



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

November 1, 2020

All Saints Day/Stewardship 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.

* 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: May we remember

ALL: that God created.

ONE: May we remember

ALL: that God liberated.

ONE: May we remember

ALL: that God fed.

ONE: May we remember

ALL: That God is *still* creating, God is *still* liberating, God is *still* feeding us.

ONE: Let this be our story.

ALL: Let this be where we begin.

ONE: Let us worship holy God.

***OPENING HYMN**

For All the Saints

(Adapted from UMH #711)

1. For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the world their steadfast faith confessed, your name, O Jesus, be forever blessed. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
2. You were their rock, their refuge and their might; you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
3. Still may your people, faithful, true and bold, live as the saints who nobly fought of old, and share with them a glorious crown of gold. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
4. Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet in your love our faithful lives entwine, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
5. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song, then hearts are brave again, and faith grows strong. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

WORDS: William W. How, 1864, MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906, CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Deaconess Anne Hillman

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Remember

ONE: The story of God calls us to remember –

ALL: That creation was made good and Sabbath is necessary.

ONE: The story of God calls us to remember –

ALL: That we belong to one another, for we are bone of bone and flesh of flesh.

ONE: The story of God calls us to remember –

ALL: That reconciliation between siblings is holy, and slavery of any kind is evil.

ONE: The story of God calls us to remember –

ALL: That the wilderness is real, and that God will be with us – raining down manna and speaking in a still, small voice.

ONE: The story of God calls us to remember –

ALL: that love looks like healing the sick, eating with the outcast, making room for the children, and seeing the unseen.

ONE: The story of God calls us to remember –

ALL: Because if we forget, we risk making God, love and reconciliation small.

ONE: So as we remember, may we declare –

ALL: We believe in a God who made all things good, who stands with the suffering, walks with us in the wilderness, sees the overlooked, loves with an untamed heart, and makes room for all at God's table. Amen.

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

We often talk about the Church as a community. In our western individualized society, it is sometimes hard to realize just how interrelated we are with other people. And yet, our lives are intertwined with the lives of others in ways that we are sometimes unaware. Whether we like to admit it or not, we are social creatures.

We also sometimes like to think that we are who we are because we have worked hard to make ourselves this way. That is, unless it is something that we do not like about ourselves, and then it is obviously due to those traumatic experiences of childhood.

Yet, if we are honest, most of what we are as human beings we owe to other people. Especially in the Church, most of us have fathers and mothers in the Faith. Sometimes those are our own parents. Sometimes they are people who loved us and were patient with us when we were bratty teenagers. Some were teachers, pastors, youth ministers, Sunday School teachers who in small or large ways helped us grow and nurtured us, in life and in the Faith.

We always stand in a larger community than just those who are around us daily. For those who are older, many of those people who shaped our spiritual journey are gone now. But this is the time of year, the time near All Saints Day, that the Church calls us to remember our fathers and mothers in the Faith. We truly are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, the Church and its people across the centuries that were faithful to God and to us.

We will now name those saints who have gone before us in the past year.

Derek Adams

James Satterwhite

Henry Dees

Darlene Spyker (Daniel's Sister in Law)

David Dillingham (Daniel's father)

Wilma Spyker (Daniel's Mother)

Rodney William Forbes (Clara Lawrence's cousin)

Sharon Taormina (Christine Crawford's friend)

Phyllis McCosh (Kristi Crago's grandmother)

Victims of COVID-19

Evie Poole (Stella Harden's Sister)

Victims of Systemic Racism

Let us pray: Almighty God, we thank you for those who have gone on before us, pioneers in faith and ministry, thought, word and deed. We thank you for their example of living a Christ like life. We know that they weren't any more perfect than the rest of us, but we are thankful you call all of us your children.

Help us to remember when we are running the race of life that all these people stand by us, cheering us on, praying for us and loving us. In your compassion, comfort those who are grieving the loss of their saints. Comfort the churches, comfort the pastors, comfort your people. Amen.

VIDEO

Remember Me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0azOIk0Kvg>

CENTERING HYMN

Giving God, We Pause and Wonder (Tune UMH #400)

1. Giving God, we pause and wonder: What would happen if we tithed – if we gave our gifts, Creator, Hearts and hands all opened wide? We might learn, by gladly sharing, not to trust in things we own. But to risk – it's part of caring – and to trust in you alone.
2. We could do abundant mission, sharing Christ who claims and frees, we could reach out with new vision in creative ministries. No more bound by limitations of what churches can't afford, we could learn with jubilation whole new ways to serve you God.
3. Humbly on your strength relying, we would build a thousand schools; we could feed a million orphans and give countless farmers tools. As we gladly shared your blessings, then the world might want to know; "See! How loving are those Christians! Who's the One who makes them so?"
4. God, we know we cannot pay you for your love in Christ your own, gifts and tithes are just a "thank you" – ways to pass your blessings on. We have learned that, in our sharing, we receive more than we give, by your Spirit, make us daring in this joyful way to live.

