

Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867



May 5, 2019

Native American 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

Spirits Rising

(The Prelude is a time for silent prayer and meditation. Please be respectful of this sacred time and space.)

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessing to the Four Directions

VOICE 1: (Face East) Great Spirit of Light, come to me out of the East with the power of the rising sun. Let there be light in my words, let there be light on my path that I walk. Let me remember always that you give the gift of a new day.

ALL: And never let me be burdened with sorrow by not starting over again.

VOICE 2: (Face North) Great Spirit of Love, come to me with the power of the North. Make me courageous when the cold wind falls upon me. Give me strength and endurance for everything that is harsh, everything that hurts, everything that makes me squint.

ALL: Let me move through life ready to take what comes from the north.

VOICE 3: (Face West) Great Life-Giving Spirit, I face the West, the direction of sundown. Let me remember everyday that the moment will come when my sun will go down. Never let me forget that I must fade into you.

ALL: Give me a beautiful color, give me a great sky for setting, so that when it is my time to meet you, I can come with glory.

VOICE 4: (Face South) Great Spirit of Creation, send me the warm and soothing winds from the South. Comfort me and caress me when I am tired and cold. Unfold me like the gentle breezes that unfold the leaves on the trees. As you give to all the earth your warm, moving wind, give to me, so that I may grow close to you in warmth.

ALL: Humans did not create the web of life; we are but a strand in it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

**1. Many and great, O God, are your
works, Maker of earth and sky. Your
hands have set the heavens with stars;
your fingers spread the mountains and
plains. You merely spoke and waters
were formed; deep seas obey your voice.**

**2. Grant us communion with you, our
God, though you transcend the stars.
Come close to us and stay by our side:
with you are found the true gifts that
last. Bless us with life that never shall
end, eternal life with you.**

WORDS: Joseph R. Renville, ca. 1846; para. By Philip Frazier, 1929 (Ps. 104:24-30; Jer. 10:12,13). MUSIC: Native American melody; harm. by Richard Proulx, 1986 CCLI2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Jo-Ann Snyder

POEM

See the Woman by John Trudell

She has a young face
An old face
She carries herself well
In all ages
She survives all man has done

In some tribes she is free
In some religions
She is under man
In some societies
She's worth what she consumes

In some nations
She is delicate strength
In some states
She is told she is weak
In some classes
She is property owned

In all instances
She is sister to earth
In all conditions
She is life bringer
In all life she is our necessity

See the woman eyes
Flowers swaying
On scattered hills
Sundancing calling in the bees

See the woman heart
Lavender butterflies
Fronting blue sky
Misty rain falling
On soft wild roses

See the woman beauty
Lightning streaking
Dark summer nights
Forests of pines mating
With new winter snow

See the woman spirit
Daily serving courage
With laughter
Her breath a dream
And a prayer

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Spirits Rising

***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**

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

MESSAGE

Spirits Rising

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Written by the Native American Writing Group of the Open Source Liturgy Project (Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church)

WELCOME TO THE FEAST

ONE: Welcome family! Welcome relations! Welcome all! The house of the Creator is our gathering place today. The feast has been prepared for us all. This may be your first time to share the feast of Holy Communion. Welcome to the table that binds us all together! God, who walked with our ancestors, who walks among us now, and who will walk with our children's children for generations to come, we give you thanks for your presence. In the air that we breathe, in the sound of rustling leaves and in the waving grass, we give you thanks for your presence. In the sound of children's laughter, and in the songs of our elders, we give you thanks for your presence.

PREPARING FOR THE FEAST

ONE: Let's help each other stand and take off the robe of mourning. Lift up your broken hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to God.

ONE: Let us honor God.

ALL: It is right to honor God.

ONE: It is right to honor God and to give our thanks.

ALL: We give our thanks to God.

ONE: We send to you, Creator God, our dreams, visions, and prayers. For our living: let your Spirit move us to honor and respect one another – from the least to the greatest. May we treat everyone we encounter with dignity and love. May we affirm the image of the Creator within each one of us. May we help restore the image of the Creator on earth. May our words, thoughts, and actions nourish and sustain your creation. For the Church, may she lead and dance with honor. Let all who follow her steps and rhythm know and feel righteousness and strength. May her regalia exemplify purity and perfection. For the world: may the nations of the earth gather to listen to the heartbeat of God. May they sit in silence as the Great Peacemaker teaches and shows them how to walk upright. May the war clubs and instruments of destruction be transformed into life giving means of grace. For the hearts of the people, created with your sacred fire burning within us, we confess that we struggle to live out of our great potential. When we do harm to your Creation, your creatures and fellow human beings,

ALL: forgive us.

ONE: When we fail to do all the good we can, in all the places we can,

ALL: forgive us.

ONE: When we turn away from your love and grace,

ALL: forgive us.

ONE: Hear now the good news,

ALL: You are forgiven. I am forgiven. We are forgiven.

ONE: Peace be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

PASSING THE PEACE

SEATED FOR THE FEAST

ONE: Be glorified, Everlasting Light who ends our mourning. Be glorified, Planter of righteousness whose hands have formed us with strength. All honor to the Beloved One who brings good news to the poor, who brings freedom to the oppressed and sight to the blind. All honor! All praise to the Holy Spirit who helps us in our weakness. All praise to the Sacred Spirit who teaches us how to pray and intercedes on our behalf. Jesus Christ, Creator's Son, our sibling and friend,

ALL: with honor and respect, we remember the great sacrifice of your life for us and for all creation.

ONE: With awe and humility, we remember the miracle of your resurrection from death.

