



Central United Methodist Church
A Reconciling Congregation
Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822,
Sanctuary completed 1867

May 10, 2026

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Asian American Pacific Islander 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

ACTS OF PRAISE

PRELUDE

Brandon Reeves

WELCOME

***OPENING PRAYER** (adapted from Pacific Islander Asian American Ministries Sunday of the Hawi’i Conference of The United Church of Christ)

Faithful God, Rock of refuge and tender Shelter, we come to you in the midst of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, bringing the beauty and burdens of our many peoples.

Breathe your Spirit among us. Settle your presence like morning light on the ocean, like mist on the mountains, like peace in a restless heart.

Jesus, Way-maker, speak again: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.” Hold those who carry grief, displacement, racism, war memories, and family silence. Strengthen those who are tired from doing good. Awaken in us the promise of your word that those who believe will Do the Works—works that mend what is broken, welcome the stranger, tell the truth with love, and practice mercy with courage. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *O God, Who Formed Creation - A hymn for the United Nations*
(words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette to the tune of UMH#545)

O God, who formed creation and made each living thing,
We've seen the devastation that war and conflict bring.
We long to stop the violence and end the scourge of war;
We yearn for peace and justice, now and forevermore.

We join in celebration of those who've heard your call
To bring together nations and seek the good for all.
We thank you for their labors to bring a lasting peace,
That we might live as neighbors and justice might increase.

Some care for your creation, some daily feed the poor;
Some offer education or seek an end to war.
Some labor bringing healing, or care for refugees;
It's you, O Lord, they're serving, in doing each of these.

This work to heal the nations becomes our calling, too.
For reconciliation is first a gift from you.
As we have been forgiven, may we reach out to share
The peace that comes from heaven with nations everywhere.

*Tune: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864 ("The Church's ONE Foundation");
Text: Copyright © 2007 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. CCLI 2815228*

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

Brandon Reeves

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM

Treasures in Heaven by Joseph W. Clokey

***SCRIPTURE**

John 14:15-21

If you love me and obey the command I give you,
I will ask the ONE who sent me to give you another Paraclete, another Helper to be with you always—

the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept since the world neither sees her nor recognizes her; but you can recognize the Spirit because she remains with you and will be within you.

I won't leave you orphaned; I will come back to you,

A little while now and the world will see me no more; but you'll see me; because I live, and you will live as well.

On that day you'll know that I am in God, and you are in me, and I am in you.

Those who obey the commandments are the ONES who love me, and those who love me will be loved by God. I, too, will love them and will reveal myself to them."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE:

Rev. Paul Perez

ACTS OF SHARING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Order My Steps by Keith Burleigh



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.

Doxology (Ho`onani i ka Makua Mau)

by Thomas Ken

In Hawaiian:

G D Em Bm Em D G
Ho'onani i ka Ma---ku---a mau,

D Em C G D
Ke Keiki me ka `Uha---ne Nō,

Em D G D G C D7 G
Ke Aku--a mau ho`omaika'i pū

Em D Am G D7 G C Cm G
Ko kē---iā ao, ko kē---iā ao. A-----mene.

Source: *Based on scripture from Ephesians 1:3, the doxology is a way of praising God for our blessings. The doxology is typically sung for grace before meals.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (adapted from a liturgy by Rev. Dr Yuki Schwartz for Pacific Islander Asian American Ministries Sunday of the Hawi'i Conference of The United Church of Christ)

Holy Communion: In Remembering

(Inspired by a poem written by Jonah Chang, revised and edited by Kay Sakaguishi, and read during the National Conference of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United Church of Christ, April 1974.

From *The Theologies of Asian American and Pacific Peoples*, compiled by Roy I. Sano, edited by Daniel D. Lee, Claremont Press, 2022).

Introduction

ONE: We come to this table as pilgrims readying ourselves for a trip across vast waters. Like Jesus before us, we take nourishment in the form of bread and juice or wine, but also through the companionship and care we give to and receive from one another. With this meal, we set sail with Jesus into the waters of death and the breaking waves of resurrection into new life. As a fellowship of wanderers, we do the work together to keep one another safe from harm until we find rest in a world transformed by God's love.

