



Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810—Incorporated 1822—Sanctuary completed 1867

May 26, 2024

Trinity Sunday – Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage 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

INTROIT

Augustus Williamson and Brandon Reeves

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

ACTS OF PRAISE

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

ONE: Truly I tell you, no one can witness the kin-dom of God

ALL: unless they are born again.

ONE: We die to indifference

ALL: that we might be born into compassion.

ONE: We die to competition

ALL: that we might be born into community.

ONE: We die to accepting our neighbor's demise

ALL: that we might be born into solidarity.

ONE: Truly I tell you, no one can witness the kin-dom of God

ALL: unless they are born again.

ONE: Come! We worship the God of Life Abundant,

ALL: of the kin-dom here and now.

***OPENING HYMN**

Womb of Life

TFWS #2046

1. **Womb of life, and source of being, home of every restless heart, in your arms the worlds a wakened; you have loved us from the start. We, your children, gather ‘round you, at the table you prepare. Sharing stories, tears, and laughter, we are nurtured by your care.**
2. **Word in flesh, our brother Jesus, born to bring us second birth, you have come to stand beside us, knowing weakness, knowing earth. Priest who shares our human struggles, Life of Life, and Death of Death, Risen Christ, come stand among us, send the Spirit by your breath.**
3. **Brooding Spirit, move among us; be our partner, be our friend. When our memory fails, remind us whose we are, what we intend. Labor with us, aid the birthing of the new world yet to be, free of servant, lord, and master, free for love and unity.**
4. **Mother, Brother, Holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son: We would praise your name forever, One in three, and Three in one. We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new, ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.**

WORDS: Ruth Duck; MUSIC: Skinner Chavez-Melo; Words © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.; music © 1985 Skinner Chavez-Melo; 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT

PASSING THE PEACE

Augustus Williamson

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Deaconess Anne Hillman

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Be Still and Know by Ruth Elaine Schram

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing, Words by Charles Wesley
Music by Mark Miller*

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

***SCRIPTURE**

John 3:1-17

A certain Pharisee named Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin, came to Jesus at night. "Rabbi," he said, "we know you're a teacher come from God, for no one can perform the signs and wonders you do, unless by the power of God."

Jesus gave Nicodemus this answer:

"The truth of the matter is,
Unless one is born from above,
One cannot see the kin-dom of God."

Nicodemus said, "How can an adult be born a second time? I can't go back into my mother's womb to be born again!"

Jesus replied:

"The truth of the matter is,
no one can enter God's kin-dom
without being born of water and the Spirit.
What is born of the flesh is flesh;
what is born of the Spirit is Spirit.
So don't be surprised when I tell you that

you must be born from above.
The wind blows where it will.
You hear the sound it makes,

But you don't know where it comes from
or where it goes.
So it is with everyone
who is born of the Spirit."

"How can this be possible?" asked Nicodemus.
Jesus replies, "You're a teach of Israel, and you
still don't understand these matters?"

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH (Enfleshed: liturgy that matters)

Beloveds, we will born again into the Ways of Life—

practicing hope,

building community,

emboldened for the work of solidarity.

The kin-dom of God awaits!

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Central United Methodist Church

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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, Choral Accompanist

Debra Cox, Office Administrator

Dave Wilson, Maintenance Manager

Yvette Meadow & Angela Bakeley, Receptionists

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)