



## Central United Methodist Church

### *A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

April 12, 2026

## 2nd Sunday of EASTER

### 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

*This lessons and songs worship service was created by Traci Smith  
([www.tracismith.com](http://www.tracismith.com)) and adapted for use at Central UMC.*

## ACTS OF PRAISE

### INTROIT

Teresa Youngblood

### CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Easter is more than just one day. Easter is a season! For this reason, we can say again, "Christ is risen!" Say it with me:

PEOPLE: **Christ is risen!**

LEADER: He is risen, indeed! The news is so good we can say it again and again! Christ is risen!

PEOPLE: **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia, Amen!**

### \*OPENING HYMN

*Christ Is Risen*

UMH #307

**1. Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days.**

**Christ is Risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.**

**In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.**

**Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**

**2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.**

**Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.**

**Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend;**

**Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**

**3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven never more shall be the same.**

**Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.**

**Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"**

**God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!**

## 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

### RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

LEADER: What are the signs of resurrection you see in the world?

PEOPLE: **We see sunlight, rainbows, and flowers on trees!**

LEADER: What else do you see?

PEOPLE: **We see people helping, caring, and doing good deeds!**

LEADER: We are God's people! We believe in resurrection.

PEOPLE: **Thank you, God; thank you, Jesus; thank you, Holy Spirit. Amen and Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE:

LEADER: Friends, hear the good news. In Christ, you are a new creation: the old is gone, the new has come! Let us greet each other with the peace of Christ, saying, "May the peace of Christ be with you."

PEOPLE: **And also, with you!**

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Theresa Youngblood

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Butterfly Prayer*

Deaconess Anne Hillman

## ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

### LESSON ONE: WE SEE THE EMPTY TOMB

Reading: Matthew 28:1-2, 5-6 Inclusive Bible

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene came with Mary to inspect the tomb.

Suddenly, there was a severe earthquake; and an angel of God descended from heaven, rolled back the stone and sat on it.

Then the angel spoke, addressing the women, 'Don't be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus the crucified, who is no longer here. Jesus has been raised, exactly as it was foretold. Come, see the burial place.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**SONG:***This is the Day*

UMH #657

**This is the day (this is the day) that our God has made, (that our God has made.)****Let us rejoice, (let us rejoice) and be glad in it, (and be glad in it.)****This is the day that our God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.****This is the day, (this is the day) that our God has made.**

WORDS: adapt. by Les Garrett, 1967; MUSIC: Les Garrett, 1967; © 1967, 1980 Scripture in Song

**LESSON TWO: WE SEE JESUS IN THE GARDEN**

Reading: John 20:11-16 Inclusive Bible

Meanwhile, Mary stood weeping beside the tomb. Even as she wept, she stooped to peer inside and there she saw two angels in dazzling robes. One was seated at the head and the other at the foot of the place where Jesus' body had lain.

They asked her, "Why are you weeping?"

She answered them, "Because they have taken away my Rabbi, and I don't know where they have put the body."

No sooner had she said this than she turned around and caught sight of Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus. He asked her, "Why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?"

She supposed it was the gardener, so she said, "Please, if you're the one who carried Jesus away, tell me where you've laid the body and I will take it away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned to him and said, "Rabboni!" – which means "Teacher."

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM***Domine Deus* by Antonio Vivaldi

Laura Burger

Lord God, King of Heaven,

God the Father Almighty.

Lord only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

**LESSON THREE: WE SEE EVIDENCE OF NEW LIFE AND RESURRECTION IN THE WORLD**

Reading: Isaiah 55:12-13 Inclusive Bible

And you will go out joyfully,  
and be led out in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
will break into cries of joy,  
and all the trees in the countryside  
will clap their hands.

The cypress will grow in place of the thorn bush,  
the myrtle will replace the briars;  
and they will stand as a memorial to God,  
an everlasting sign never to be destroyed.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**SONG**

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

UMH #147

*(Refrain)* **All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful: Our Great God made them all.**

**1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors and made their tiny wings. *(Refrain)***

**2. The purple-headed mountains, the river running by,  
the sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky. *(Refrain)***

**3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one. *(Refrain)***

**4. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. *(Refrain)***

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848; MUSIC: 17th cent. English melody; arr. by Martin Shaw, 1915; CCLI 2815228

**LESSON FOUR: WE BRING THE GOOD NEWS INTO THE WORLD**

Reading: Matthew 28:16-20 Inclusive Bible

The Eleven made their way to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had summoned them. At the sight of the risen Christ, they fell down in homage, though some doubted what they were seeing. Jesus came forward and addressed them in these words:

All authority has been given me  
both in heaven and on earth;  
go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.  
Baptize them in the name  
of the Abba God,  
and of the Only Begotten,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
Teach them to carry out  
Everything I have commanded you.  
And know that I am with you always,  
Even until the end of the world!

**ONE:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

1. **Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died,  
as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.  
Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;  
let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!**
2. **Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save;  
Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave.  
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.  
He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.**
3. **Christ has risen to companion former friends who fear the night,  
sensing loss and limitation where their faith had once burned bright.  
They bemoan what is no longer, they expect no hopeful sign  
till Christ ends their conversation, breaking bread and sharing wine.**
4. **Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change  
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.  
Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been  
Evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.**

WORDS: John Bell; MUSIC: William Moor; Words © 1988 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland),  
admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.; CCLI 2815228

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THREE ALLELUIAS FOR THE WORLD:

LEADER: Let us pray. Creator God, we give you thanks for all that you have made. For the sun and the moon, the stars and the planets. With hearts full of wonder, we say

PEOPLE: **Alleluia, alleluia**

LEADER: For those who are hurting, or anxious, or afraid, we pray with hope, O God. We ask for your healing, your grace, and your presence. Knowing you hear all our prayers, we say

PEOPLE: **Alleluia, alleluia**

LEADER: For the season of resurrection we are now beginning, we ask for your presence, O God. May we notice the things that are growing in our lives — mercy, kindness, and love — each day. With grateful hearts, we say

PEOPLE: **Alleluia, alleluia**

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH A NEW CREED

**We are not alone; we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

Source: United Church of Canada — [united-church.ca](http://united-church.ca)

# ACTS OF SHARING

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

Theresa Youngblood



For electronic giving, please use this QR Code

**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

“God you have given us so many gifts. Use them, we pray, along with these gifts of time, talent, and treasure, that the resurrection may be known throughout the whole world. Amen.”

## BENEDICTION

### BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

**LEADER:** May we go into the world remembering the very good news we have been told: Christ is risen!

**PEOPLE:** Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, 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 Maintenance 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 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)