



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

May 18, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLAND HERITAGE 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 WELCOME

PRELUDE

Brandon Reeves & Augustus Williamson

The Prelude and the Postlude are times for silent prayer and meditation guided by some of our gifted musicians.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Welcome to the third Sunday in our Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month series. Each Sunday we will focus on an Asian American Pacific Islander theologian. Today we focus Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim, a Korean American theologian whose work calls us to reclaim the power of the Holy Spirit to heal trauma and transform the world.

Kim writes of han—the deep pain and unresolved, injustice suffering that lives in bodies, communities, and cultures across generations. She also lifts up chi—the life-giving energy of the Spirit—as a divine force that moves within us and around us, offering healing, renewal, and liberation.

As we continue our journey through Eastertide, we remember that resurrection is not just a moment, but a movement. It is the Spirit breathing new life into places of pain and despair. It is the Risen Christ saying, “Peace be with you,” to the fearful and the wounded.

Let us open ourselves to the Spirit's breath and rise together in the hope and healing of Easter as we sing “Stand in Wonder.”

***OPENING HYMN**

Stand in Wonder

to the tune of UMH# 302

1. At the dawn new life surprises, Alleluia
From the darkness light arises, Alleluia
See the stone is rolled away, Alleluia
On this resurrection day, Alleluia
2. Over death God's love prevails, Alleluia
Over all of our travails, Alleluia
By no cross is it restrained, Alleluia
By no grave is it contained, Alleluia
3. Reap in joy what's sown with tears, Alleluia
Courage springs from all our fears, Alleluia
Stand in wonder at the sight, Alleluia
Sunrise overtakes the night, Alleluia
4. Buried till its second birth, Alleluia
Hope emerges from the earth, Alleluia
In morning light our voices raise, Alleluia
Singing out with joyful praise, Alleluia

Stand in Wonder, Easter hymn — Jim Burklo, USA, Tune: Christ the Lord is Risen Today – Easter Hymn 7.7.7.7.; CCLI 2815228

OPENING PRAYER

Healing God,

Move among us now as breath, as fire, as chi.

Flow through this gathering with your healing power.

Touch the pain we carry—our personal sorrows,

our community's pain,

the aching wounds of this world.

Heal what is broken.

Release what is bound.

Transform what seems impossible.

And raise us, again and again,

into the life of resurrection. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

Brandon Reeves & Augustus Williamson

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

ACTS OF SHARING

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Rhythms from Honam Udo
Woorisori, Director, Daniel Kang, Asst. Director, Torey Powers



For electronic giving, please use this QR Code

DOXOLOGY

In Hawaiian:

Ho‘onani i ka Makua mau,
Ke Keiki me ka ‘Uhane Nō,
Ke Akua mau ho‘omaika‘i pū
Ko kēiā ao, ko kēlā ao. Amene.

In English:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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.*

‘Ukulele Kani E – 2014

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Sometimes I Hear God's Music
words by J. Paul Williams, music by Joseph M. Martin

Central Choir

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

*SCRIPTURE

Revelation 21:1-6

Arthur Park

Then I saw new heavens and a new earth. The former heavens and the former earth had passed away, and the sea existed no longer. I also saw a new Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down out of heaven from God, beautiful as a bride and groom on their wedding day.

And I heard a loud voice calling from the throne, "Look! God's tabernacle is among humankind! God will live with them; they will be God's people, and God will be fully present among them.

The Most High will wipe away every tear from their eyes. And death mourning, crying in pain will be no more, for the old order has fallen."

The One who sat on the throne said, "Look! I'm making everything new!" And added, "Write this, for what I am saying is trustworthy and true."

And that One continued, "It is finished. I am the Alpha Omega, the Beginning and the End. To those who are thirsty I will give drink freely from the spring of the water of life. ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month: Grace Ji-Sun Kim
Rev. Paul Perez

*CLOSING HYMN

Our God Who Uses Broken Things to the tune of UMH# 152

1. Our God who uses broken things, like earth and clouds and wheat,
makes grain to grow in rained-on soil to give us bread to eat.
And God, in broken hearts, sows seed which grief tries to destroy,
but life persists, through brokenness, to bring forth fruits of joy,
2. O God, pray use my broken things: each thoughtless, wasted hour,
those moments spent in foolishness; relationships gone sour;
and bury them, to enrich the soil, till times of harvest show
that even brokenness can help your seeds of faith to grow.
3. O God, we'll gather broken things to bring to you to mend,
caused by bereavement, hurt, despair, or falsehood from a friend;
then may such damaged lives, restored, bear witness, through past pain,
to wholeness made from brokenness, like loaves from scattered grain.

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Rhythms from Yeongnam Nongak

Woorisori, Director, Daniel Kang, Asst. Director, Torey Powers

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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)