



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

June 20, 2021

Pride 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: All you who delight in the Sacred Strange, come and worship the queer Creator.

ALL: Thanks be to God who blesses the peculiar and rejoices in the uniqueness of every body and being.

ONE: The Holy takes on flesh in every gender and sexual orientation, every race and ability, every body size and body type.

ALL: Each embodied difference is a unique glimpse of Holy Wonder.

ONE: Blessed are those who search for God among the lives of the oppressed, the betrayed, the turned-away and the condemned.

ALL: Blessed are those who receive with joy the gifts of God enfleshed among us.

ONE: The Sacred is with us. Let us worship and be transformed.

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Deaconess Anne Hillman

MORNING PRAYER

God, when you called each of us into being, you delighteded in your works. You gifted us with differences that illuminate the breadth of beauty, wisdom, and practices of love in your creation. In whatever ways we still struggle to accept and celebrate our own unique offerings, free us from narrow thinking that confines, constrains, or condemns your good work in us. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Since the beginning, the church was meant to be a place of chosen family – a community of outcasts and outlaws, dreamers, prophets, and humble disciples of love. In the company of Divine Presence, we create belonging and nurture justice. With gratitude for the sacred labors of love in this place, let us bring our offerings to God and one another.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Rainbow Connection

Chantel Woodard

***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

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMM

There is Room in God's Great Welcome (Tune UMH 150)

**1. There is room in God's great welcome;
See! The doors are open wide!
Here on earth as in God's heaven, hear
the call to come inside!
There is so much room for difference
— men and women, gay and straight.
In God's love, the rooms are countless,
but there is no room for hate.**

**2. There is room in our good nation if we
stand on justice-ground.
God has made a good creation; colors,
cultures all abound.
Welcome, sister! Welcome, brother!
All those yearning to breathe free!
There is room for one another but no
room for bigotry.**

**3. There is room for understanding, for
the outcast and the poor;**

**For the Christian, Jew and Muslim —
there is room for these and more.
For the people on the fringes, for the
ones with long career,
There is room for building bridges, but
there is no room for fear.**

**4. There is room in faithful churches for
the wounded and oppressed:
Women who've been told they're
worthless, refugees who feel distressed,
Immigrants who fear the future, people
scorned and pushed and shoved.
God, may we seek what you treasure:
may we all make room for love.**

Tune: William Moore's *Columbian Harmony*, 1825 ("God, Who Copyright © 2016 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:1-12 The Message

When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

“You’re blessed when you’re at the end of your rope. With less of you, there is more of God.

“You’re blessed when you feel you’ve lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

“You’re blessed when you’re content with just who you are – no more, no less. That’s the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can’t be bought.

“You’re blessed when you’ve worked up a good appetite for God. God’s food and drink is the best meal you’ll ever eat.

“You’re blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full’, you find yourselves cared for.

“You’re blessed when you get your inside world – your mind and heart – put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

“You’re blessed when you show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That’s when you discover who you really are, and your place in God’s family.

“You’re blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God’s kingdom.

“Not only that – count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens – give a cheer, even! for though they don’t like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Be Specific

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

HYMN

Draw the Circle Wide

Worship and Song #3154

THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH

3154 Draw the Circle Wide

Draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. No one stands a - lone, we'll stand side by

side. Draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

wide. Draw the cir - cle wide, draw it wid - er still. Let this

be our song: no one stands a - lone. Stand - ing side by side,

draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

WORDS: Gordon Light
MUSIC: Mark A. Miller
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DRAW THE CIRCLE
Irr.

wide. Draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

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BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

Central United Methodist Church

23 East Adams, Detroit, Michigan 48226 ~ 313.965.5422

www.centralumchurchdetroit.org

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

Deaconess Anne Hillman, Ph. D, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Daniel Dillingham, Minister of Music

Bobbi Thompson, Accompanist & Soloist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Andrew Cox, Building Superintendent

Yvette Meadows and Angela Bakeley, Receptionists