



REV. PAUL PEREZ
LEAD MINISTER

**DEACONESS ANNE
HILLMAN, PH.D.**
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH,
& FAMILY MINISTRIES

MARGARET REESE
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

BRANDON REEVES
COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

REV. EDWIN ROWE
PASTOR EMERITUS

DEBRA COX
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

ANGELA BAKELEY
RECEPTIONIST

DAVE WILSON
BUILDING MAINTENANCE MANAGER

**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH**

23 EAST ADAMS, DETROIT, MI 48226

313.965.5422

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810 - Incorporated 1922 - Sanctuary Completed 1867

October 11, 2026

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost & Hispanic Heritage Month

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.

www.CentralUMChurchDetroit.org

CUMCdetroit1810@gmail.com

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.

WELCOME TO CENTRAL

Central United Methodist Church is proud to be in the heart of Detroit and excited to welcome you to worship this morning. Whether this is your first time worshiping with us or you've been coming here for years, welcome!

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children are celebrated here at Central, and we have diverse options for them to experience worship and learn about God.

The **Grace Space** (located in the SW corner of the sanctuary) is always available for our littlest ones to play and wiggle during worship.

Worship Boxes are available (along the south wall of the sanctuary) for our elementary-aged children and youth. Inside, are materials to help understand and participate in worship. Children and youth may choose to sit as a group in their special pews or take a worship box back to sit with their adults.

On **First Sundays** our worship service is focused on being intergenerational and all children and youth stay in the sanctuary for the whole service.

Near the beginning of the worship service there is a **Children's Message** offered at the front of the sanctuary and all children are invited to come forward as they are comfortable and sit at the base of the steps.

After the Children's Message, on 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sunday's children in Kindergarten-5th grades are dismissed for **Sunday School** on the 3rd floor. Youth are dismissed for Sunday School on 2nd and 4th Sundays, also on the 3rd floor. Children in K-5th grade should be picked up from their classroom by their adults after the worship service.

The **Nursery** is always open for use by families on the 1st floor across the lobby from the sanctuary, but it is only staffed on 1st Sundays.

ACTS OF PRAISE

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Francisco Tinoco, Guitar

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

ONE: In likeness with the Creator and Lover of Life,
who yearns for the flourishing of all, we are unsettled.

ALL: Upset.

ONE: Grief stricken.

ALL: Incensed.

ONE: The preciousness of life is treated with contempt.

ALL: Daily, we weep over evil's reign.

ONE: For every sibling, kin and stranger, neglected or exploited,

ALL: God let your righteous fury move us to respond.

*OPENING HYMN

How Long Will People Suffer?

Lament

30

How Long Will People Suffer?

Proverbs 1:20-24, 3:13-18; Matthew 23:37

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It features a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

1. How long will peo - ple suf - fer from vio - lence and a - buse?
2. How long must Wis - dom cry out be - fore in - jus - tice ends?
3. Still Wis - dom comes to help us in o - ver - com - ing strife;

How long will Wis - dom's heal - ing ways be sti - fled and re - fused?
How of - ten through the proph - ets has She tried our world to mend?
She longs for all to fol - low Her on paths of truth and life.

How long will Wis - dom cry out with Her words of love and peace?
O why do peo - ple still re - ject Her lib - er - at - ing ways?
As part - ners let us join with Her in mak - ing peace on earth,

How long must Wis - dom raise Her voice be - fore our wars will cease?
O when will ev - ery - one u - nite to work for peace - ful days?
re - stor - ing hope and tak - ing part in new cre - a - tion's birth.

Words: Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Music: Frederick C. Maker

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ST. CHRISTOPHER

Irregular

*Indicates when to stand in body or in spirit

**Please silence cell phones

Hymnal Guide: W&S=Worship & Song, UMH=United Methodist Hymnal,
TWFS=The Faith We Sing

ANNNOUCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

GREETINGS AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS



Please help us know you were here in worship today by scanning the QR code with your phone. There is also a place for notes and prayer Requests for the pastor.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

ACTS OF SHARING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Francisco Tinoco, Guitar



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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM

Joy in the Morning by Natalie Sleeth

***SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 22: 1-14

Then Jesus spoke to them again in parables. He said, "The kin-dom of heaven is like this: there was a ruler who prepared a feast for the wedding of the family's heir; but when the ruler sent out workers to summon the invited guests, they wouldn't come. The ruler sent other workers, telling them to say to the guests, 'I have prepared this feast for you. My oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding.' But they took no notice; one went off to his farm, another to her business, and the rest seized the workers, attacked them brutally and killed them. The ruler was furious and dispatched troops who destroyed those murderers and burned their town.

"Then the ruler said to the workers, 'The wedding feast is ready, but the guests I invited don't deserve the honor. Go out to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find.' The workers went out into the streets and collected everyone they met, good and bad alike, until the hall was filled with guests.

"The ruler, however, came in to see the company at table, and noticed one guest who was not dressed for a wedding. 'My friend,' said the ruler, 'why are you here without a wedding garment?' But the guest was silent. Then the ruler said to the attendants, 'Bind this guest hand and foot, and throw the individual out into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

"Many are called, but few are chosen."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

A Table for Troublemakers

Rev. Paul Perez

***CLOSING HYMN**

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

1. I'm gonna eat at the welcome table.

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table some of these days, Hallelujah!

