



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810 Incorporated 1822 Sanctuary completed 1867

January 20, 2019

Martin Luther King, Jr. 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.
Hymnal Guide: UMH - "The United Methodist Hymnal";
TFWS - "The Faith We Sing"; SOZ - "Songs of Zion".
Please silence cell phones. Thank you.

PRELUDE

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Handbell Choir

(The prelude is a time for prayer and meditation. Please be respectful of this spiritual space.)

INTROIT

Bobbi Thompson

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: God created all the races and nations of the world and willed that we live together in peace and harmony.

ALL: We were made to be family.

ONE: There is strife in the human family; injustice abounds as racism, classism, sexism, cultural imperialism and other isms. We are a divided people.

ALL: We have been called to let justice roll down like waters.

ONE: We must work passionately to bridge the gulf between us, overcome the injustices that oppress us and restore community among us.

ALL: We must be determined enough to change what we can. We must have the courage to accept what we cannot change. Above all we must be wise enough to know the difference.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

UMH #133

**1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms; what a
blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
(Refrain)**

**2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim
way, leaning on the everlasting arms; O
how bright the path grows from day to
day, leaning on the everlasting arms.
(Refrain)**

(Refrain) **Leaning, leaning, safe and
secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**3. What have I to dread, what have I to
fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I
have blessed peace with my Lord so
near, leaning on the everlasting arms.
(Refrain)**

WORDS: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887,
MUSIC: Anthony J. Showalter, 1887,
CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF SHARING

GREETING AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Rebecca Wilson

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 2:23-25

Many years later, the ruler of Egypt died, but the Israelites still groaned under oppression. They cried out from the depths of their bondage to God, who heard their moaning, and remembered the covenant that had been made with Sarah and Abraham, with Rebecca and Isaac, and with Leah and Rachel and Jacob. God saw the children of Israel. And God knew.

MARTIN'S CHILDHOOD REFLECTIONS

HISTORIC EVENTS FROM THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka

Rev. Tom Robinson

Rev. Edwin Rowe

HYMN

Go Down, Moses

UMH #448

**1. When Israel was in Egypt's land, let
my people go; oppressed so hard they
could not stand, let my people go.
(Refrain)**

**5. Come, Moses, you will not get lost, let
my people go; stretch out your rod and
come across, let my people go. (Refrain)**

WORDS: Afro-American Spiritual,
MUSIC: Afro-American Spiritual; adapt.
and arr. By William Farley Smith, 1986 adapt. and arr. ©1989 The United
Methodist Publishing House,
CCLI 2815228

(Refrain) **Go down, Moses, way down in
Egypt's land; tell old Pharaoh to let my
people go!**

HISTORIC CIVIL RIGHTS EVENTS

George Wallace “Segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever!”

The Murder of Emmett Till

ANTHEM

He Never Failed Me Yet

Ensemble

REFLECTIONS FROM MARTIN’S HIGH SCHOOL YEARS

MORE HISTORIC HEADLINES FROM THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

Eugene “Bull” Connor

Birmingham Church Bombing

HYMN

Go Down, Moses

(Refrain only)

Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt’s land; tell old Pharaoh to let my people go!

GOD PREPARES A DELIVERER

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 3:4-10

When YHWH saw Moses coming to look more closely, God called out to him from the midst of the bush, “Moses! Moses! God said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground! The voice continued, “I am the God of your ancestors. The God of Sarah and Abraham, the God of Rebecca and Isaac, the God of Leah and Rachel and Jacob!” Moses hid his face, afraid to look at the Holy One. Then YHWH said, “I have seen the affliction of my people in Egypt; I have heard their cries under those who oppress them; I have felt their sufferings. Now I have come down to rescue them from the hand of Egypt, out of their place of suffering and bring them to a place that is wide and fertile, a land flowing with milk and honey, the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites. The cry of the children of Israel had reached me and I have watched how the Egyptians are oppressing them. Now go! I will send you to Pharaoh, to bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

MARTIN’S REFLECTIONS ON CHURCH AND MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

MORE EVENTS FROM THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

Freedom Rides

Mob of 200 Stones and Firebombs Bus Carrying Freedom Riders

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

OFFERTORY

Take My Life and Let It Be

Ensemble

***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

Rebecca Wilson

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

*HYMN

Keep Your Eyes on the Prize

Tune: Keep your Eyes on the Prize (HOLD ON)

1. Keep your eyes on the prize. Know the sun will soon arise. In the darkness lift your eyes. Hold on! Hold on! Hold on! Hold on! In the darkness lift your eyes. Hold on! Hold on!

3. Watch Him die there in shame. We are called to do the same. Children, boldly bear His name. Hold on! Hold on! Hold on! Hold on! Children, boldly bear His name.

2. Are you tired of the fight? Are you weary doing right? Keep on walking in the light. Hold on! Hold on! Hold on! Hold on! Keep on walking in the light. Hold on! Hold on!

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible and Traditional; arr. by Ken Bible
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MARTIN'S CALL TO MINISTRY

HISTORIC EVENT DRAWS KING INTO CIVIL RIGHTS

Claudette Colven Arrested

Martin Struggles with Personal Involvement in Civil Rights

HYMN

Lead Me, Guide Me

TFWS #2214

**Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

HISTORIC TURNING POINT

Rosa Parks Arrested and Martin and Rosa Parks

THE PROPHET FACES MIXED REACTIONS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 6:6-9

Say to the Israelites, “I am your God, and I will free you from the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from the bondage you are subjected to, and I will redeem you with my arm outstretched and with overwhelming acts of judgment. I will make you as my own and I will be your God. Then you will always know that I am YHWH who brought you out of the bondage of the Egyptians. I will lead you to the land I vowed to give to Sarah and Abraham, Rebecca and Isaac, and Leah and Rachel and Jacob. I will give it to you for your possession. I am YHWH.” Moses took this message back to the Israelites but they would not listen; they were too dispirited, broken by the weight of their cruel bondage.

SOLO

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Round

Bobbi Thompson

READING

THE PROPHET COURAGEOUSLY CONFRONTS PHARAOH

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 7:14-16, 20

Then YHWH said to Moses, “Pharaoh’s heart is heavy and stubborn and he refuses to release my people. In the morning, go to the bank of the Nile when he comes down to the water to bathe. Have with you the staff you turned into a serpent. Tell him, ‘YHWH, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to say to you: Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the wilderness! Until now you have refused.’” Aaron and Moses did as God told them. In the presence of Pharaoh, and all the officials, Aaron raised the staff and struck the water. The entire river turned into blood.

MARTIN OPENLY CONFRONTS RACISM IN THE UNITED STATES

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 13

Rebecca Wilson

ONE: How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?

ALL: How long will you hide your face from me?

ONE: How long must I bear pain in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all day?

ALL: How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

ONE: Consider and answer me, O Lord my God;

ALL: lighten my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;

ONE: lest my enemy say, “I have prevailed over him”;

ALL: lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

ONE: But I trusted in your steadfast love;

ALL: my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

ONE: I will sing to the Lord,

ALL: For the Lord has dealt bountifully with me.

MARTIN'S RESPONSE

BEYOND VIETNAM

READING

*CLOSING 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 has been watered; we have come, treading 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. Lest 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

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BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

POSTLUDE

*This worship service was first celebrated on January 15, 2003 at the Wightman Chapel of the Scarritt-Bennett Center in Nashville, Tennessee. It was designed by Tom Albin, Dean of the Upper Room Chapel, The Upper Room, the United Methodist Church, Becky Waldrop, Program Department, Scarritt-Bennett Center, Nashville, Tennessee.

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