



# Central United Methodist Church

## *A Reconciling Congregation*

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867.

December 15, 2024

### Third Sunday of Advent

Words for the Beginning: *Do the Good That Is Yours to Do*

*The Good That Is Yours*



## 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: W&S=Worship & Song, UMH = The United Methodist Hymnal,

TFWS = The Faith We Sing

**PRELUDE**                      *Prelude on Advent Hymn* by Jeanne Demessieux                      Gerald Furi

**REFLECTION**                      *Once in David's Royal City* by Maureen Giles Howell  
Gerald Furi

*The Prelude and the Postlude are times for silent prayer and meditation guided by some of our gifted musicians.*

## ACTS OF PRAISE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (from *A Sanctified Art*)

ONE: "Teacher," the crowd asked, "What should we do?"

**ALL: If you have two shirts, give one away.**

**Hold onto hope.**

**Live like we belong to one another.**

**Speak the truth.**

**Look for God.**

**Do the good that is yours to do.**

ONE: It's all that easy, and it's all that hard.

**ALL: Let us worship our present and active God.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*People, Look East*

UMH #202

**1. People, look east.**

**The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.**

**Make your house fair as you are able,  
trim the hearth and set the table.**

**People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**2. Furrows, be glad. though earth is bare,  
one more seed is planted there.**

**Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
that in course the flower may flourish.**

**People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Rose, is on the way.**

**3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,  
one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.**

**People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Star, is on the way.**

**4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth  
him who brings new life to earth.**

**Set every peak and valley humming with the word,  
the Lord is coming.**

**People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928; MUSIC: Trad. French carol; harm. by Martin Shaw, 1928; Words by permission of David Higham Assoc. Ltd.; harm. by permission of Oxford University Press; CCLI 2815228

## **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.**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## PASSING THE PEACE

Augustus Williamson

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Kristi Crago

Caen, Isaiah, and Lydia Thomason-Redus

ONE: In a weary and worn world,  
how do we begin again?  
Where do we start?

**ALL: Let us start small.  
Let us begin with what is right in front  
of us.**

**Let us do the good that is ours to do,  
and let us do it with joy!**

ONE: Yes, let us begin with joy.  
Today we light the candles of hope, peace,  
and joy.

**ALL: May these lights remind us of what  
could be.  
May these lights inspire action.  
May the warmth of these lights fill us  
with joy.**

ONE: May it be so! Amen.

**CHORAL RESPONSE:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, v. 4 UMH #211

**4. O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;  
before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call. (Refrain)**

*(Refrain)* **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

WORDS: 9<sup>th</sup> cent. Latin; trans. st. 1, 3, 5ab, 6cd, 7ab *The Hymnal*, 1940; st. 2, Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; st. 4, 5cd, 6ab, 7ab, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1986;  
MUSIC: 15<sup>th</sup> cent. French; arr. and harm. by Thomas Helmore, 1854; ; Sts. 1,3,5ab, 6cd, 7ab © 1940, 1943, renewed 1981 The Church Pension Fund; trams/  
sts/ 4, 5cd, 6ab, 7cd; © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House; antiphons © 1962 Sisters of St. Benedict; CCLI 2815228

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

*Carols Around* arr. by Carl Nygard, Jr



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

ANTHEM

*Waiting* by Toni Sullivan

Childrens Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT *Just a Little Christmas*

© 2009, Sharon Kay Chatwell, Sunday School Center

\*CLOSING HYMN

### Love Broke Forth

IRBY 8.7.8.7.7.7

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024

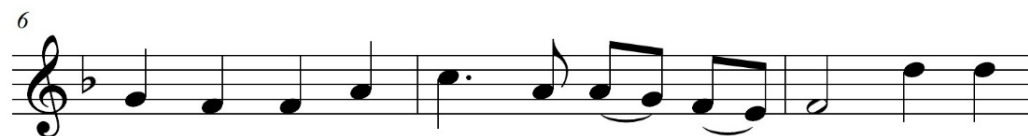
Music by Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849



Love broke forth in ra - diant fa - shion and God  
Love broke forth in - to a bo - dy gent - ly  
Love broke forth to know com - plete - ly who you



called cre - a - tion good God made hu - mans in her  
laid on Ma - ry's chest See him swad - dled in a  
are and who you'll be Gath - er - ing in - to one



i - mage to be loved and un - der - stood Then God  
man - ger, Migh - ty God now po - wer - less Giv - ing  
bo - dy all of our hu - man - i - ty Ten - der -



took on flesh and bone all of hu - man life to know  
up his throne on high to ex - per - i - ence this life  
ly Love speaks your name, your be - long - ing to pro - claim

# BENEDICTION

## BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

## CHORAL BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*People, Look East* by Jerry Westenkuehler

Gerald Furi

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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, Collaborative Pianist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

Yvette Meadow & Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

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This service is live-streamed under CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425

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## 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)