two were leaving, Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, how good it is for us to be here! Let's set up their tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah!" Peter didn't really know what he was saying.

While Peter was speaking, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and the disciples grew fearful as the others entered it. Then from the cloud came a voice which said, "This is my Own, my Chosen One, Listen to him!"

When the voice finished speaking, they saw no one but Jesus standing there. The disciples kept quiet, telling nothing of what they had seen at that time to anyone.

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

A Change is Coming

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

CLOSING HYMN

A Change is Gonna Come

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEBlaMOMKV4>

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Go now, turning grudges into grace.

Turn fractures into forgiveness.

Turn hardness into hearts broken open by love.

Go in peace, Amen.

Central United Methodist Church

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