



May 17, 2020 at 9:30am - 6th Sunday of Easter
youtube.com/richfieldumc



(bold = in unison)

ENTRANCE

Gathering Music	“Holy Now”	Peter Mayer
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher
Opening Hymn Set	“For the Beauty of the Earth”	UMH No. 92

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;

Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light; (Refrain)
4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild; (Refrain)

“This Little Light of Mine”

UMH 585

1. This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine,
this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
2. Everywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine,
everywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine;
everywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

As we sing “This Little Light of Mine,” you are invited to safely light a candle or lamp to celebrate a “conflux moment.” Conflux moments are when our life’s journey meets God’s heart.

“Blessed Assurance”

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (Refrain)

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

UMH 140

Vs. 1

Morning Prayer

Creator, we give thanks that you long to sustain us, just as in the time of our ancestors you cared for them. Shield and care for us, as an eagle cares for its young. We give you thanks that you come to bring healing and nourishment to all. Help us to be open to all the ways you nourish us. May we be at peace with one another. Amen.

Time with Children

Rev. Hope Hutchison

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

UMH No. 147

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings. (Refrain)

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.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture

Acts of the Apostles 26:22-27:1

NRSV

[As Paul made his defense to King Agrippa and recounted his conflux moment on the road to Damascus, he said] “To this day I have had help from God, and so I stand here, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would take place: that the Messiah must suffer, and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.”

While he was making this defense, Festus exclaimed, “You are out of your mind, Paul! Too much learning is driving you insane!” But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking the sober truth. Indeed the king knows about these things, and to him I speak freely; for I am certain that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this was not done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.” Agrippa said to Paul, “Are you so quickly persuading me to become a Christian?” Paul replied, “Whether quickly or not, I pray to God that not only you but also all who are listening to me today might become such as I am— except for these chains.”

Then the king got up, and with him the governor and Bernice and those who had been seated with them; and as they were leaving, they said to one another, “This man is doing nothing to deserve death or imprisonment.” Agrippa said to Festus, “This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to the emperor.”

When it was decided that we were to sail for Italy, they transferred Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan Cohort, named Julius.

Scripture

Romans 15:1-6

The Message

Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, “How can I help?”

That’s exactly what Jesus did. He didn’t make it easy for himself by avoiding people’s troubles, but waded right in and helped out. “I took on the troubles of the troubled,” is the way Scripture puts it. Even if it was written in Scripture long ago, you can be sure it’s written for *us*. God wants the combination of his steady, constant calling and warm, personal counsel in Scripture to come to characterize *us*, keeping us alert for whatever he will do next.

May our dependably steady and warmly personal God develop maturity in you so that you get along with each other as well as Jesus gets along with us all. Then we’ll be a choir—not our voices only, but our very lives singing in harmony in a stunning anthem to the God and of our Master Jesus!

Sermon

“Every Cake I Bake”

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 Hymn Set

“Be Still My Soul”

UMH No. 534

1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain; leave to your God to order and provide; in every change God faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
3. Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord, when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

UMH No. 189

1. Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
4. Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine.

“It Is Well with My Soul”

UMH No. 377

1. When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
Refrain: It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul.
(Refrain)

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

Generous and loving God, we remember. We remember the others who have encouraged us. Many people have taught us. We have been forgiven. We have been loved. We admit that we haven't done it all ourselves. In a way, this offering is a response to all that has come before us. We pray that the money will be used to encourage, to teach, to forgive, and to love in Jesus' name. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Closing Songs

“[How Great Thou Art](#)”

UMH No. 77

Vs. 1 and 4

“[Lord of the Dance](#)”

UMH No. 261

Vs. 1 and 5

“[Let There Be Peace on Earth](#)”

UMH No. 431

Vs. 1

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

SENDING FORTH

Benediction

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

Travelling Music

“You’ve Got a Friend”

Carole King



**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

Online Worship Team:

Musicians - Paige Armstrong, Nancy Dierauer, Greg Locke, Devon Olson, Victor Zupanc

Liturgist - Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech - TY Moore, 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.
- Our church’s elected leadership and paid and unpaid servants.
- Cool heads and warm hearts as we prayerfully consider our next steps through pandemic as a church, as a state, as a nation, and as a world.
- Our great state of Minnesota and our elected and appointed leaders.
- Our community partners VEAP and Beacon Interfaith Housing.
- Small businesses and organizations in the midst of struggle.
- All who face the challenges of inequities, poverty, loneliness, racism, complex family systems, toxic politics, and all the other pressing issues that are being amplified by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The children.

Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marybeth Stull, Maxene Schwanke, James Wegscheid, Marylee Fithian, Joyce Walls, Inez Gustafson, Bonnie Freese, Bill T., relative of Michele Wegscheid, Sharon Morrow, and Dale Blomsness.

Prayers for Comfort:

Jan Hansen, Gunilla Arlinger, Fern Albertson’s Swedish sister, Hans Olson, father of Dale Olson, and all those in hospice and their families.

Announcements - Be Part of Designing Worship:

We want you to help design worship for the coming weeks ahead. Please look to these “Call to Action” opportunities and submit your ideas and content to Pastor Nate at nmelcher@richfieldumc.org. Watch the deadlines, and thanks!

1. **The LORD’s Prayer (DEADLINE TODAY!):** Submit a video of you reciting The LORD’s Prayer we can use in worship on May 24. Email Pastor Nate today!
2. **Pentecost Prayers:** Submit your 1-2 sentence conflux moment to be read in worship for Pentecost Sunday on May 31. Email Pastor Nate by May 24.

Announcements - Community Connections:

- Brené Brown Study, Saturdays, 10:30am. Contact [Gail Johnson](#).
- Women’s Bible Study, Tuesdays at 9:30am. Contact [Molly Reko](#).
- Men’s Bible Study, Wednesdays at 9:00am. Contact [Kent Johnson](#).
- Men’s Support Group, Saturdays at 8:30am. Contact [Kent Johnson](#).
- Children’s Ministry, original public content and invitation-only curriculum due to copyright. Contact [Rev. Hope Hutchison](#).
- Youth Group, Sundays and Wednesdays. Contact [Garrett Johnson](#).
- Pastor Care, by phone or electronically. Contact [Kay Bergeland](#).
- “Camp Meetings” Variety Show with Rev. Nate Melcher, premiering Wednesdays at 8:30pm at [Facebook Live](#) and [YouTube](#).
- Please keep reaching out to one another, it matters!

Announcements - Campus and Administration:

- In-person worship and gatherings are suspended through May 31.
- Campus is closed until further notice, thank you.
- 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 18. You can still reach out by phone and also to paid staff by email.
- Caring for Children Early Learning Center has a limited number of openings for families with essential workers. Contact [Catherine Mahler](#).
- If you have church communications needs, contact [Linda Schmidt](#).
- Your generous giving matters for your church in these unprecedented times. Please give online at richfieldumc.org/give or contact [Kathy Gertsema](#).

Permissions:

- “Morning Prayer,” Rowthorn, Anne and Jeffrey, ed. *God’s Good Earth: Praise and Prayers for Creation*. “Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving” by United Church of Canada and Anglican Church of Canada, 184. Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN. 2018.
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