Tune: John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813 ("Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"), Text: Copyright © 2005 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jo-Ann Snyder

Holy God, There is something about scripture that stirs us awake. For when we hear of a deep love that made room for everyone at the table, we remember that we are hungry. And when we hear of manna raining down in the desert, we remember that we are lost. There is something about the scripture that stirs us awake, and it feels like hunger and it looks like hope. So stir us awake, oh God. Remind us that this story starts with love and ends with love. We are hungry, which is to say, we are listening. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 22:1-23 The Inclusive Bible

Jo-Ann Snyder

Now the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, also known as Passover, drew near, and the chief priests and the religious scholars sought a way to kill Jesus, for they feared the people.

Then Satan took possession of Judas, who was called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. He went to the chief priests and the Temple guards to discuss with them how he might betray Jesus. They were delighted and agreed to give him money. Judas accepted, then began to look for the opportune moment to hand Jesus over to them – when people were not present.

When the day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread arrived, when the Passover lamb was to be sacrificed, Jesus sent Peter and John out with the instructions, "Go and make the preparations for us to eat the Passover."

They asked, "Where do you want us to prepare the Seder?"

Jesus answered, "When you enter the city, a man will meet you carrying a jar of water. Follow him into the house he enters. Say to the owner of the house, 'The Rabbi asks, 'Where is the guest room where I can eat the Passover Seder with my disciples?'. The owner will show you a large furnished upper room. Make the preparations there.'"

They went out and found everything as Jesus had told them. And they prepared the Passover. When the hour had come, Jesus took a place at the table with the apostles. Jesus said to them, "I've longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. I tell you, I will not eat it again until everything is fulfilled in the reign of God." Then taking a cup of wine, Jesus gave thanks and said, "Take this and share it among you. I tell you, I will not drink wine from now on, until the reign of God comes." Then Jesus took bread and gave thanks for it, broke it, and gave it to them saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Jesus did the same with the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the New covenant in my blood, which will be poured out for you.

"Look! The hand of the betrayer is at this table with me. The Chosen One is following the appointed course. But woe to the person by whom the One is betrayed!" Then they began to argue among themselves as to which of them would do such a deed.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Remember

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ONE: Creator God, prayer has never been easy for us. Our mind flutters with news updates and questions of faith – our thoughts like a river that won't stop. So today we take a deep breath – inhaling your name into the cobwebs of our lungs, willing your presence to wipe away the dust of self-doubt and fear. And with that breath, we ask that you would tell us again:

Tell us again how you moved over the waters.

Tell us again how you led them with a pillar of fire.

Tell us again of that still, small voice, and then tell us of the prophets.

Tell us of Mary and Joseph and that angel chorus.

Tell us of the blind man, and the leper and the crowds that you healed.

Tell us what it was like to walk on water.

Tell us of the little children that ran to you.

Tell us of the justice you preached.

Tell us of the hosannas and the palm branches.

Tell us again of the love that changed the world.

Tell us again, because we are forgetful people. It is part of our human nature; that is why we long for this space week after week, so that we might be reminded of who we are and whose we are. So tell us again.

For our anxiety is loud. Our scarcity is loud. Our fear is loud. Our anger is loud. Our shame is loud. Our loneliness and self-doubt are loud. Mental illness is loud. Doubt is loud. So tell us again.

Tell us again how it all began.

Tell us of manna in the wilderness and the disciples around the table.

Tell us again of your love for this world.

Tell us again how it changed everything.

Tell us again, so that we have the strength to tell others.

And as you do, pour out your Spirit on our tables. Tether your Spirit to our fragile bones. Be with us in these ordinary symbols of extraordinary love. And give us the strength to remember your story anew. As we prepare to eat together as your disciples did, we remember and speak that truth out loud, praying together:

ALL: Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God who is in heaven:

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by people of the World! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory that is love, now and forever. May it be so. Amen.

(from the New Zealand prayer book)

ONE: The bread of life given for you. **Amen.** The cup of salvation shed for you. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God,

As we leave this table, help us to remember this moment.

Help us remember that with you, all are invited.

Help us remember that with you, there is a seat for everyone.

Help us remember that with you, there is enough food to go around, that even Judas was invited to the meal, and that there is manna in the wilderness.

Help us remember so that as we go, we can build tables like this in the world.

We need more tables like this in the world.

Gratefully we pray, Amen.

VIDEO

Remember by Lauren Daigle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWjxJVNU668>

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

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Daniel Dillingham, Minister of Music

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