

Central United Methodist Church A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

June 23, 2024

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost - Pride 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. W&S=Worship & Song Hymnal Guide: UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal, TFWS = The Faith We Sing

PRELUDE

Augustus Williamson & Brandon Reeves

The introit are times for silent prayer and meditation guided by some of our gifted musicians.

ACTS OF PRAISE

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from *enfleshed: liturgy that matters*)

ONE: Compassionate God, quiet our inner voices of judgment

ALL: so we might hear your ever-present tune of our belovedness.

ONE: Help us set aside, if even for a moment, our could-of, should-of, would-of's.

ALL: Breathe into this sacred space of togetherness.

ONE: Thank you, Creative God, for in your fluidity

ALL: you meet us where we are.

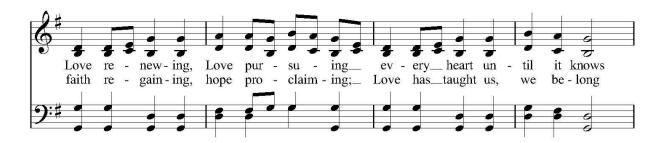
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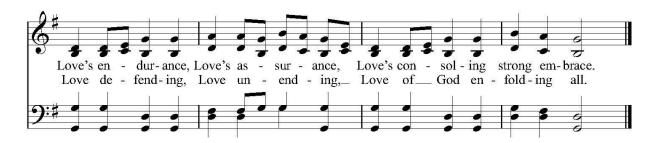
Jeannette M. Lindholm

HOLY MANNA Wiliam Moore, Columbian Harmony 1825









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ACTS OF SHARING

GREETINGS AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS



Please help us know you were here in worship today by scanning the QR code above with your phone. There is also a place for notes and prayer requests for the pastor.

ANNOUNCEMENT

PASSING THE PEACE

Augustus Williamson

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

INTRODUCTION OF SUMMER INTERN

Dean Falleti & Ian Matchett

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

True Colors by Cyndi Lauper

Laura Burger

For electronic giving, please use this QR Code.



*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 (enfleshed: liturgy that matters)

Visionary One, these offerings signify our dedication to your story of freedom. Forgive us for when our dreams are too stingy, or when our capacity for spaciousness is stifled by old stories. May we have the wisdom and clarity to remove obstacles blocking the flow of justice. May we heal one another into your expansive ways. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

*SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 6: 1-13

As Christ's coworkers we beg you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For God says through Isaiah, "At the acceptable time I heard you, and on the day of salvation I helped you." Now is the acceptable time! Now is the day of salvation!

We are putting no obstacles in anyone's way, for we don't want our ministry to be blamed. Instead in all that we do we try to present ourselves as ministers of God, acting with patient endurance amid trials, difficulties, distresses, beatings, imprisonments and riots, in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger. We conduct ourselves with innocence, knowledge, patience and kindness in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love, with the message of truth and the power of God, wielding the weapons of justice with both right hand and left—regardless of whether we are honored or dishonored, spoken of favorably or unfavorably.

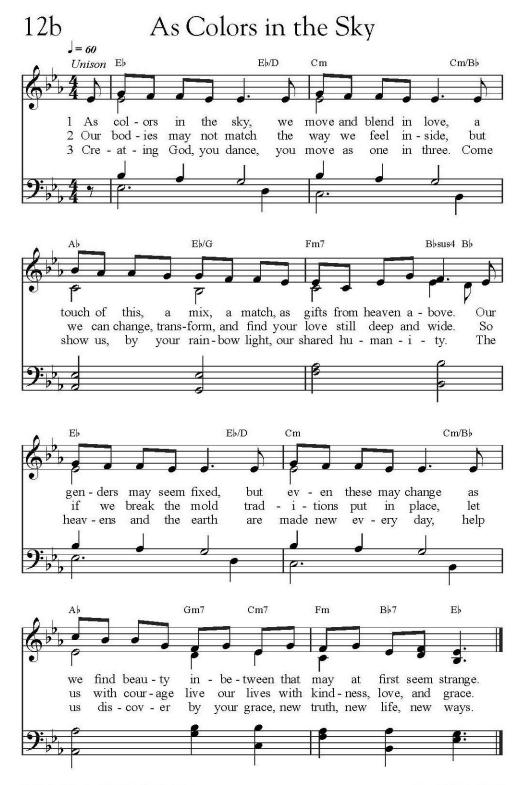
We are called impostors, yet we are truthful; we are called unknowns, yet we are famous; we are said to be dying, yet we are alive; punished, but not put to death; sorrowful, though we are always rejoicing; poor, yet we enrich many. We seem to have nothing, yet we possess everything!

We have spoken frankly to you, Corinthians; we've opened our hearts wide to you. We're not holding anything back; you, on the other hand, are holding back your affection from us. It would be a fair exchange—I speak as to my children—if you'd open your hearts as widely to us as we do to you.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Stumbling Blocks Rev. Paul Perez



BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH (adapted from *enfleshed: liturgy that matters*) Where lies and falsehoods shape and distort imagination, God provides stepping stones of liberation. May we see ourselves for the wildflowers we are: beautiful, singular, collective, beloved. As we go, may the Breath of Life bless our undoing and our reclaiming that we may flourish into a community where Holy Belonging is accessible to all.

POSTLUDE

Brandon Reeves and Keith Livermore

Central United Methodist Church 23 East Adams, Detroit, Michigan 48226 ~ 313.965.5422

> <u>cumcdetroit1810@centralumchurchdetroit.org</u> www.centralumchurchdetroit.org

> > Rev. Paul Perez, Lead Minister

Rev. Edwin Rowe, Pastor Emeritus

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

Margaret Reese, Director of Music

Brandon Reeves, Choral Accompanist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

Yvette Meadow, Receptionist

Angela Bakeley, Receptionist

This service is live-streamed under CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Central United Methodist Church acknowledges that the building in which we carry out our collective life together occupies and is built upon land that is part of what was first known as Waawiyaataanong ("At the curved shores."), the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy, but which is now referred to as Detroit. In 1807 the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi, and Wyandot nations granted use of these sovereign lands to the US government through the Treaty of Detroit. Central United Methodist Church affirms the continued Indigenous sovereignty over these lands and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit. We commit ourselves to working together with our native brothers and sisters to advance equity in all dimensions of life and to promote a better future for the earth and all its peoples. (Adopted by the Ministry Team -April 22, 2021)