



April 26, 2020 at 9:30am - 3rd Sunday of Easter
[youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://www.youtube.com/richfieldumc)



(bold = in unison)

ENTRANCE

Gathering Music

“Thanks Be to God”

G. F. Handel

Welcome

Rev. Nate Melcher

Hymn

“[Christ Is Risen](#)”
Vs. 1 and 3

UMH No. 307

Morning Prayer

O Holy God, how lovely it is to be your guest: breezes full of scent; mountains reaching to the skies; waters like a boundless mirror, reflecting the sun's golden rays and the scudding clouds. All nature murmurs mysteriously, breathing depths of tenderness; birds and beasts bear the imprint of your love. Blessed are you, Mother Earth, in your overwhelming loveliness, which wakens our yearnings for happiness that will last forever. All creation sings to you: Alleluia!

Time with Children

The Lord's Prayer

Our God, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

May the peace of God be with you.
And also with you.

Please greet each other with a touch-free sign of peace.

Solo

“The Prayer”

Sager/Foster

Paige Armstrong and Scott Clarke, soloists

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture

[Acts of the Apostles 22:6-29](#) (NRSV)

“While I was on my way and approaching Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone about me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ Then he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth whom you are persecuting.’ Now those who were with me saw the light but did not hear the voice of the one who was speaking to me. I asked, ‘What am I to do, Lord?’ The Lord said to me, ‘Get up and go to Damascus; there you will be told everything that has been assigned to you to do.’ Since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, those who were with me took my hand and led me to Damascus.

“A certain Ananias, who was a devout man according to the law and well spoken of by all the Jews living there, came to me; and standing beside me, he said, ‘Brother Saul, regain your sight!’ In that very hour I regained my sight and saw him. Then he said, ‘The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear his own voice; for you will be his witness to all the world of what you have seen and heard. And now why do you delay? Get up, be baptized, and have your sins washed away, calling on his name.’

“After I had returned to Jerusalem and while I was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance and saw Jesus saying to me, ‘Hurry and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.’ And I said, ‘Lord, they themselves know that in every synagogue I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. And while the blood of your witness Stephen was shed, I myself was standing by, approving and keeping the coats of those who killed him.’ Then he said to me, ‘Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’”

Up to this point they listened to him, but then they shouted, “Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live.” And while they were shouting, throwing off their cloaks, and tossing dust into the air, the tribune directed that he was to be brought into the barracks, and ordered him to be examined by flogging, to find out the reason for this outcry against him. But when they had tied him up with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, “Is it legal for you to flog a Roman citizen who is uncondemned?” When the centurion heard that, he went to the tribune and said to him, “What are you about to do? This man is a Roman citizen.” The tribune came and asked Paul, “Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?” And he said, “Yes.” The tribune answered, “It cost me a large sum of money to get my citizenship.” Paul said, “But I was born a citizen.” Immediately those who were about to examine him drew back from him; and the tribune also was afraid, for he realized that Paul was a Roman citizen and that he had bound him.

Scripture

[Romans 6:1-11](#) (NRSV)

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Sermon

“Every Breath I Take”

Rev. Nate Melcher

Giving Our Tithes, Offerings, and Ourselves

Your gift today at richfieldumc.org/give supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of Richfield UMC, and thank you.

Offertory

“Alleluia”
Paige Armstrong, soloist

A. Vivaldi

Doxology

UMH No. 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Gratitude

God of Truth and Light, we offer you these gifts with humble hearts. We yearn to share your unmistakable presence with all people. While we often find temporary security in our possessions, remind us that true security comes from our relationship with you through your son, Jesus Christ. Strengthen and entrust us to be your faithful disciples. In the name of the Exalted One, we pray. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Lighting Our Conflux Candles

“[Surely the Presence of the Lord](#)”

UMH No. 328

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

SENDING FORTH

Benediction

...And until we meet again, let us live...
in faith, justice, and joy! Amen.

Sending Music

“We Know that Christ is Raised”

D. Cherwien



Thank you for worshipping as Richfield United Methodist Church.
We hope you had a good experience. Stay safe, strong, and connected.

