



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

July 4, 2021

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost / Freedom 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

PRELUDE

Daniel Dillingham

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Freedom is coming!

ALL: We can hear it in the voices of the oppressed.

ONE: Hope is coming!

ALL: We can see it in the eyes of all those who despair.

ONE: God is here!

ALL: We count on God's presence with us, to guide, heal and uplift our spirits. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Amazing Grace

UMH #378

(Written by John Newton, a former slave trader)

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me! I once was
lost, but now am found; was blind but
now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved; how
precious did that grace appear, the hour I
first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come; tis grace hate
brought me safe thus far, and grace will
lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me, his
word my hope secures; he will my shield
and portion be, as long as life endures.
5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease, I shall
possess, within the veil, a life of joy and
peace.
6. When we've been there ten thousand
years, bright shining as the sun, we've no
less days to sing God's praise than when
we'd first begun.

WORDS: John Newton, 1779; at. 6 anon.; phonetic transcription Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, Choctaw as sund Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference; Navajo phonetic transcription by Albert Tsosi; MUSIC: 19th cent. USA melody; harm. By Edwin O. Excell, 1900; CCLI2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Deaconess Anne Hillman

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

ONE: God of all, we claim your justice, mercy, compassion, comfort and freedom for the millions affected by human trafficking in our world today. For the men, women and children, enslaved by fear, torture, dependency, entrapment and bonded labor, we ask for you to intervene with righteousness and grace.

ALL: God of all that is good, give freedom to the captives and restore justice to your world.

ONE: God, for the victims who are lured, trapped and exploited, we pray for comfort for their pain, healing for their hurts, courage to speak out against their oppressors and for restorative hope for those who have been rescued and those yet to be rescued.

ALL: Holy Spirit, we ask you to heal and restore the victims with your transforming power.

ONE: God of Justice, we pray for those that enslave: the trafficker, the slave master and unjust 'employer'. We ask you to stir them with your voice of justice and conscience of goodness. Speak to them in dreams, thoughts and words and with lawful intervention. Help them to understand their actions and understand your grace.

ALL: Jesus the Redeemer, we pray for the hearts and minds of the oppressors: traffickers and consumers.

ONE: God of hope, we claim your light for the darkest of situations. Guide and equip those that care and intervene for victims. Give wisdom and insight to those that pursue, prosecute and preside over cases of trafficking and the traffickers.

ALL: Living hope, we claim you for all that we need to be and do, to stop human trafficking. Help us to be fervent in prayer and in action.

ONE: God of all, we want to see your kingdom come and your will be done. We know that trafficking is against your very nature and we pray for a real end to this horrific slavery.

ALL: God of all that is good, help us to be people of prayer, of action and a people who speak your truth and justice into the world around us. Help us to use our time, our resources and our energy to overcome, by your power, the evil that is human trafficking and to claim the victory that is already ours. We passionately say, Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Brandon Spencer

***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

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

For the Healing of the Nations

UMH #428

1. For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords; to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word, help us rise and pledge our word.
2. Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. How us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase, fear will die and hope increase.
3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned; pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span, may we hallow life's brief span.
4. You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our response and service earth its destiny may find, earth its destiny may find.

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 58:6 - 11

The Common English Bible

Isn't this the fast I choose: releasing wicket restraints, untying the ropes of a yoke, setting free the mistreated, and breaking every yoke?

Isn't it sharing your bread with the hungry and bringing the homeless poor into your house, covering the naked when you see them, and not hiding from your own family?

Then your light will break out like the dawn, and you will be healed quickly. Your own righteousness will walk before you and God's glory will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and God will answer; you will cry for help and God will say, "I'm here."

If you remove the yoke from among you, the finger-pointing, the wicked speech; if you open your heart to the hungry, and provide abundantly for those who are afflicted, your light will shine in the darkness, and your gloom will be like the noon. God will guide you continually and provide for you, even in parched places. God will rescue your bones. You will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water that won't run dry.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Until All Are Free

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

VIDEO

None of Us are Free

Sam Moore and Sting

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgvloW_RL1A

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Central United Methodist Church

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Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph. D, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Daniel Dillingham, Minister of Music

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Soloist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists