

# Central United Methodist Church

*A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810 Incorporated 1822 Sanctuary completed 1867



March 17, 2019  
**Second Sunday in Lent**

## **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.

\* 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.

## **TAKING A BREATHER**

As we gather together, we will use the first part of our service to slow down, to settle our souls so that we might reconnect with an "unhurried God."

## **GATHER**

**PRELUDE**

*Jacob's Ladder*

Handbell Choir

**WELCOME**

## **SLOW IT DOWN**

**HYMN**

*Come and Find the Quiet Center*

TFWS #2128

**Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray, MUSIC: Attr. To B.F. White, Words Hope Publishing Co., CCLI 2815228

## **CATCHING OUR BREATH**

### **\*PRAYER FOR CLEARING OUT**

ONE: Let us pray a "prayer for clearing out." God of our Present Moments, we struggle to make sense of our choices.

**ALL: Help us *make* room for You.**

ONE: Draw us in to this time of worship to tune into the bigger picture.

**ALL: Help us *find* room for You.**

ONE: Help us clear out the false ideals that drive us away from what's important.

**ALL: Let us *be* room for You.**

ONE: In the name of Jesus, who invites us to wholeness,

**ALL: Amen.**

**\*OPENING SONG**

*Shepherd Me, O God*

TFWS #2058

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life. (x2)**

WORDS: Marty Haugen (Ps.23), MUSIC: Marty Haugen, ©1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

Before you are seated, please take time to connect with the people around you, starting the conversation this way. “How tuned in do you feel to the present moments of life?”

**TAKING NOTE**

The second part of our service invites us to “take note” of what God is saying to us this day, through the children, through the music and through the sermon.

**HANGING OUT**

**HYMN**

*Take Time to Be Holy*

UMH #395

**Take time to be holy, speak oft with our God; abide in God always, and feed on God’s Word. Make friends of God’s children, help those who are weak, forgetting in nothing, God’s blessing to seek.**

WORDS: William D. Longstaff, ca. 1882 (1 Pet. 1:16), MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1890, CCLI 2815228

**TIME FOR CHILDREN**

Rebecca Wilson

**RECONNECTING**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Psalm 23*

The Inclusive Bible

YHWH, you are my shepherd – I want nothing more. You let me lie down in green meadows; you lead me beside restful waters: you refresh my soul. You guide me to lush pastures for the sake of your Name. Even if I’m surrounded by shadows of Death, I fear no danger, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff- they give me courage. You spread a table for me in the presence of my enemies and you anoint my head with oil – my cup overflows! Only goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in your house, YHWH, for days without end.

**FOCUSING ON THE MAIN THING**

**MESSAGE**

*Preparing a Table*

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel

## TAKING CARE

The third part of our service is our response to having listened for God's word. We "take care" to focus through prayer, offering and communion on what's really important, really essential, to lives lived with depth.

### **"TIME OUT" IN THE PRAYER CHAIR**

#### **HYMN**

*Come and Find the Quiet Center*

TFWS #2128

**Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base. Making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.**

#### **PRAYER**

#### **SILENT PRAYER**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Blessed One, our Mother and our Father, Holy is your name. May your love be enacted in the world. May your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For all that we do in your love, and all that your love brings to birth, and the fullness of love that will be are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **NOTICING WHAT'S IMPORTANT**

#### **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY**

Ensemble Choir

#### **\*DOXOLOGY**

**For time to savor God's good gifts, for space to breathe and hearts to lift,  
for ways to reach out and to give, we offer thanks and vow to live!**

## TAKING IT OUT

The final movement of our service is a time of committing to take a bit of this serenity and peace out into the busy world. We are reminded to "keep the main thing the main thing."

**\*CLOSING SONG**

*A Place at the Table (For Everyone Born)*

1. For everyone born, a place at the table,  
for everyone born, clean water and  
bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place  
for growing, for everyone born, a star  
overhead. *(Refrain)*

3. For young and for old, a place at the  
table, a voice to be heard, a part in the  
song, the hands of a child in hands that  
are wrinkled, for young and for old, the  
right to be belong. *(Refrain)*

*(Refrain)* And God will delight when we  
are creators of justice and joy, yes, God  
will delight when we are creators of  
justice, justice and joy!

4. For gay and for straight, a place at the  
table, a covenant shared, a welcoming  
space, a rainbow of race and gender  
and color, for gay and for straight, the  
chalice of grace. *(Refrain)*

2. For woman and man, a place at the  
table, revising the roles, deciding the  
share, with wisdom and grace, dividing  
the power, for woman and man, a  
system that's fair. *(Refrain)*

5. For everyone born, a place at the table,  
to live without fear, and simply to be, to  
work, speak out, to witness and  
worship, for everyone born, the right to  
be free. *(Refrain)*

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray, MUSIC: Brian Mann  
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**BLESSING FOR THE UNHURRIED LIFE**

May you find green pastures and still waters along your way. May you set tables and talk to loved ones about the deepest things you know. May your life be emptied of meaningless rambling and be filled with meaningful encounters. And may you be reacquainted each day with an unhurried God who is calling you to dive deeply into love.

**BENEDICTION HYMN**

*Come and Find the Quiet Center*

TFWS #2128

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, Let our loves and fears unravel,  
celebrate the space we gain: There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart  
to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.

**POSTLUDE**

*Toccata (The World)* by Jan Bender

**Central United Methodist Church**

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**[www.centralumchurchdetroit.org](http://www.centralumchurchdetroit.org)**

Rev. Dr. Jill Hardt Zundel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

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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