



# Central United Methodist Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

June 11, 2023

Second Sunday After Pentecost

Pride Sunday

## 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; WS=Worship & Song

**PRELUDE**

Bobbi Thompson

**INTROIT**

Bobbi Thompson

## ACTS OF PRAISE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Gathered together, we proclaim the Good News of God publicly, intentionally, and explicitly:

**ALL: This community joyfully affirms God's love for LGBTQIA+ people.**

ONE: The presence of God welcomes the fullness of who we are.

**ALL: We are people who desire. Who long. Who practice love in many ways.**

ONE: We celebrate love that is platonic and love that is erotic.

**ALL: Love that is queer and love that is collective.**

ONE: We are people who want to know and be known – for who we've been, who we are, and who we are becoming.

**ALL: We honor identities in transition. We delight in authentic self-expression. Whether trans or intersex or cis, God moves in our becoming.**

ONE: How wonderful are the many works of God's creative hand!

**ALL: May all who long for Love's embrace feel their Holy worth.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Welcome*

Worship and Song #3152

1. Let's walk together for a while and ask where we begin to build a world where love can grow and hope can enter in, to be the hands of healing and to plant the seed of peace, singing welcome.

*(Refrain)*

2. Let's talk together of a time when we will share a feast, where pride and power kneel to serve the lonely and the least, and joy will set the table as we join our hands to pray, singing welcome, *(Refrain)*

*(Refrain)* Welcome to this place. You're invited to come and know God's grace. All are welcome the love of God to share 'cause all of us are welcome here. All are welcome in this place.

3. Let's dream together of the day when earth and heaven are one, a city built of love and light, the new Jerusalem, where our mourning turns to dancing, every creature lifts its voice, crying welcome, *(Refrain)*

Words: Laurie Zelman and Mark A. Miller; Music: Mark A. Miller; ©2007 Abingdon Press, admin. by The Copyright Company; CCLI 2815228

**ACTS OF SHARING**

**GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**REPORT OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Alex Oatley  
Mollika Biernat

**ANTHEM**

*Rainbow Connection*

Rev. Jill Hardt Zundel,  
Alex Oatley, & Scott Sutorka

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Deaconess Anne Hillman

**ANTHEM**

*Old Irish Blessing* Traditional, Arr. by Denes Agay

Scott Sutorka, Guitar,  
Jim West, Bass

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Since its beginning the church was meant to be a place of chosen family – a community of outcasts and outlaws, dreamers, prophets and humble disciples of Love. In the company of Divine Presence, we create belonging and nurture justice. With gratitude for the Sacred Labors of Love in this place, let us bring our offerings to God and one another. I invite you to the offering.

## OFFERTORY

*I Believe* Anonymous Jewish poem. by Mark A. Miller  
Solo, 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.**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of Justice, even as we celebrate your love for the LGBTQIA community today, we remember the church has not always done so. We acknowledge the harm that continues to be done in your name today. As we bring our offerings, we bring also a renewed commitment to interrupting prejudice and practicing solidarity. We press on together until people of every sexual orientation and gender identity can live freely and without fear, receiving the love and support all people deserve. Thanks be to you, our guide and our help in making it so. Amen.**

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

## \*CENTERING HYMN

*Guide My Feet*

TFWS #2208

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1. Guide my feet while I run this race.<br/>Guide my feet while I run this race.<br/>Guide my feet while I run this race, for<br/>I don't want to run this race in vain!</b></p> <p><b>2. Hold my hand while I run this race.<br/>Hold my hand while I run this race.<br/>Hold my hand while I run this race,<br/>for I don't want to run this race in<br/>vain!</b></p> <p><b>3. Stand by me while I run this race.<br/>Stand by me while I run this race.<br/>Stand by me while I run this race, for I<br/>don't want to run this race in vain!</b></p> | <p><b>4. I'm your child while I run this race.<br/>I'm your child while I run this race.<br/>I'm your child while I run this race,<br/>for I don't want to run this race in<br/>vain!</b></p> <p><b>5. Search my heart while I run this race.<br/>Search my heart while I run this race.<br/>Search my heart while I run this race,<br/>for I don't want to run this race in<br/>vain!</b></p> <p><b>6. Guide my feet while I run this race.<br/>Guide my feet while I run this race.<br/>Guide my feet while I run this race, for<br/>I don't want to run this race in vain!</b></p> |
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## ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

### \*GOSPEL READING

*John 17:1-26* The Inclusive Bible

Rebecca Martin

After Jesus said this, he looked up to heaven and said, “Abba, the hour has come! Glorify your Only Begotten that I may glorify you, Through the authority you’ve given me over all humankind, by bestowing eternal life on all those you gave me. And this is eternal life: to know you, the only true God, and the one you have sent, Jesus, the Messiah.