Invitation to Communion

ONE: Lord, we remember and we praise you ...

ALL: When we, like your disciples, journey across the soil and sands of your good Earth bring news of your compassion not only through many dialects and tongues, but in the actions we take to do the works of our God who is love ...

ONE: Lord, we remember and we praise you ...

ALL: When we, like the women who first proclaimed your miracles, raise our voices and stretch out our arms to one another as we fight against the systems that attempt to keep us quiet and still ...

ONE: Lord, we remember, and we praise you ...

**ALL: When we, like the communities of your followers, who first defied the unjust laws of the empire that oppressed them, in order to dare to love one another regardless of nationality, identity, status, and language.
We thank you, O Lord, for the ancestors who came before us who turned dreams into discipline and hope into hearts filled with courage. Let us join them in this holy meal that makes them, and you, present among us.**

Great Thanksgiving

ONE: May 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 who dwells with us when we do God's work of justice and love in this good world.

ALL: It is right to give God our thanks and praise. So be it! See to it!

ONE: Just as it takes many hands to sow and harvest the grains that make this meal that we eat.

ALL: It takes all of us to feed this world.

ONE: Just as it takes many hands to plant and pluck the fruits whose juice fills the cup that quenches our thirst.

ALL: It takes all of us to tend to the needs of this world.

ONE: Just as it takes many hands to build this place that has become our church home.

ALL: It takes all of us to shelter our neighbors from the dangers that surround us.

ONE: Let us remember that on the night when one of his own beloved friends believed the lies of the empire and turned him over to the state for execution, Jesus took a loaf of bread into his hands. He blessed it, broke it, and shared it with his friends and said,

ALL: “Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

ONE: And in the same way after the supper, Jesus took the cup, and after giving thanks, gave it to his beloved community, and said, .

ALL: “Drink this, all of you. This is my life, the new covenant, of justice, of compassion, of love, poured out for you and for many. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

ONE: Pour out your Spirit on this sharing of bread and cup. We come to this table as pilgrims readying ourselves for a trip across vast waters. Like Jesus before us, we take nourishment in the form of bread and juice or wine, but also through the companionship and care we give to and receive from one another. With this meal, we set sail with Jesus into the waters of death and the breaking waves of resurrection into new life. As a fellowship of wanderers, we do the work together to keep one another safe from harm until we find rest in a world transformed by God’s love.

ALL: Amen

SHARING THE BREAD & CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Brandon Reeves

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, grant us the steadfastness of the people who made this journey across the oceans during uncertain times, holding onto your promise that you would be with them. As we venture forth into a world of scarcity and betrayal, help us be your hope for the world. When any one of us feels the sting of injustice, when the forces of evil exile seek to tear our communities apart and exile our children into physical and spiritual deserts, move us to join them in their suffering instead of seeking cheap and comfortable grace. Be with us as we do your work to liberate the world from all that separates us from one another, and You. In the name of Jesus our Christ we pray, **Amen.**

Without, Within, Above

TRINITY

LOIS F. BELLO, 1961, 'rev., 1980

ELISEO PAJARO, 1961

(♩ = c. 120)

1. O God, you are with - out, Your beau - ty now we praise, Your
 2. O God, you are with - in, Your rule in us make known. De -
 3. O God, you are a - bove, Un - search - a - ble your ways, We

wis - dom, might, and maj - es - ty, The strength of all your ways.
 declare your word with - in the soul And there you'll reign a - lone.
 trace your wis - dom through your love, to you un - end - ing praise!

Refrain

God, you are ev - 'ry-where, With - out, with - in, a - bove; From

morn till eve let all de - clare your glo - ry and your love.

Music copyright © 1961 by Eliseo Pajaro.
 Words copyright © 1961, 1983 by Lois F. Bello.

Filipino

Psalm 139:7-12

THE GOODNESS AND PROVIDENCE OF GOD

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

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 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)