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table.

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table some of these days.

2. God's gonna set this world on fire.

God's gonna set this world on fire some of these days, Hallelujah!

God's gonna set this world on fire.

God's gonna set this world on fire some of these days.

3. I'm gonna walk and talk with Jesus

I'm gonna walk and talk with Jesus some of these days, Hallelujah!

I'm gonna walk and talk with Jesus.

I'm gonna walk and talk with Jesus some of these days.

4. I'm gonna drink at the crystal fountain.

I'm gonna drink at the crystal fountain some of these days, Hallelujah!

I'm gonna drink at the crystal fountain.

I'm gonna drink at the crystal fountain some of these days.

African American Spiritual, CCLI 2815228

History of the Hymn: This song was first published by the Hampton Institute in 1874 and was likely composed by an enslaved person. Like today's reading from Matthew 22, "The Welcome Table" looks forward with joyful anticipation to a feast of plenty where all are invited, welcomed, and fed. When sung during communion, it connects the table at which we gather to that hopeful vision of which the Lord's Supper is a foretaste. (Adapted from the Hymn Society's "Word and Song" blog)

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION (from *enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

Courageous ones,

God sends us with the audacity of Christ.

Before thrones of injustice and in the quiet of our own hearts,
the Spirit enables us to be brave:

For our own integrity.

For our neighbors' well-being.

For the sake of collective flourishing.

With peace that passes all understanding, let us go and live our faith.

POSTLUDE

Francisco Tinoco, Guitar

THIS SERVICE IS LIVE STREAMED UNDER CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425

Your Greeters today are: Thomas Hart

Your Ushers today are: Thomas Hart & Dorothy Rothgery

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INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

Central UMC is committed to using inclusive language for God and humanity. You will find that some words have been changed in hymns or familiar prayers in order to be more inclusive.

LIVESTREAM INFORMATION

This worship service is livestreamed on Facebook and posted to Youtube each week. Those leading worship up on the chancel and those sitting in the center pews and the first 3 pews of the South section will be recorded by the cameras. If you would rather not have your image shown on the livestream, please sit in the side pews and allow others to come to you for passing of the peace. The children's Grace Space will always be out of view from the cameras.

To submit a request to take down a video containing your image please use this form:



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CENTRAL EVENTS CALENDAR

TODAY:

Sunday, October 11th,
Going Deeper Sermon
Discussion following
Worship Service.

Thursday, October 15th,
Trivia Night, 4th Floor,
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 18th,
Detroit Marathon

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Sunday School!

The K-5th grade Sunday School class meets on 2-5th Sundays and the Youth class will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Both classes take place during worship, after the Children's Message. Classrooms are on the 3rd floor, and parents should pick up their K-5th grade students after worship.

NURTURING & CIRCLE OF CARE

These persons are in assisted living, confined to their homes or institution, are ill, or in need of special prayers.

Ruth Biersdorf
Sue Wabeke

Faith Carpenter
Nadine Feinberg

Dia Pearce
Charles & Josefina Ford

Naomi Mason



October Birthdays

4th Ruth Biersdorf	10th Zahatia Sorho	19th Rev Paul Perez
5th Karai Jackson	10th William Francis	23rd Annabella Adams
6th Abraham Ellison	11th Charles Ford	23rd Elin Chambers
7th Sylvia Oatley	12th Arthur Park	25th June Railkar
8th Dylan Adams	16th John McDougall	

OCT 18 WORSHIP LOCATION CHANGE

DUE TO THE DETROIT FREE PRESS MARATHON, WORSHIP WILL BE AT THE DETROIT PEOPLE'S FOOD CO-OP @ 10:30AM

8324 WOODWARD AVE, DETROIT, MI 48202

- 2ND FLOOR BANQUET HALL
- ENTRANCE OFF OF PARKING LOT
- ELEVATOR AVAILABLE

SIGN UP FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS AROUND SANCTUARY RENNOVATIONS:



Oct 25 - after worship in sanctuary

Oct 29 - 1pm in sanctuary

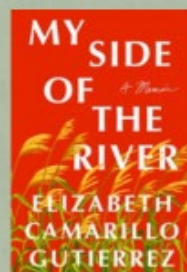
Nov 1 - after worship in sanctuary

Nov 2 - 6:30pm on Zoom

UWF Reading Group

Currently Reading: *My Side of the River* by Elizabeth Camarillo Gutierrez

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 12
6-7:30pm



Faith Book Club

Currently Reading: *A Fortune of Sand* by Ruta Sepetys

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 28
Noon-2pm



All Saints Potluck

Many cherished family memories center around meals and favorite dishes served with love. For All Saints Day on Sunday, November 1st, you are invited to bring a dish in honor of a loved one who has passed away. Whether it's a recipe handed down through the generations or the store bought cookies your aunt always brought to family birthday parties, we want to share in your memories.

DIRECTIONS:

- Choose a family member or members to remember and honor
- Think of a dish they made or loved to eat or always bought for family gatherings
- Cook, bake, or buy that special dish
- Bring the dish to church on Sunday, November 1st for our potluck following worship.
 - By 10am we'll have the oven ready for warming, the fridge cleared for keeping things cool, and outlets prepared for crockpots
- Share your memories around the table after worship