

Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810 Incorporated 1822 Sanctuary completed 1867



January 27, 2019

Third Sunday After the 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.

Hymnal Guide: UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal; TFWS = The Faith We Sing; SOZ = Songs of Zion
Please silence cell phones.

PRELUDE

Dialogue Sur La Trompette by Louis Marchand
(The prelude is a time for quiet prayer and meditation.)

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The Spirit of God is upon us.

ALL: We are called to be God's people.

ONE: The Spirit of God is upon us.

ALL: We are called to be the body of Christ.

ONE: Come let us worship God,

ALL: who binds us together in love and service.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** *As a Fire Is Meant For Burning* TFWS #2237

1. As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame, so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care, we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.

3. As a green bud in the springtime is the sign of life renewed, so may we be signs of oneness 'mid earth's peoples, many hued. As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone, may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.

WORDS: Ruth Duck, MUSIC: From *The Sacred Harp*, 1844
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2. We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way. We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay. By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light. In a humble, listening Spirit, we would live to God's delight.

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING PRAYER

Bountiful God, you have blessed us with so many gifts. In this time of worship, may we be open to receiving these gifts. Help us claim our gifts and use them to bring liberation and justice to a hurting world. May the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable to you. May the transforming Spirit of joy and unity bind us together as your body, that we may be your hands and feet and voice in this, your world. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Rebecca Wilson

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Inez Torbert

OFFERTORY

Thy Word is a Light by Haydn Morgan

Chancel Choir

***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**

Inez Torbert

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rebecca Wilson

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

*CENTERING MUSIC

Seek Ye First

UMH #405

1. Seek ye first the Kin-dom of God and God's righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!

2. Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find; knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!

WORDS: Karen Lafferty, 1972, MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1972
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EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

***GOSPEL LESSON**

Luke 4: 14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of our God is upon me, because the Most High has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. God has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of God's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SOLO

Bobbi Thompson

MESSAGE

A More Excellent Way

Rebecca Wilson

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

TFWS #2153

**1. I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm
gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**2. I'm gonna work...
3. I'm gonna pray...
4. I'm gonna sing...**

WORDS: African American spiritual, MUSIC: African American spiritual;
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BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

Rebecca Wilson

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go into the World in Peace by Joyce Eillers

POSTLUDE

Processional on Duke Street by Herbert Colvin

Central United Methodist Church

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Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

Rebecca Wilson, Director of Discipleship & Congregational Life

Daniel Dillingham, Minister of Music

Nina Scott, Ensemble Director, Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Soloist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator, Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Rod Rose, Custodian

Yvette Meadows and Angie Bakeley, Receptionists

Kaitlyn Szczyпка, Nursery Coordinator