



# Central United Methodist Church

## *A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

August 18, 2024

### Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

### *Feasting On Grace: Expanding Your Palate*

#### 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

#### PRELUDE

Augustus Williamson & Brandon Reeves

The Prelude are times for silent prayer and meditation guided by some of our gifted musicians.

#### ACTS OF PRAISE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from *enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

ONE: When we co-create abundance,

**ALL: the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.**

ONE: When we pull back the curtain on the lie of scarcity,

**ALL: the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.**

ONE: When we make the shared table of nourishment accessible,

**ALL: the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.**

ONE: Let us Gather in the Spirit of the Living Christ.

**1. In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,  
who will lead the pilgrim peoples, wandering in their separate ways! (Refrain)**

*(Refrain)* **God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey  
now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.**

**2. Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,  
who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care? (Refrain)**

**3. As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes,  
grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams. (Refrain)**

**5. Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,  
may your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again. (Refrain)**

WORDS: Julian B. Rush; MUSIC: Julian B. Rush; © 1994 Julian B. Rush; CCLI 2815228

## ACTS OF SHARING

### 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

### PASSING THE PEACE

Augustus Williamson

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Megan Mueller, Margaret Reese

### OFFERTORY

*With Grateful Heart* arr. Mark Schweitzer

Central Choir



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. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

#### \*SCRIPTURE

*John 6:51-58*

I myself am the living bread come down from heaven.

If any eat this bread, they will live forever; the bread I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The Temple authorities then began to argue with one another. “How can he give us his flesh to eat?”

Jesus replied, “The truth of the matter is, if you don’t eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Chosen One, you won’t have life in you.

Those who do eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Everyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me, and I live in them.

Just as the living Abba God sent me and I have life because of Abba God, so those who feed on me will have life because of me.

This is the bread that came down from heaven.

It’s not the kind of bread your ancestors ate, for they died; whoever eats this kind of bread will live forever.”

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

#### MESSAGE

*Expanding Your Palate*

Rev. Paul Perez

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

*Let U Talents and Tongues Employ*

AAHH #681

**1. Let us talents and tongues employ,  
Reaching out with a shout of joy:  
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard. (Refrain)**

**(Refrain) Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**2. Christ is able to make us one.  
At the table He sets the tone,  
Teaching people to live to bless,  
Love in word and indeed express. (Refrain)**

**3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt.  
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) ev’rywhere! (Refrain)**

## BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

### **BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH** (*enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

When Jesus stood before the gathered crowd,  
he offered his presence and his energy to the path  
of mutual nourishment. The path is before us.  
We, too, have our bodies and our intentions to share.  
We, too, have each other.  
Let us go forth in the lineage of care  
of the Living Christ, fortified by our dreams  
of abundance for all beings. May it be so.

### **POSTLUDE**

*I Know De Lord's Laid His Hands on Me* arr. H.T. Burleigh  
Roderick Reese, Bass

---

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

[cumcdetroit1810@centralumchurchdetroit.org](mailto:cumcdetroit1810@centralumchurchdetroit.org)

[www.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, Choral Accompanist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

Yvette Meadow & Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

---

*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)