I have given you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. Now, Abba, glorify me with your own glory, the glory I had with you before the world began. I have manifested your Name to those you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me; and now they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you’ve entrusted to me does indeed come from you. I entrusted to them the message you entrusted to me, and they received it. They know that I really came from you; they believe it was you who sent me.

And it’s for them that I pray—not for the world, but for these you’ve given me—for they are really yours just as all that belongs to me is yours, and all that belongs to you is mine. It is in them that I have been glorified.

I am in the world no more, but while I am coming to you, they are still in the world. Abba, holy God, protect those who you have given me with your Name—the Name that you gave me—that they may be one, even as we are one.

As long as I was with them, I guarded them with your Name which you gave me. I kept careful watch, and not one of them was lost, except for the one who was destined to be lost in fulfillment of scripture. Now I am coming to you; I say all this while I am still in the world that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

I gave them your word, and the world has hated them for it because they don’t belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. I don’t ask you to take them out of the world, but guard them from the Evil One. They are not of the world, any more than I am of the world.

Consecrate them—make them holy through the truth—for your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world; I consecrate myself now for their sakes that they may be holy in truth—for your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world; I consecrate myself now for their sakes, that they may be made holy in truth. I don’t pray for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all may be one, as you, Abba, are in me and I in you; I pray that they may be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory you gave me that they may be one, as we are one—I in them, you in me—that they may be made perfect in unity. Then the world will know that you sent me, and that you loved them as you loved me. Abba, I ask that those you gave me may be here with me, so they can see this glory of mine which is your gift to me, because of the love you had for me before the foundation of the world. Righteous One, the world hasn’t known you, but I have; and these people know that you sent me.

To them I have revealed your Name, and I will continue to reveal it so that the love you have for me may live in them, just as I may live in them.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**ORDER OF FAREWELL**

**ONE:** I thank you, the members of Central United Methodist Church for the love and support you have shown me while I have ministered among you. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

**ALL:** **We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness and accept that you now leave to retire. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask for your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us with your departure.**

**ONE:** I accept your gratitude and forgiveness, and I forgive you, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God. I release you from turning to me and depending on me. I encourage your continued ministry here and will pray for you and for your lead minister, the Rev. Paul Perez. Let us pray:

**ALL:** **Eternal God, whose steadfast love for us is from everlasting to everlasting, we give you thanks for cherished memories and commend one another into your care as we move in new directions. Keep us one in your love forever, through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN***This is a Day of New Beginnings*

UMH #383

**1. This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.**

**3. Then let us, with the Spirit's daring step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths, and sure to find.**

**2. For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then, can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.**

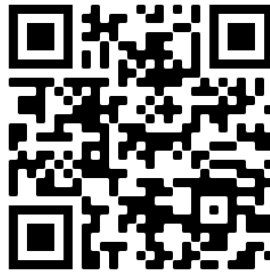
**4. Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings, our God is making all things new**

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1978, alt, 1987; MUSIC: Carlton R. Young, 1984; Words © 1983, 1987 Hope Publishing Co.; music © 1987 Hope Publishing Co.; CCLI 2815228

**BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH****\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Beloveds, let us go with hearts full of courage,  
that we might practice love that disrupts bigotry.  
Let us go with minds open to experiencing God  
in ways strange and unexpected, in ways ordinary and everyday.  
And let us go with joy,  
For the Creator of all life goes with us.  
Amen.



**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  
[www.centralumchurchdetroit.org](http://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  
Margaret Reese, Music Director  
Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Brandon Reeves, Choral Accompanist  
Debra Cox, Office Administrator  
Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent & Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager  
Yvette Meadows & Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

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*This service is live-streamed under CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425.*

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#### **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)

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Jill Hardt Zundel was ordained as an elder in Christ’s holy Church, June 7, 1995 in the former Detroit conference. Through the grace of God, she was appointed Pastor at Detroit: Zion United Methodist Church, Hazel Park: First United Methodist Church, Associate Pastor at Clarkston United Methodist Church, Pastor of Grace United Methodist Church and Detroit: Central United Methodist Church.