



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

August 15th, 2021
Twelfth 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

PRELUDE

Daniel Dillingham

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Wisdom cries out in the street.

ALL: What does Wisdom say?

ONE: She calls for us to listen and to love one another.

ALL: We come today to listen and to love.

ONE: Wisdom is here with us.

ALL: We are ready to worship God.

***OPENING HYMN**

Be Thou My Vision

Adapted from UMH #451

1. Be thou my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart –
you my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my
light.
2. Be now my wisdom and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
now and forever your child I will be.
3. Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
You, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
Great God, my treasure, may we never
part.
4. Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright
heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall, still be my vision, O
Ruler of all.

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ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Holy Wisdom, you granted Solomon's request for an understanding mind and the knowledge to discern good from evil. Fill us with such understanding and knowledge that we may act as instruments of your loving desire for creation, working with you to transform our conceit into concern for others, our fear into love, our violence into peace and our brokenness into wholeness. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

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

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

Walk with Me

TFWS #2242

(Refrain) Walk with me, I will walk with you and build the land that God has planned where love shines through.

1. When Moses heard the call of God he said, “God, don’t send me” but God told Moses, “You’re the one to set my people free.” *(Refrain)*

2. Now Peter was a most unlikely man to lead the flock; but Jesus knew his holiness and he became the rock. *(Refrain)*

3. Young Mary Magdalene was sure her life could be much more, and by her faith she dared to let God’s love unlock the door. *(Refrain)*

4. And when you share your faith with me and work for life made new, the witness of your faithfulness calls me to walk with you. *(Refrain)*

WORDS: John S. Rice; MUSIC: John S. Rice;
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ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

GOSPEL LESSON

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

The Inclusive Bible

Then David rested with his ancestors and was buried in the City of David. He had reigned for forty years over Israel – seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. So Solomon sat on the judgment seat of David, and his rule was firmly established.

Solomon showed his love for God by following the precepts of David, except that he still offered sacrifices and incense at the shrines.

Solomon went to Gibeon to offer a sacrifice since that was the chief shrine – Solomon offered one thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon God appeared in a dream to the ruler during the night, saying “Ask what you would like me to give you.”

Solomon replied, “You have shown great kindness to your servant, David, who was faithful, righteous and obedient to you. And you have generously maintained this constant love toward us and now you have appointed a successor to sit on the judgment seat this very day. Here I am in the midst of your chosen people, a people so numerous they cannot be counted. Give me, your servant, a discerning heart, so that I may distinguish good from evil and govern your people with wisdom.”

God was very pleased that Solomon requested what he said. So God said to Solomon, “Because this is what you asked for and not for a long life, or for wealth, or for the lives of your foes, but asked for discernment in administering justice, I grant your request. And I give you a heart so wise and so understanding that there has been no one like you before your time, nor will there be after your time. And furthermore, I give you those items which you did not ask for: wealth and glory which no ruler in your time can match.

If you keep my ways, keep our laws and commandments as David followed them, I will grant you a long life.”

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

VIDEO

Imagine, Playing for Change
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvFLKyAGzzI>

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Go forth into the world trusting with your hearts
the wisdom God bestows upon all who seek to follow God's will.
When called to lead, do so with humility and confidence in God.
Be in this world a sign of Jesus' presence.
Share compassion with all whom you encounter.
Live wisely in God's name and glorify God in all you do.

And may the grace, mercy and wisdom of God
be our support, guidance and strength
from this day forward and for every more. Amen.

Central United Methodist Church

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Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph. D, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Daniel Dillingham, Minister of Music

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Soloist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists