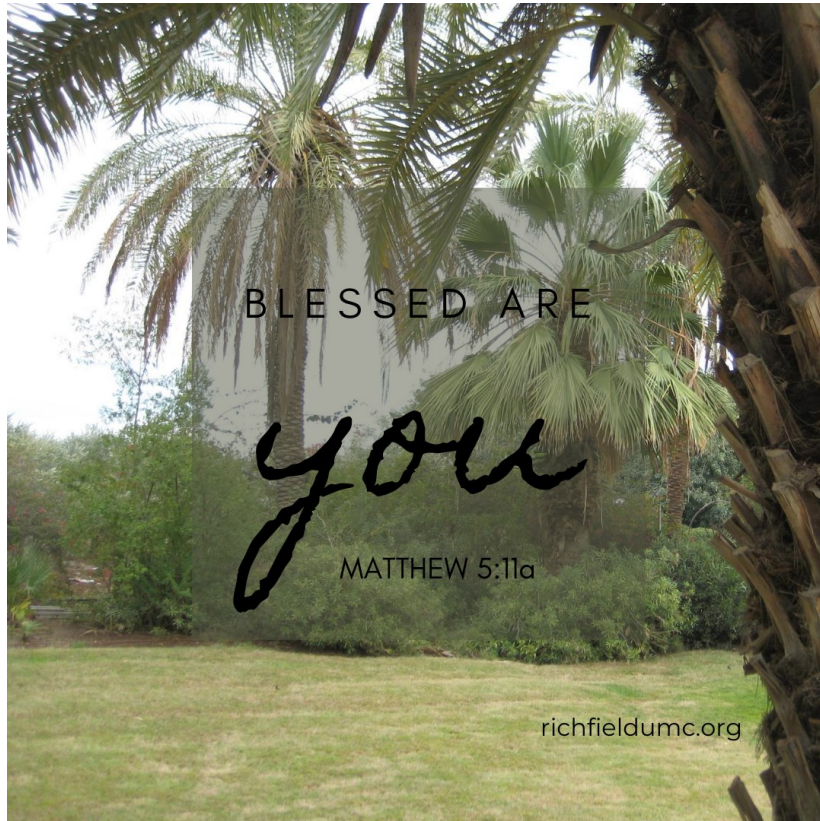




September 13, 2020 at 9:30am - 15th Sunday after Pentecost
youtube.com/richfieldumc



(bold = in unison)

ENTRANCE

Prelude	“Forever Young”	by Bob Dylan
Welcome		Rev. Nate Melcher
Call to Worship		

From the dust of the earth, the Holy One breathed us into life.
Through the breath of God we are all connected.
Shaped in her image, God formed us with a purpose:
To create, to serve, to tend, to protect, to love,
That life may flourish in all its forms,
May the Spirit of the Living God be manifest in us!

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.
3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.
4. He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

Centering Prayer

Rev. Hope Hutchison

We pray that our hearts would be open to you, O God. That we may release every defense against your Spirit's guidance. That we would receive the wisdom you intend for us. May it be so. Holy Wisdom, we ask that your Spirit would guide us in meditation on your word, that we might be led more deeply into knowledge of you and love for all your creatures and creations. In Christ we offer this prayer and join in our Breakthrough Prayer...

Breakthrough Prayer

Loving God of all, renew our hearts and minds.
Reveal your wildest dreams, break through to each of us.
Unite us in your vision, equip us for your work.
Transform us by your song, create our harmony.
May we embrace your future, and be your loving church. Amen.

Please join your church in praying the Breakthrough Prayer daily at 8:35.

Time with Children

Sharing the Peace

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

Please greet your neighbor with a sign of peace.

Lighting Our Conflux Candles

You are invited to safely light a candle or lamp to celebrate the moments this week where your life's journey met God's heart.

Celebration of Music

“For the Beauty of the Earth”
Tiffany Holt and Gretta Thorson, soloists

by J. Rutter

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“You Are Blessed to Bless”
“More Thank This” Worship Series

Rev. Nate Melcher

Prayer of the People

“Modern Beatitudes”
By Rev. Anna Blaedel

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.**

Giving Our Tithes, Offerings, and Ourselves

*Your gift by mail, phone, or through the secure online portal at richfieldumc.org/give supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church.
Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

Offertory

“Slovenia Polka”
Victor Zupanc, accordion

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

Patient Lord, you amaze us each day with your ability to forgive our many sins. You display merciful acts and answer our prayers in profound ways. Help us to be stewards of your mercy and grace as these monetary gifts are transformed into active ministries. Multiply the span of these ministries to reach people in new ways. We pray in the name of the one who teaches true forgiveness, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

Gracious and loving God, thank you for the precious moments in which we felt you close to us this week. Continue to break through to each of us with your Holy Spirit and reveal your amazing love to as many people as possible. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”
vs. 1-2

UMH No. 402
spiritual

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
2. Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Benediction

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

Postlude

“Postlude on ‘OLD HUNDREDTH’”

F. Bock



Thank you for worshiping as Richfield United Methodist Church.
We hope you had a good experience. Worship is over. Service begins.

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

Worship Team:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Paige Armstrong, Nancy Dierauer, Greg Locke, Devon Olson, Victor Zupanc, Tiffany Holt, Gretta Thorson

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison, Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: Bill Johnson, 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 You are invited to safely light a 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 Voice how worship technology is working or needs work. worshiptech@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, First UMC: Windom.
- Our church’s elected leadership and paid and unpaid servants.
- The children, teenagers, and adults of this church who are here and are yet to arrive.
- All who face inequities, poverty, loneliness, racism, complex family systems, toxic politics, and all the other pressing issues that are being amplified by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Each student beginning a fresh adventure with their new school year.
- Each teacher, staff person, administrator, and family member who needs support and whom is supporting beloved students going back to school in ways we have never operated before.
- All churches entering a fresh fall season of hope together.
- All who are on Jesus’s list of blessed of the Beatitudes.
- Healing rhetoric and justice-filled policies for our nation.
- The “hot spots” around the world in need of the soothing touch of the Holy Spirit.
- The children.

Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marybeth Stull, James Wegscheid, Marylee Fithian, Bonnie Freese, Bev Crandall, Margaret Kersteter, Elaine Peterson, Maxene Schwanke, Liam B., neighbor of Michele Wegscheid, and John Darling.

Prayers for Comfort:

Jan Hansen, Hans Olson, father of Dale Olson, and all those in hospice and their families.

Announcements - Community Connections:

- **Today: Drive-Thru Joy - 10:45 am-12:00 pm**
Drive by campus today, Rally Sunday, after worship to take a selfie with the clergy team! **All ages can pick up:** snacks, communion supplies, Upper Room devotionals, posters, hymnals, and/or a wooden cross key chain to take with you wherever you go. **Children and teens can also pick up:** “back to school” items like snacks, treats, stickers, and wooden cross keychains. **All ages can drop off:** food and personal health items to donate to supply depots across the city where there is the most need. The most in-demand items include non-perishable canned food, rice, pasta, diapers sizes 4-5, baby formula, and feminine hygiene products (pads).
- **Tomorrow: Eco-Justice Bible Study - Monday, September 14 at 7:00 pm online by Zoom** Meeting ID: 833-9498-9252, Passcode: 5835
Have you ever wondered what the Bible has to say about the environment? Or what social justice movements have to do with salvation? If yes, come to a special Eco-Justice Bible Study led by Rev. Hope! This session will cover what the Bible has to say about Creation Care, how we can apply that knowledge in our everyday lives, and what all of that has to do with our United Methodist theology.
- **Early Bird Bible Study - Mondays, Beginning September 21 at 8:05 am online by Zoom** Meeting ID: 896-7653-5596, Passcode: 5835
Join Pastor Nate and your fellow early riser church friends to read and discuss the sermon scripture passage for the upcoming worship service. This is a “drop-in” study, which means no pre-reading necessary and the “attendance rule” is if you’re available, you show up.
- **Anti Racism Online Book Discussion Begins Monday, September 21**
“I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness” by Austin Channing Brown
Mondays at 7:00 pm, Sept. 21 to Oct. 26 online by Zoom
An eye-opening account of growing up Black, Christian, and female that exposes how white America’s love affair with “diversity” so often falls short of its ideals. This is an open virtual group. Join us when you can. Contact Gail Johnson (gailjohnson417@gmail.com or 612-250-1736) for Zoom information.
- **Blessing of the Animals Sunday, September 27** online at the 9:30 am worship service. **Send a photo of you with your pet by Sunday, September 20** to Linda Schmidt: ldelph@richfieldumc.org
- Brené Brown Study, Saturdays, 10:30 am. Contact [Gail Johnson](#).
- Early Bird Bible Study, Mondays at 8:05 am. Contact [Rev. Nate Melcher](#).
- Women’s Bible Study, Tuesdays at 9:30 am. Contact [Molly Reko](#).
- Men’s Bible Study, Wednesdays at 9:00 am. Contact [Kent Johnson](#).
- Men’s Support Group, Saturdays at 8:30 am. Contact [Kent Johnson](#).
- Children’s Ministry, public and sign-up content. Contact [Rev. Hope Hutchison](#).
- Youth Group, various content throughout the summer. Contact [Garrett Johnson](#).
- Pastor Care, by phone or electronically. Contact [Kay Bergeland](#).
- Friends and family who aren’t online can listen to worship live by touchtone phone. Call toll-free at 1.888.650.5835. “Press 1” to opt-in to receive an automatic call on Sundays as worship begins.
- Please keep reaching out to one another, it matters!

Announcements - Campus and Administration:

- In-person worship and gatherings in the building are suspended through 2020 and we continue on an open-ended timeline. Read the latest statements at richfieldumc.org/statements.
- Campus is closed until further notice, thank you.
- God’s Hands is closed until further notice. No donations at this time, thank you.
- You can still reach out by phone and also to paid staff by email.
- 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](#).

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Livestream Troubleshooting: Try refreshing the page, restarting your device or the YouTube app, using a different web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc.), clearing your browser cache, or adjusting your settings (ex: lower your resolution quality from 1080p HD to 720p HD).