

Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867



January 22, 2023

Third Sunday After Epiphany

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: Leave behind what shrivels your spirit

ALL: And follow the lush lure of the Life-Giving.

ONE: Leave behind the coldness of should

ALL: And follow the warmth of Inner Wisdom.

ONE: Leave behind the hollowness of image

ALL: And follow the rich depth of Beauty.

ONE: Leave behind toxic positivity.

ALL: And follow mourning, soulful and honest.

ONE: Leave behind holding it all together

ALL: And follow that which breaks your heart open into a field of wildflowers.

ONE: Dear people, follow the Thread of Love!

ALL: For She guides us in the Ways of Life.

***OPENING HYMN**

The Summons

TFWS #2130

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. God, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

WORDS: John Bell; MUSIC: Traditional Scottish; words © 1987 WGRG
The Iona Community (Scotland), admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.; CCLI
2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S TIME

Deaconess Anne Hillman

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Loving Creator,

we ask for wholeness for ourselves and for your church.

Do not allow fear, ignorance or pride to limit the action of your Spirit,
nor allow mere custom to prevent the divine creativity within us from bearing fruit.

We ask for the insight to understand the needs of people today, that we might grasp the complexity of the situations that face us and the absolute simplicity of human need:

the poor have a right to hear the gospel,

the hungry a right for food,

the oppressed a right to freedom.

Enable all of us to be women and men enthusiastic for your ministry, contagious in our love and eager to be among your people as ones who serve. This we ask through Jesus Christ, who came as brother and servant to us all. Amen.

ANTHEM

I'm Goin' Up a Yonder by Walter Hawkins

Jesse Ward, Bass

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We gather our offerings – money, resources, skills, time and gifts – that together, all may have enough. We gather our offerings, in the shadow of wealth-hoarding nations, to co-create an alternate reality of shared abundance. Let us bring forth our gifts in resistance and praise!

OFFERTORY

Order My Steps by Glenn Burleigh

*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

May we follow the path of those who teach us about thriving, healing generational trauma with gentleness and fortitude, co-creating a world where none are overlooked and safety is our solid ground. Bless our offerings to our collective dreams. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

*CENTERING HYMN

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

UMH #344

1. Lord, you have come to the lakeshore looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones, you only asked me to follow humbly. (Refrain)

3. You need my hands, full of caring, through my labors to give others rest, and constant love that keeps on loving. (Refrain)

(Refrain) **O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling have spoken my name; now my boat's left on the shore-line behind me; by your side I will seek other seas.**

4. You, who have fished other oceans, ever longed for by souls who are waiting, my loving friend, as thus you call me. (Refrain)

2. You know so well my possessions, my boat carries no gold and no weapons; you will find there my nets and labor. (Refrain)

WORDS: Cesareo Gabarain; trans. by Gertrude C. Suppe, George Lockwood, and Raquel Gutierrez-Achon, 1987; MUSIC: Cesareo Gabarain; harm. by Skinner Chavez-Melo, 1987; © 1979 Ediciones Paulinas; trans. 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House; harm. © 1987 Skinner Chavez-Melo; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 4:18-23

The Inclusive Bible

As Jesus was walking along the Sea of Galilee, he watched two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and Andrew – casting a net into the sea. They fished by trade. Jesus said to them, “Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of humankind.” They immediately abandoned their nets and began to follow Jesus.

Jesus walked along further and caught sight of a second pair of brothers – James and John, ben-Zebedee. They two were in their boat, mending their nets with their father. Jesus called them and immediately they abandoned both boat and father to follow him.

Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom of heaven and healing all kinds of diseases and sicknesses among the people.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Let Go of the Boat!

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

*CLOSING HYMN

Would I Have answered When You Called

TFWS #2137

- 1. Would I have answered when you called, “Come, follow, follow me!”? Would I at once have left behind both work and family? Or would the old, familiar round have held me by its claim and kept the spark within my heart from bursting into flame?**
- 2. Would I have followed where you led through ancient Galilee, on roads unknown by ways untried, beyond security? Or would I soon have hurried back where home and comfort drew, where truth you taught would not disturb the ordered world I knew?**
- 3. Would I have matched my step with yours when crowds cried, “Crucify!” When on a rocky hill I saw a cross against the sky? Or would I too have slipped away and left you there alone, a dying king with crown of thorns upon a terrible throne?**
- 4. O Christ, I cannot search my heart through all its tangled ways, nor can I with a certain mind my steadfastness appraise. I only pray that when you call, “Come, follow, follow me!” You’ll give me strength beyond my own to follow faithfully.**

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Jesus, the light of the world, calls us to follow.
Go and tell the news of God's love.
Cast the nets of grace wide,
that all may see the glory of God.
Go forth and shine with God's light!
May God—Source, Word, and Spirit—
bless you with the radiance of love. 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

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus
Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph.D. Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries
Maggie Reese, Interim Music Director
Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Soloist
Debra Cox, Office Administrator
Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent
Dave Wilson, Building Maintenance
Yvette Meadows and 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)