

## Central United Methodist Church A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

October 22, 2023

21st Sunday After Pentecost

A Peculiar People: Abolition

## 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. W&S=Worship & Song Hymnal Guide: UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal; TFWS = The Faith We Sing

PRELUDE

## INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

Augustus Williamson

## **ACTS OF PRAISE**

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

ONE: We gather in the presence of the Beloved One,

ALL: Insistent that we are a community of equals.

ONE: To all that stands in the way of right-relationship,

ALL: The spirit of Christ says "no more!"

ONE: God leads us in a better way:

ALL: No spirits of domination will last.

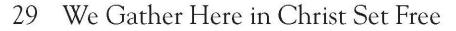
ONE: No barriers to welcome will stand.

ALL: God has already claimed us:

ONE: We are children of the Divine.

ALL: Each of us, no more, no less.

ONE: Praise God, who frees us to love one another.





WE GATHER HERE C.M.Ref.

CCLI 2815228

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## **ACTS OF SHARING**

## **GREETINGS AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** 

Deaconess Anne Hillman

ANTHEM

Steal Away African American Spiritual

### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY**

Augustus Williamson



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

\*CENTERING HYMN O Freedom

- 1. O freedom! O freedom! O freedom over me. (*Refrain*)
- (*Refrain*) And before I'll be a slave, I'd be buried in my grave, and go home to my God and be free.
- 3. No more weeping, no more weeping, no more weeping over me. *(Refrain)*

TFWS #2194

# 6. There'll be praying, there'll be praying, there'll be praying over me. *(Refrain)*

WORDS: African American spiritual; MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. by John Bell; Arr. © 1996 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland), admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.; CCLI 2815228

## **ACTS OF PROCLAMATION**

### **\*SCRIPTURE** (Please Stand)

Before faith came, we were under the constraint of the Law, locked in until the faith that was coming would be revealed. In other words, the Law was our monitor until Christ came to bring about our justification through faith. But now that faith is here, we are no longer in the monitor's charge.

Each one of you is a child of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. In Christ there is no Jew or Greek, slave or citizen, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus. ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

**MESSAGE** 

A Peculiar People: Abolition

### \*CLOSING HYMN

- 1. Oh, I woke up dis morn-in' wid mah min', An'it was stayed, Stayed on freedom. Woke u dis morn-in' wid mah min', An' it was stayed, Stayed on freedom. woke up dis morn-in' wid mah min' An' it was staved, Stayed on freedom. Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah. Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.
- 2. Oh, I woke up dis morn-in' wid mah min', An'it was stayed, Stayed on Jesus. Woke u dis morn-in' wid mah min', An' it was stayed, Stayed on Jesus. woke up dis morn-in' wid mah min' An' it was stayed, Stayed on Jesus. Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah. Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.
- Woke Up Dis Mornin 3. Makes you love everybody with you min', when you keep it stayed, Stayed on Jesus. Makes you love everybody with you min', when you keep it stayed, Stayed on Jesus. Makes you love everybody with you min', when you keep it stayed, Stayed on Jesus Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah. Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah.

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## **BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH**

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

Let us go from here assured of the power of Christ in us: The power to rid ourselves of all that destroys. The power to celebrate the gifts of difference among us. The power to cease discrimination in our communities. God does not leave us to this work alone, but goes beside us, within us, and before us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

### Galatians 3: 23-28

Rev. Paul Perez

Songs of Zion #146

## **CHORAL BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** 

Bobbi Thompson



## 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.

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

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Rev. Paul Perez, Lead Minister

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph.D. Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries Margaret Reese, Music Director Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist Brandon Reeves, Choral Accompanist Debra Cox, Office Administrator Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager Yvette Meadow, Receptionist Angela Bakeley, Receptionist

*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)