ALL: With faith, hope and trust, we remember the promise you made to return and lead us home.

ONE: Creator God, Jesus, your beloved, understood the importance of community and relationship. On the night he gave himself up for us, he gathered his disciples from many tribes, and shared a meal with them in preparation for his death and resurrection. As he stood in the midst of them, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." After the meal, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is the cup of the new covenant poured out for all. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

SHARING OF THE FEAST

ONE: As the grain was given by Creator God to all peoples of the world,

ALL: Jesus Christ was also given to nourish and sustain.

ONE: As the fruit of the vine was given by Creator God to all peoples of the world,

ALL: Jesus Christ was also given to bind us to God and one another.

ONE: As the women from many tribes knead, fold, and make the bread in holy stillness, so the women tended and cared for the broken body of Jesus Christ:

ALL: A sacrifice for us.

ONE: Spirit, help us now. Come and breathe into these gifts of bread and juice. As we receive these gifts into our bodies, may our breath become the sweet breath of Christ. Rise up, Nations of God,

ALL: Give God your praise!

ONE: Rise up, Clans of Nations,

ALL: Come together and give God your praise!

ONE: Rise up, Bands of Nations,

ALL: Lift your hands and give God your praise!

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

MUSIC DURING THE FEAST

Spirits Rising

RECESSIONAL HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

UMH # 92

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the
splendor of the skies, for the love
which from our birth over and around
us lies; *(Refrain)*

(Refrain) Source of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart
and mind's delight, for the mystic
harmony linking sense to sound and
sight; *(Refrain)*

3. For the wonder of each hour, of the day
and of the night, hill and vale, and tree
and flower, sun and moon, and stars of
light. *(Refrain)*

4. For the joy of human care, sister,
brother, parent, child, for the kinship
we all share, for all gentle thoughts and
mild. *(Refrain)*

WORDS: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1864, MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838;
arr. W.H. Monk, 1861, CCLI2815228

BENEDICTION

Rebecca Wilson

POSTLUDE

Spirits Rising

SPIRITS RISING is the new dynamic musical duo of Native American singers and songwriters Allison Radell and Joe Reilly. Incorporating elements of jazz, folk, blues, hip-hop, rock, and traditional Native American music, Spirits Rising shares music from the heart that inspires and uplifts.

Allison (Powhatan) is an inspiring and creative pianist, singer, and songwriter, born and raised in Metro Detroit. She has studied classical and jazz piano and enjoys playing and experimenting with a variety of genres. She performs with a Jazz Collective, as a solo artist, and as a duo with Joe Reilly. She released her debut album in October of 2014 “Peachy Keyn”. Her album crosses genres and draws inspiration from the diverse landscape of her life. She often describes her music as “a message written in notes and rhythms, it is a commentary of my life and my community; reminiscing on the past, feeling the present, and anticipating the future.”

Joe Reilly (Cherokee) is a singer, songwriter, and educator from Ann Arbor who writes songs from his heart. Joe’s songs are playful, clever, engaging, joyful, and always have something meaningful to say. The core of his message is an invitation to heal our relationships with our selves, with each other, and with the earth. Joe uses his music to bring people together and build **community** across lines of race, class, gender, ethnicity, religion, age, and nationality. Joe is Italian, Irish, and Native American (Cherokee) and was raised in Kalamazoo, Michigan in a creative household by musical parents who encouraged him to find his own voice. Joe loves to inspire others to do the same and to water seeds of compassion, joy, wisdom, and peace in our collective consciousness through the sharing of his music.

NATIVE ART

Loaned From Jim Bull

Navajo Rug

“Friends” (Canada Geese) by Benjamin Chee Chee (Born Kenneth Thomas Benjamin). A Canadian artist of Ojibwa decent (1944-1977). His early life was troubled, and he lost track of his mother, who he spent many years searching for. He gained fame as he developed his unique style of clear graceful lines with minimal color of birds and animals giving sense to emotion and movement. After finally finding his mother and achieving success as an artist, he committed suicide in an Ottawa jail.

From Daniel Dillingham

Two Navajo **sculptures** from the collection of my mother, the late Gloria Dillingham.

From Arthur and Mary Park

Teofilo Lucero: Drums

Teofilo Lucero, who in the early 1970's brought the Big Drum back to the Great Lakes area, made the Native drums. The hollowed stump drum is made in the Taos tradition since master Lucero was originally from Taos. The hand drum was made by Lucero but decorated by the drum painter **Carl Winters** also from Taos. It is an Eagle Messenger Drum. As messenger to and from the Creator, the sacred Eagle possesses courage, truth and strength. Symbols of lightning, stars and feathers adorn this design, with silhouetted eagles soaring into the universe.

From Jo-Ann Snyder

Breadbasket (with bow) made from Florida slash pine needles with black walnut dye. It was a gift from my sister in 1987.

Drum made from a hollowed-out log, with tanned buckskin stretched across the opening by sinew thongs. There is a painted buffalo on top, a symbol of sacred life and abundance. Jim Persons, a former Central member, bought this drum at the Ann Arbor Art Festival and gave it to me before he died to honor my native heritage.

From Mary Vorves

Two original paintings: *“Remembering the Past” 16x20* Walking. I am listening to a deeper way. Suddenly all my ancestors are behind me. Be still, they say. Watch and listen. You are the result of the love of thousands.” Linda Hogan, writer.

“Scattering the Stars” taken from a Pueblo story about how the stars were created. The same image is on one of the drums. The other drum depicts a panther.

***Please come and view these pieces of art after the service.**