



# Central United Methodist Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

April 30, 2023

Fifth Sunday After Easter

## 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: Holy One, You have many names and today we call forth the names we need:

**ALL: Imaginative Spirit**

ONE: Unfolding Possibility

**ALL: Emerging Life**

ONE: Playful Wisdom

**ALL: Liberative Trouble Maker**

ONE: Wide and Compassionate God –

**ALL: Surprise us with signs and wonders in a growing world.**

ONE: Swell with us, as we make waves towards collective freedom.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

Adapted from UMH #577

**1. God of grace and God of glory, on**

**your people pour your power; crown  
your ancient church's story; bring its  
bud to glorious flower. Grant us  
wisdom, grant us courage, for the  
facing of this hour. For the facing of  
this hour.**

**4. Set our feet on lofty places; gird our  
lives that they may be armored with all  
Christ-like graces, in the first to set us  
free. Grant us wisdom, grant us  
courage, in the quest for liberty, in the  
quest for liberty.**

**2. From the evils that surround us and  
assail the Savior's ways. from the  
fears that long have bound us – free  
our hearts for faith and praise, grant  
us wisdom, grant us courage, for the  
living of these days, for the living of  
these days.**

**5. Save us from weak resignation to the  
evils we deplore; let the search for  
your salvation be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore, serving  
you whom we adore.**

CCLI 2815228

**3. Cure your children's warring  
madness; bend our pride to your  
control. Shame our reckless, selfish  
gladness, rich in things and poor in  
soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us  
courage, make our broken spirits  
whole, make our broken spirits whole.**

## **ACTS OF SHARING**

**GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Deaconess Anne Hillman

## **MORNING PRAYER**

**God of Becoming, we are grateful for young people – for the fierce solidarity they offer each other and the world. Open our spirits to the swelling wisdom of the new wave of teachers, leaders, radicals, and visionaries. Unstick places within us that want to cling to ways that are comfortable, but that no longer serve us. For you are a God who unfolds and you love those who shake off the dust of familiar oppression. Amen.**

## **ANTHEM**

*The Gift of Love* arr. by Hal Hopson

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

When we are clawing through oppressive systems for our physical needs to be met, it is difficult for our spirits to flourish. And when our spirits are weary or overwhelmed, it is difficult for our bodies to find ease. Spiritual and physical needs overlap, intertwine, are often one in the same. We gather our offerings today, that the needs of our MindBodySpirit may be met. For all beings are worthy of thriving.

## **OFFERTORY**

*For Simple Things* arr. By Douglas Wagner

## **\*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**

**Way Making One, may all people have access to resources for the wellbeing of their MindBodySpirit. Through our collective efforts, may barriers to access crumble. Bless our offerings, that they may flow freely to places of need. Amen.**

## **SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

**\*CENTERING HYMN**

*Welcoming God*

(Tune UMH #369)

1. **Children are welcome, Christ said one day, when the disciples just urged them away. Children are welcome at Jesus' knee: God's own examples for ministry. Welcoming God, you open the way; even the smallest worship and pray, singing with faith and serving you well, your life to know and good news to tell.**
2. **Women are welcome, as are the men; through God's own Spirit, we're partners again. Partners as prophets, ministers, too; no more divided – made one in you. Welcoming God, you open the way; those once divided join now to pray, serving at Table, preaching your Word, so that your love for all will be heard.**
3. **Outcasts are welcome; sinners are, too, eating with Jesus and being made new: some like Zacchaeus turned right around; wounded and poor ones felt peace profound. God of great love, you stand at the door, welcoming people outcast and poor. So you forgive and call us to be filled with the joy of your jubilee.**
4. **So may we welcome into our pew all who in Jesus are being made new – All those who seek him, wanting to know, wanting to love him, wanting to grow. Welcoming God, you stand at our door, as someone different, outcast or poor. With longing eyes, Christ Jesus you search. May we all welcome you in your church.**

Text: Copyright ©1998 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Tune: Phoebe Palmer Knapp, 1873; (Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!) CCLI 2815228

## **ACTS OF PROCLAMATION**

### **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Acts 2:42-47* The Inclusive Bible

Alex Oatley

They devoted themselves to the apostles' instructions and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. A reverent fear overtook them all, for many wonders and signs were being performed by the apostles. Those who believed lived together, shared all things in common; they would sell their property and goods, sharing the proceeds with one another as each had need. They met in the Temple and they broke bread together in their homes every day. With joyful and sincere hearts they took their meals in common, praising God and winning the approval of the people. Day by Day, God added to their number those who were being saved.

**ONE:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

## MESSAGE

*This is Church!*

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*We Are the Church*

UMH #558

*(Refrain)* I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together! All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together.

3. Sometimes the church is marching, sometimes it's bravely burning, sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding, always it's learning. *(Refrain)*

1. The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, the church is the people. *(Refrain)*

4. And when the people gather, there's singing and there's praying, there's laughing and there's crying sometimes, all of it saying; *(Refrain)*

2. We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces, all colors and all ages, too, from all times and places. *(Refrain)*

5. At Pentecost some people received the Holy Spirit and told the Good News through the world to all who would hear it. *(Refrain)*

WORDS: Richard K. Avery and Donald S. Marsh, 1972; MUSIC: Richard K. Avery and Donald S. Marsh, 1972; © 1972 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI 2815228

## BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

### \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Go forth expecting signs and wonders,  
for undermining the Ways of Domination is not new to the Holy Trouble Maker.  
Her people are openhearted and determined.  
Her people love the Ways of New Life.  
Go in peace. Amen.

(All liturgy today is provided by Enfleshed, Spiritual Nourishment for Collective Liberation)



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.

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**Central United Methodist Church**  
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**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

Margaret Reese, Music Director

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Brandon Reeves, Choral Accompanist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent & Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

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*This service is live-streamed under CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425.*

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#### **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)