



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

February 6, 2022

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany/Black 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

ONE: All you brokenhearted and bereaved,

ALL: You joyful and well-rested,

ONE: You overwhelmed and overworked, come.

ALL: All you disappointed and desperate,

ONE: You playful and delighted,

ALL: You angry and over it, come.

ONE: No matter the weather of our hearts, this day is sacred.

ALL: Let us worship God, Love that Never Ceases.

*OPENING HYMN

O Freedom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1pCJ1nM0pBQ>

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN OF THE MOVEMENT

Septima Poinsette Clark (1898 – 1987)



TIME FOR CHILDREN

Deaconness Anne Hillman

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Loving God, so many are tired of being tired. We feel the onslaught of demands while our inner and outer resources diminish. We struggle in the nets of systemic domination we are tangled in. Untangle our minds and spirits that we may move in your spacious freedom and easy into your mysterious peace. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

“We are each other’s harvest; we are each other’s business; we are each other’s magnitude and bond.” American poet, Gwendolyn Brooks, writes of how we belong to each other. In the spirit of belonging and bond, let us bring forth our offerings.

OFFERTORY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Radical Wisdom, amidst popular talk about self-actualization, we ask that our offerings be blessed to the work of communal-actualization, that we might celebrate the flourishing of our neighbor as we would celebrate a bountiful harvest. Bless the care we offer one another through time and intention. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

*CENTERING HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xx3nTsFJEQE>

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 5:1-11

from the Inclusive Bible

One day, Jesus was standing by Lake Gennesaret, and the crowd pressed in on him to hear the word of God. He saw two boats moored by the side of the lake; the fishers had disembarked and were washing their nets. Jesus stepped into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to pull out a short distance from the shore; then, remaining seated, he continued to teach the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Pull out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.”

Simon answered, “Rabbi, we’ve been working hard all night long and have caught nothing; but if you say so, I’ll lower the nets.”

Upon doing so, they caught such a great number of fish that their nets were at the breaking point. They signaled to their mates in the other boat to come and help them, and together they filled the two boats until they both nearly sank.

After Simon saw what happened, he was filled with awe and fell down before Jesus, saying, “Leave me, Rabbi, for I’m a sinner.” For Simon and his shipmates were astonished at the size of the catch they had made, as were James and John, Zebedee’s sons, who were Simon’s partners.

Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid, from now on you’ll fish among humankind.” And when they brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Change the Narrative

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Black Lives Matter) by Rev. Mary C. Johnson

ONE: God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We light them up to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

ONE: Black lives Matter to You, and always have.

Black lives matter.

Black male lives matter.

Black female trans lives matter.

Black female trafficked lives matter.

Black gay lives matter.

Black uneducated as well as educated lives matter.
Black poor as well as rich lives matter.
Black homeless lives matter.
Black Christians and non-Christians matter.
Black lives with disabilities matter.
Black immigrants and refugees matter.
Black children matter.
Black teens matter.
Their lives are sacred.
Their lives are valuable.
Their lives are precious.
Their lives are important.
Their lives are necessary.
Their lives are integral to Your magnificent beloved family.

ALL: So we join with them and all the others who are just as sacred, valuable, precious, important, necessary, and integral to Your plan of salvation to sing Your praises.

ONE: We join with all the angels and archangels, the great choir of saints before Your throne, from every nation, from every culture, who speak every language, worshiping endless before Your throne of grace saying:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.
Hosanna in the highest.**

ONE: You are holy, and so is your presence with us in Jesus Christ.
Jesus was not white.
Jesus did not speak English.
Jesus was not a Christian.
Jesus lived as the citizen of an occupied nation.

Jesus was part of an oppressed people.

Jesus was a refugee who found protection on the Continent of Africa.

Jesus experienced mob violence.

Jesus experienced police brutality.

Jesus was lynched.

Jesus gave up his own divine privilege, and chose to live as a slave and to a life of service. These acts defined his greatness and defines our discipleship. Giving up his own privilege, Jesus took the bread used as a call to compassion for the oppressed; gave thanks for it, broke it and shared it with the whole community, saying:

“Take and eat, this is my body given freely for you.”

Remember how this act defined his greatness and defines our discipleship.

Giving up his own divine privilege, Jesus took the cup used as a call to hope for Divine deliverance; gave thanks for it, and shared it with the whole community, saying:

“Drink from my cup, each of you, this is my life given to testify to God’s eternal covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Remember how this act defined his greatness and defines our discipleship.

Christ’s life mattered.

Christ’s abuse by religious authorities mattered.

Christ’s murder mattered.

Christ’s resurrection mattered.

And so do our lives and so we choose to follow Christ and choose to live according to this divine mystery, we now declare:

ALL: Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

ONE: Life, Meaning, Giver of Sacred Worth, cause these gifts of bread and cup to become for us the body and life of Christ, the reason our lives matter.

Life, Meaning, Giver of Sacred Worth, cause the gift of our lives to become for our neighbors, Your church, the living presence and beloved bride of Christ, a reason for their lives to matter.

Life, Meaning, Giver of Sacred Worth, touch the lives of any who feel that their lives don't matter; who feel they are not valued, who are treated with disrespect and fear that their precious lives will be thrown away.

Change us, so others might have hope.

Change us, so others might be valued.

Change us, so that no one will have to stand before their oppressors alone.

Change us, so Christ's life will matter.

Change us, so the Holy Spirit's life will matter.

Change us, so our Creator's life will matter, and that we might more fully give them honor, glory, and praise due their Holy name, today, tomorrow and always. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2MGIpBT2fAo>

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Listen to the gentle ushering of the Spirit:

Go forth all you beautiful beings, doing your best to get by,
feel the assurance of Cosmic Love in your life.

Rest, play, mourn, rattle cages of oppression.

Let your full humanity be an offering.

For God goes with us and within us. Amen.

Central United Methodist Church

23 East Adams, Detroit, Michigan 48226 ~ 313.965.5422

www.centralumchurchdetroit.org

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

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

Bobbi Thompson, Interim Music Director

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists