



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

March 13, 2022

Second Sunday in Lent/Women's History 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: 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 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**

Anika Kafi-Summers

ONE: If God is a hen,

ALL: We are under God’s wing.

ONE: If God is a table,

ALL: We each have a seat.

ONE: If God is a house,

ALL: We are safe from the storm.

ONE: If God is a party,

ALL: We’re invited to dance.

ONE: If God is a melody,

ALL: Our names are the lyrics.

ONE: If this is God’s house,

ALL: Then all are welcomed. All are loved. All belong.

ONE: Let us worship Holy God.

***OPENING HYMN** *Christ, We Confess We Turn Away* (tune UMH 682)

1. Christ, we confess we turn away the very ones we need today. God's prophets speak out loud and clear, yet prophets still aren't welcomed here.
2. You grieved for old Jerusalem for you were like a mother hen who brought her brood beneath her wings – while they were drawn to other things.
3. Christ, call us out and draw us in when we would rather side with sin – let the Prophetic things you say still challenge how we live this day.
4. May we who listen to your voice, be still, be wise, then make a choice. You call us to a life that's new; Christ, may we now return to you.

Tune: Thomas Tallis, 1561; Text: Copyright © 2019 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. CCL12815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

Anika Kafi-Summers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anika Kafi-Summers

WOMEN OF HISTORY

Julia Apsey

CALL TO CONFESSION

Anika Kafi-Summers

ONE: Family of Faith, we come to confession not to wallow in our own guilt. Instead, we come to confession because we know that change starts with being honest. So in a desire to grow and change, let us pray to a God who loves us like a mother hen. Let us confess our sins together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: When the Pharisees tried to stop Jesus, Jesus said,

ALL: "I will keep on."

I will keep on healing.

I will keep on teaching.

I will keep on preaching.

I will keep on flipping the tables of injustice.

I will keep on treating every person like a child of God.

I will keep on believing that this world can change.

I will keep on and keep on

and keep on until God's promised day.

Forgive us, God, for the times we stop. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

ONE: Family of Faith, because Jesus' love just keeps going, we can trust that that love and grace exists for us. So rest in this good news:

ALL: No matter what we do wrong or what we leave undone, we are under God's wing. We are loved, held and forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen!

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Anika Kafi-Summers

OFFERTORY

Clara Zundel

***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

Anika Kafi-Summers

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Anika Kafi-Summers

*CENTERING HYMN

Lord of the Dance

UMH#261

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth. *(Refrain)*

3. I danced on the Sabbath when I cured the lame, the holy people said it was a shame; they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high; and they left me there on a cross to die. *(Refrain)*

(Refrain) Dance, then wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

4. I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the devil on your back; they buried my body and they thought I'd gone; but I am the dance and I still go on. *(Refrain)*

2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee, but they would not dance and they would not follow me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came to me and the dance went on. *(Refrain)*

5. They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you if you'll live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. *(Refrain)*

WORDS: Sts. 1-2, 15th cent. German; trans. By Theodore Baker, 1894; st. 3 from *The Hymnal*, 1940; MUSIC: *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesing*, 1599; harm. by Michael Praetorius, 1609; St. 3 © 1940, renewed 1971 The Church Pension Fund; CCLI2815228

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Karen Tyler-Ruiz

Holy God, this life of ours is full to the brim.

Our days are overflowing with emails and to-do lists,
schedules and notifications, assignments and deadlines.

We wake up feeling behind, we go to sleep worrying about tomorrow,
and we know – there *has* to be more than this.

So we pray:

bend down and show us the way.

Leave breadcrumbs in the street.

Point us toward awe and wonder.

Guide us to intimacy and trust.

Gift us with laughter that will make us cry
and hope that will make us feel alive.

We want a new kind of full to the brim.

Show us the way.

We are listening to your cues. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 13:31-35

from the Inclusive Bible

Just then, some Pharisees came to Jesus and said, “You need to get out of town, and fast. Herod is trying to kill you.”

Jesus replied, “Go tell that fox, ‘Today and tomorrow, I’ll be casting out devils and healing people, and on the third day I’ll reach my goal.’ Even with all that, I’ll need to continue on my journey today, tomorrow and the day after that, since no prophet can be allowed to die anywhere except in Jerusalem.

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem! You kill the prophets and stone those who are sent to you! How often have I wanted to gather your children together as a mother bird collects her babies under her wings – yet you refuse me! So take note: your house will be left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God!’”

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

COSROW

Jo-Ann Snyder, Nicole Gerring, Cynthia Bradford, Ruth Biersdorf

CLOSING HYMN

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

TFWS #2050

1. Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world. Creator, source of every breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
2. Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light, grain of life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.

3. Mothering Spirit, nur-t'ring one, in arms of patience hold me close, so that in faith I root and grow until I flow'r, until I know.

WORDS: Jean Janzen, based on the writings of Juliana of Norw3ich (15th cent.); MUSIC: H. Perch Smith, Words © 1991 Abingdon Press, admin. by The Copyright Co.; CCLI2815228

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

Anika Kafi-Summers

As you leave this place,
may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious.
May you overflow with love for those around you.
May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.
And in all of your living and breathing and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit,
and may it change your life.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved and Love itself –
go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.

Central United Methodist Church

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