



Central United Methodist Church
A Reconciling Congregation
Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822,
Sanctuary completed 1867.

August 30, 2026

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Women's Equality 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: W&S=Worship & Song, UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal,
TFWS = The Faith We Sing

ACTS OF PRAISE

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Brandon Reeves

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*A Prayer for International Women's Day, 2018,*
The Church of England)

ONE: For women and girls, that they will be all they can be,

ALL: God of all we worship and pray.

ONE: For courage to speak and to work for equality and justice until creation is filled
with righteousness and love,

ALL: God of hope we worship and pray.

*OPENING HYMN

God of the Women



1. God of the wom - en who an - swered your call,
2. God of the wom - en who walked Je - sus' Way,
3. God of the wom - en long put to the test,
4. God of the wom - en who ran from the tomb,
5. O God of Phoe - be and min - is - ters all,

trust - ing your pro - mis - es, giv - ing their all,
giv - ing their re - source - es, learn - ing to pray,
left out of stor - ies, for - got - ten, op - pressed,
prayed with the oth - ers in that up - per room,
may we be joy - ful in an - swering your call.

wom - en like Sar - ah and Han - nah and Ruth,
Ma - ry, Jo - an - na, Su - san - na, and more,
qui - et - ly ask - ing: "Who smiled at my birth?"
then felt your Spir - it on Pen - te - cost Day,
Give us the strength of your Spir - it so near

give us their cour - age to live in your truth.
may we give free - ly as they did be - fore.
In Je - sus' dy - ing you show us our worth.
may we so glad - ly pro - claim you to - day.
that we may share in your min - is - try here.

WORDS: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 1998
MUSIC: Traditional Irish melody

SLANE
10.10.10.10

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CCLI 2815228

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

PASSING THE PEACE

Brandon Reeves

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

ACTS OF SHARING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Brandon Reeves

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM

Keep Marching Laura Berger and Clara Zundel
from *Suffs*, words and music by Shaina Taub

***SCRIPTURE**

Romans 12: 9-21

Your love must be sincere. Hate what is evil and cling to what is good,
Love one another with the affection of sisters and brothers. Try to outdo one another in showing respect.

Don't grow slack, but be fervent in spirit: the One you serve is Christ.

Rejoice in hope; be patient under trial; persevere in prayer.

Look on the needs of God's holy people as your own; be generous in offering hospitality,
Bless your persecutors—bless and don't curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same attitude toward everyone.

Don't be condescending to those who aren't as well off as you; don't be conceited.

Don't repay evil with evil.

Be concerned with the highest ideal in the eyes of all people.

Do all you can to be at peace with everyone,

Don't take revenge; leave room, my friends, for God's wrath. To quote scripture,
'Vengeance is mine, I will pay them back,' says our God. But there is more:

"If your enemies are hungry, feed them;

If they are thirsty, give them drink.

For in doing so, you will heap burning coals upon their heads."

Don't be overcome by evil, but overcome evil by doing good.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Dr. Nicole Gerring

*CLOSING HYMN

62

We Will All Resist

Proverbs 28:4; 1 Peter 5:8-9

Refrain

We will rise up; we will all re-sist; we will rise up; we will all re-sist, for we will rise up strong-er all to- geth - er; we will all re - sist.

Fine

Stanzas selected as appropriate (additional stanzas on opposite page)

E - qual rights for wom - en will not be de-nied; e - qual rights for wom - en
Jus-tice for all rac - es will not be de-nied; jus-tice for all rac - es
Jus-tice for all gen-ders will not be de-nied; jus-tice for all gen-ders

will not be de-nied, for we will rise up strong-er all to- geth - er; we will all re - sist.
will not be de-nied, for we will rise up strong-er all to- geth - er; we will all re - sist.
will not be de-nied, for we will rise up strong-er all to- geth - er; we will all re - sist.

D.C. al Fine

Words: Jann Aldredge-Clanton
Music: African-American spiritual
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I SHALL NOT BE MOVED
Irregular

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTON (from *enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

When the way becomes difficult, let us still choose love.
When evil comes to break us down and break us apart, let us still choose each other.
When power from on high strikes fear in our hearts, let us still choose what is good and just.
For we know that the love of God will not be overcome.
With the assurance that this abiding love is alive in us,
today and always,
let us go with peace and courage.
Amen.

POSTLUDE

Brandon Reeves

**Central United Methodist Church,
23 East Adams, Detroit, Michigan 48226,
313.965.5422**

CUMCdetroit1810@centralumchurchdetroit.org

<http://www.centralumchurchdetroit.org>

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)



Wild Church

Celebrating the Sibley Prairie

Reconnect with nature, community, and the sacred while helping protect the rare and beautiful Sibley Prairie.

August 30, 5-7pm
Lake Erie Metropark

To sign up go to
<https://givebutter.com/wild-church-sibley-prairie>
or scan here:



**SAVE SIBLEY
PRAIRIE**
COALITION