Livestream Worship: youtube.com/richfieldumc
richfieldumc.org | [Richfield UMC on Facebook](#)
Get on the email list: richfieldumc.org/signup

Worship Team:

Musicians - Paige Armstrong, Nancy Dierauer, Scott Clarke
Liturgist - Rev. Nate Melcher
Tech - TY Moore and Dale Olson

Your Guide to Online Worship as Richfield United Methodist Church		
<p>Check-In Help your church track online worship trends, thank you. richfieldumc.org/hereiam</p>	<p>Make Your Gift Your generosity helps your church reach your neighbors. richfieldumc.org/give</p>	<p>For Children Families can get fun, faithful resources for children. richfieldumc.org/children</p>
<p>Worship Bulletins View, download, or print a bulletin to fully participate. richfieldumc.org/bulletins</p>	<p>NRSV Holy Bible Read the New Revised Standard Version for free. biblegateway.com</p>	<p>United Methodist Hymnals Get music and lyrics to sing: hymnary.org/hymnal/umh hymnary.org/hymnal/tfws</p>
<p>Conflux Candles Be careful as you light your candle or lamp during worship. richfieldumc.org/candles</p>	<p>Holy Communion This sacrament for all people is celebrated online on 1st Sundays. richfieldumc.org/worship</p>	<p>Feedback Your loving feedback about online worship is appreciated. nmelcher@richfieldumc.org</p>

Community Joys and Concerns

Today and throughout this week you are invited to pray for:

- People in need of a loving church.
- Openness to the “conflux moments” of experiencing God.
- The spiritual journey of our fellow MCCI church, Camphor Memorial UMC, St. Paul.
- The spiritual journey of students and staff of the The Wesley Center for Spirituality, Service, and Social Justice at Hamline University.
- Our church’s elected leadership and paid and unpaid servants.
- People in new risky situations because of Covid-19, including domestic abuse, food insecurity, and new waves of racism.
- The grieving and the unsure in times of trial.
- Good news of kind hearts and helping hands that turn dreams into reality.
- The people experiencing changing employment, housing, income, and other devastating situations in our current climate.
- The people who suffer waves of trauma and grief in our current world reality.
- Every moment of resurrection we see!
- The children.

Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marybeth Stull, Maxene Schwanke, James Wegscheid, Olive Saldana, Marylee Fithian, Joyce Walls, Inez Gustafson, Bonnie Freese, Pat Robertson, Bill T., relative of Michele Wegscheid, Sandra Williams and Sharon Morrow.

Prayers for Comfort:

Jan Hansen, Gunilla Arlinger, Fern Albertson’s Swedish sister, Marilyn Sampson and all those in hospice and their families.

Prayers for Those Who are Grieving:

The families and friends of Bob Gillespie who died on April 8, Kay Hann who died on March 18, and Patricia Marble who died on March 12. Service arrangements pending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements - Community Connections:

- Call to Action: This week, email Pastor Nate a video of you reciting The LORD's Prayer that we can share with the children of our church and the wider community!
- The Summer Worship Series is "So Many Questions!" Ever have big questions? You're not alone! We have so many questions about God, belief and spirituality, living out our faith, church, the Bible, and life in general. If you have so many questions, this summer's worship series is for you! Richfield UMC is a safe place to wonder together! This spring, you're invited to submit your questions about the above topics and your preaching team will do their best to offer a response. We won't have room for all of the questions this summer, but we hope to explore as many of the most popular and challenging questions we receive. **Please email your question(s) to Pastor Nate by May 10, 2020, and thanks!**
- Brené Brown Study, Saturdays at 10:30am. Gail Johnson: gailjohnson417@gmail.com
- Women's Bible Study, Tuesdays at 9:30am. Molly Recko: mollyreko@comcast.net
- Men's Bible Study, Wednesdays at 9:00am. Kent Johnson: kentjmn@gmail.com
- Children's Ministry, A mix of original public content and invitation-only curriculum due to copyright. Rev. Hope Hutchison: hhutchison@richfieldumc.org
- Youth Group, Sundays and Wednesdays. Garrett Johnson: gjohnson@richfieldumc.org
- "Camp Meetings" Live Variety Show with Rev. Nate Melcher, music, comedy, and guests, Wednesdays at 8:30pm at facebook.com/richfieldunitedmethodistchurch (You do *not* need a Facebook account to watch the show.)
- If you need pastoral care, contact Kay Bergeland: kbergeland@richfieldumc.org.
- Call, email, and pray with and for each other. It is time to connect, friends.

Announcements - Campus and Administration:

- Campus is closed on Sundays and Saturdays until further notice.
- God's Hands is closed until further notice. No donations at this time, thank you.
- The office is closed on Mondays-Fridays at least through May 4 and voicemail has an updated contact message, if you call. You can still reach out to paid staff by email.
- Caring for Children Early Learning Center has a limited number of openings for families with essential workers. Contact Catherin Mahler: director@cfcrumc.org
- If you have communications needs, contact Linda Schmidt: ldelph@richfieldumc.org
- Your generous giving matters for your church in these unprecedented times. Please give online at richfieldumc.org/give or contact Kathy Gertsema, Business and Administration Coordinator: kgertsema@richfieldumc.org

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