



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822— Sanctuary completed 1867

January 17, 2021

Human Relations 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: We gather from far and near,

ALL: Gathering to come and see the Good News of Jesus.

ONE: We connect with one another on this Human Relations Day.

ALL: Connecting to experience the humanity in one another.

ONE: We follow the one proclaimed by Moses and the prophets.

ALL: Following Jesus, we invite others to come and see the promise of Beloved Community.

***OPENING HYMN**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

UMH #519

1. Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty, let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us; facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.
2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our fathers sighed? We have come over a way that with tears have been watered; we have come, reading our path thru the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way, thou who hast by thy might led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray. Let our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee; lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee; shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

WORDS: James Weldon Johnson, 1921; MUSIC: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921; © 1921 Edward B. Marks Music Co.; renewed; CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Deaconess Anne Hillman

LITANY

ONE: The prophet Micah told us that God requires us to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. As we celebrate Martin Luther King's witness, let us be called to worship by some of the prophets of the Civil Rights movement.

In 1963, in his challenging letter to complacent white clergy in the South, Dr. King wrote, "We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the vitriolic words and actions of the bad people, but for the appalling silence of the good people. In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies but the silence of our friends."

ALL: God, we pray, transform our silence into action, our fear into courage.

ONE: President John F. Kennedy in an address that led to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 said, "The heart of the question is whether all Americans are afforded equal rights and equal opportunities, whether we are going to treat our fellow Americans as we want to be treated."

ALL: O God, we pray, help us to love you and to love others as ourselves.

ONE: Rosa Parks, said, "You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right. I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done does away with fear."

ALL: O God, we pray, remind us that you did not give us a spirit of fear.

ONE: Ann Braden, a white Southern activist and ally of the Civil Rights movement wrote, "In every age, no matter how cruel the oppression carried on by those in power, there have been those who struggled for a different world. I believe this is the genius of humankind, the thing that makes us half divine: the fact that some human beings can envision a world that has never existed.

ALL: O God, we pray, help us to envision and struggle for a world where justice will roll down like water, righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

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

VIDEO

Long Time Coming by Sam Cooke

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEBlaMOmKV4&list=PLjQiYwUmJpSzrKi5pIW_5kF3dJyrGO5h

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:35-51 The Inclusive Bible

The next day John was by the Jordan again with two of his disciples. Seeing Jesus walk by, John said, “Look! There’s the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard what John said and followed Jesus.

When Jesus turned around and noticed them following, he asked them, “What are you looking for?”

They replied, “Rabbi,” – which means “Teacher” – “where are you staying.”

“Come and see,” Jesus answered.

So they went to see where he was staying and they spent the rest of the day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

One of the two who had followed Jesus after hearing John was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. The first thing Andrew did was to find Simon Peter and say, “We’ve found the Messiah!” – which means “the Anointed One.”

Andrew brought Simon to Jesus, who looked hard at him and said, “You are Simon ben-Jonah; I will call you ‘Rock’ – that is, “Peter.”

The next day, after Jesus had decided to leave for Galilee, he met Philip and said, “Follow me.” Philip came from Bethsaida, the same town as Andrew and Peter.

Philip sought out Nathanael and said to him, “We’ve found the One who Moses spoke of in the Law, the One about whom the prophets wrote: Jesus of Nazareth, son of Mary and Joseph.”

“From Nazareth?” said Nathaniel. “Can anything good come from Nazareth?”

“Come and see,” replied Philip.

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he remarked, “This one is a real Israelite. There is no guile in him.”

“How do you know me?” Nathanael asked him.

Jesus answered, “Before Philip even went to call you, while you were sitting under the fig tree, I saw you.”

“Rabbi,” said Nathanael, “You’re God’s Own, you’re the ruler of Israel!”

Jesus said, “Do you believe just because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You’ll see much greater things than that.”

Jesus went on to tell them, “The truth of the matter is, you will see heaven opened and the angels of god ascending and descending upon the Chosen One.”

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Come and See

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

HYMN

We Shall Overcome

UMH #533

1. We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
we shall overcome someday! Oh, deep in
my heart, I do believe we shall overcome
someday!

4. We shall live in peace. We shall live in
peace. We shall live in peace someday!
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe we
shall live in peace someday!

2. We’ll walk hand in hand, we’ll walk hand
in hand, we’ll walk hand in hand
someday! Oh, deep in my heart, I do
believe we’ll walk hand in hand
someday!

5. The Lord will see us through, the Lord
will see us through, the Lord will see us
through someday! Oh, deep in my heart,
I do believe the Lord will see us through
someday!

3. We shall all be free, we shall all be free,
we shall all be free someday! Oh, deep in
my heart, I do believe we shall all be free
someday!

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual; MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual;
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BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Beloved, following the voice of Jesus who calls you:

cross boundaries,

extend grace and

grow in God's love,

expecting to see "greater things than these."

Go now in peace. Amen.

Central United Methodist Church

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