



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

July 10, 2022

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

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

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

ONE: Beloveds, who is that before us?

ALL: God is here before us.

ONE: Beautiful ones, what is that before us?

ALL: God's path is set before us.

ONE: Blessed ones, why this path set before us?

ALL: That together we might accept the invitation to be prophets and continue the long journey to justice. AMEN.

*OPENING HYMN

For the Healing of the Nations

UMH #428

- 1. For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords; to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word, help us rise and pledge our word.**
- 2. Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how, through care and goodness, fear will die and hope increase, fear will die and hope increase.**
- 3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned; pride of status, race or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span, may we hallow life's brief span.**
- 4. You, Creator-God, have written your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind; that by our response and service earth its destiny may find, earth its destiny may find.**

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1964; MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907; Words © 1968 Hope Publishing Co.; CCLI2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

UNISON PRAYER (adapted from UMC Discipleship Ministries)

God, like the prophet Amos, we struggle to accept our call to be prophetic. We have infinite excuses for why you shouldn't use us. We are afraid to speak truth to power, to speak of humility to egotistical systems. Resting safely upon our past activities, we have relinquished responsibility to a new generation. We deny that we too are called to share the good news and work for justice.

When we feel ill-prepared, grant us assurance. When we feel unworthy, remind us that your image dwells in each of us. When we feel overwhelmed by the news of the day gift us space to grieve and renewed imagination to respond. When we struggle to know what words to speak, what moves to make, keep us in sync with your Holy Spirit, letting you guide all we do. Give us the courage to be prophets in a world where more grace, peace, justice, and love are desperately needed. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

For centuries, lovers of justice have been gathering their resources so money might flow towards those who need it. And so, we show up today in the lineage of those who have desired respite from systems of greed. We follow the example of Jesus who showed us how to welcome the stranger and break one loaf of bread into many. Let us bring forth our offerings in this tradition of solidarity.

OFFERTORY

*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. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy Spirit, forgive us when we have not been able to recognize the path towards solidarity. Forgive us for when we have not been able to relate to our neighbors with compassion. Forgive us for prejudices that still have hold on our hearts. May our offerings be a sign of our desire to do the work required of Love. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rebecca Wilson

*CENTERING HYMN

Spirit Song

UMH #347

1. O, let the Son of God enfold you with the Spirit and with love; let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul. O, let him have the things that hold you and the Spirit like a dove will descend upon your life and make you whole.*(Refrain)*

2. O, come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy. Lift your hands in sweet surrender to God's name. O, give him all your tears and sadness, give him all your years of pain and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.*(Refrain)*

(Refrain) Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

WORDS: John Wimber, 1979; MUSIC: John Wimber, 1979; © 1979 Mercy Publishing; CCLI2815228

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 7: 7-17

(Inclusive Bible)

Daniel Spyker

This is what the Sovereign YHWH showed me: God was standing by a wall, a plumb line in hand.

“What do you see, Amos?” YHWH asked me. “A plumb line,” I said. Then God said to me, “Look, I am going to measure my people Israel by plumb line. I will no longer excuse their atrocities.

The high places of Isaac are going to be ruined, the sanctuaries of Israel destroyed. With sword in hand, I will attack the House of Jeroboam”

Amaziah the priest of Bethel then sent the following message to Jeroboam ruler of Israel: “Amos is plotting against you in the midst of the House of Israel. The country can no long tolerate what he keeps saying. For this is what he says, ‘Jeroboam is going to die by the sword, and Israel is going into exile from its land.’”

Amaziah told Amos, “Go away, seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there. Do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel. This is the royal sanctuary, the national Temple!”

Amos answered Amaziah: “I am no prophet. Nor am I the disciple of a prophet. I was a shepherd and gathered figs for food. But YHWH took me from herding the flock, and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ So listen to the word of YHWH! You say: ‘Do not prophesy against Israel. Utter no oracles against the House of Isaac.’ Very well, this is what YHWH says: “Your spouses will be forced to take the most demeaning work, your children will fall by the sword, your land will be parceled out by measuring lines, and you yourself will die on unclean soil. And Israel will go into exile, far from its own land.”

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Plumb Out of Prophets

Rebecca Wilson

***CLOSING HYMN**

Lead Me, Guide Me

TFWS #2214

(Refrain) **Lead me, guide me along the way. For if you lead me I cannot stray. Lord let me walk each day with Thee. Lead me, oh Lord lead me.**

2. Help me tread in the paths of righteousness. Be my aid when guilt and sin oppress. I am putting all my trust in Thee: Lead me, oh Lord lead me. (Refrain)

1. I am weak and I need Thy strength and power, To help me over my weakest hour. Let me through the darkness Thy face to see. Lead me, oh Lord lead me. (Refrain)

3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without Thy light to see. Lord just always to me thy servant be, Lead me, oh Lord lead me. (Refrain)

Words: Doris Akers; MUSIC: Doris Akers; © 1953 Doris Akers, renewed, admin. by Unichappell Music Inc. CCLI2815228

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rebecca Wilson

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