



# Central United Methodist Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

October 31, 2021  
Reformation Sunday

## 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

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 Waawiyataanong (“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: Today is Reformation Sunday, a day when we think about the sacrifices made and the risks taken by Martin Luther and other reformers in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- ALL: We celebrate the Church that was, the Church that is and the Church that will be.**
- ONE: We give thanks for living in a time and place where we experience the freedom of religious belief, gathering and expression.
- ALL: Help us, O God, to strengthen our own faith, and to strengthen our acceptance of those who think differently than we do.**
- ONE: The differences that exist among us only prove the extravagant mosaic beauty of God's creation.
- ALL: We are all children of God, creatures of a creator that knows and loves each and every one of us.**
- ONE: History has proven that we may never be able to predict where our journey through life may take us, but that our journey will always be filled with God's grace.
- ALL: Let us journey together.**
- ONE: That journey together starts right here.
- ALL: Let us worship God!**

## \*OPENING HYMN

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (Adapted from UMH #57)

- 1. O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories ever echoing the triumphs of God's grace!**
- 2. My gracious Savior and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.**
- 3. Jesus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease is music in the sinner's ears, is life, and health and peace!**
- 4. Glory to God, and love and praise be ever, ever given by all the saints in every age, the church in earth and heaven.**

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# ACTS OF SHARING

## GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYER FOR THE DAY

- ONE: Here we stand, God, the people you have redeemed.  
Here we stand, God, giving thanks to you, for you are good.  
We give thanks that your love lasts forever.  
We thank you that you free those who are oppressed.

**ALL: Here we stand knowing that it is you we all can cry out to for help in times of trouble. We know that you will not only deliver us but that you will lead our way to where we need to go.**

**ONE: Here we stand by the living water that you set flowing for all. We drink freely from your water that gratifies everyone who is thirsty. And we thank you that you also give plenty to eat for those who are hungry.**

**ALL: Here we stand with those who reformed the church so long ago and with those who still are reforming the church today. Here we stand witnesses to your good news for all. Here we stand your servants, your followers, your children. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Today we can be like the trees, we can be like the phytoplankton, we can be like the mushrooms on the forest floor; we can take what we have been given and offer abundance back to the community of living things, come, let us bring forth our offerings, for in our interdependence, we have life.

## **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**

**Living God, bless our giving and our receiving, that it may be part of the ebb and flow of your grace and the grace we co-create with each other. Like the water cycle, may our resources be collected and flow towards the places in drought. Amen.**

## **SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **\*HYMN**

*I'm Gonna Sing*

UMH #333

**1. I'm goin' sing when the Spirit says  
sing, I'm goin' sing when the Spirit  
says sing, I'm goin' sing when the  
Spirit says sing, and obey the Spirit of  
our God.**

**3. Moan**

**4. Shout**

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual; MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapt.  
by William Farley Smith, 1986; Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist  
Publishing House; CCLI2815228

**2. Pray**

## **ACTS OF PROCLAMATION**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 150*

The Inclusive Bible

Alleluia! We praise you, God, in your sanctuary;  
We praise you in your mighty skies!  
We praise you for your powerful deeds;  
We praise you for your overwhelming glory!  
We praise you with the blast of the trumpet;  
We praise you with lyre and harp!

We praise you with timbrel and dance;  
We praise you with strings and flute!  
We praise you with clashing cymbals;  
We praise you with resounding cymbals;  
Let everything that has breath praise God! Alleluia

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

## MESSAGE IN SONG

with Bobbi Thompson and Friends

## CLOSING HYMN

*When in Our Music God is Glorified*

UMH #68

- 1. When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried Alleluia!**
- 2. How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound, Alleluia!**
- 3. So has the church in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, borne witness to the truth in every tongue, Alleluia!**
- 4. And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!**
- 5. Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always Alleluia!**

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1971; MUSIC: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904;  
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## BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

### \*BENEDICTION

Go forth refuting the lie of scarcity. May it be written on your heart:

Another world is possible.

Go forth living in defiance of the lie that systems are too big to change.

Go forth in creative and dogged hope,

for, beloveds...another world is possible. Amen.

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### Central United Methodist Church

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