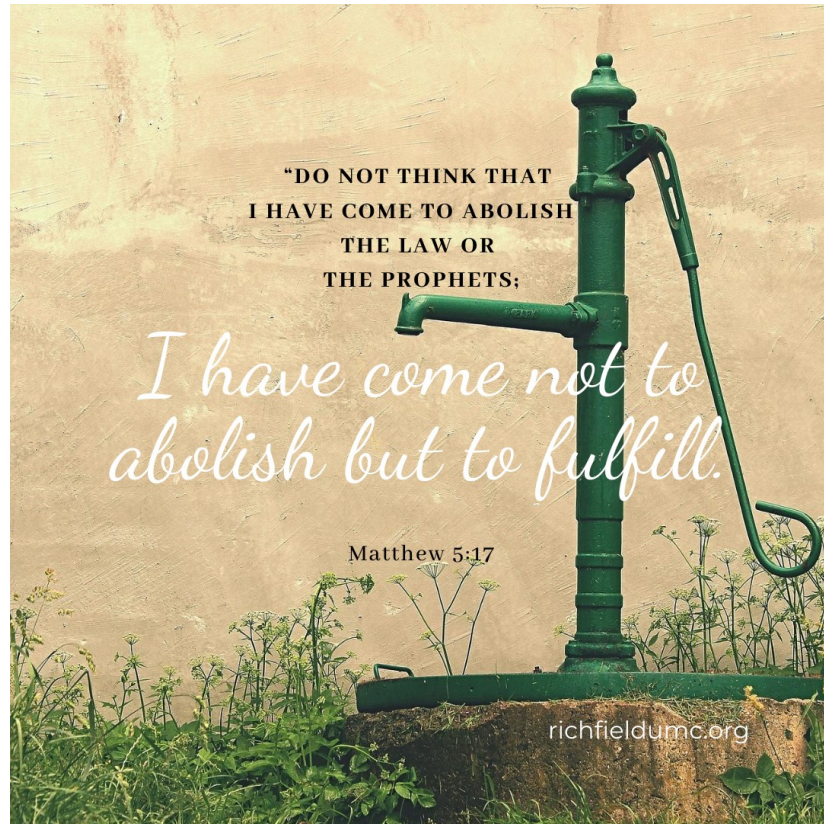




September 27, 2020 at 9:30am - 17th Sunday after Pentecost  
[youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc)



## ENTRANCE

(bold = in unison)

Prelude

“Helpless”

by Neil Young

Welcome

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Call to Worship (from Matthew 5:17-20)

Jesus came with new teachings on a world that must be.  
**The world God creates is greater than what we can conceive.**  
Jesus reminds us of where we’ve been and says build upon it.  
**The law and the prophets are not abolished, but to be fulfilled.**  
The kingdom of heaven is at hand, God’s purposes are accomplished.  
**The last shall be first and the first shall be last.**

Gathering Hymn

“Freely, Freely”

UMH No. 389

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name. I've been born again in Jesus' name,  
and in Jesus' name I come to you, to share his love as he told me to.

*Refrain:*

He said "Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give.  
Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live.

All power is given in Jesus' name, in earth and heaven in Jesus' name,  
and in Jesus' name I come to you, to share his power as he told me to. *Refrain*

Each day is a new opportunity to say “Yes, yes” to you, O God. We have heard it said care for our relationships, and you reveal our neighbors as a beloved child of God. We have heard it said be fair in our relationships, and you reveal your work of restoring dignity. We have heard it said promise in our relationships, and you reveal your desire for holy connection. You call us to a holy connection that reveals all others. Hear us now 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

#### Blessing of the Animals

Gracious and loving God, we ask your blessing upon all of your precious creatures. Grant that the animals we love may be kept safe and healthy and as they continue to grace our lives. We give thanks for the blessing of the beloved animals we remember today. May lives be blessed and transformed by the presence of your creatures, great and small. Amen.

Litany Refrain: O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

O God who has made the earth and every creature that dwells therein, help us, we pray, to treat with compassion the living creatures entrusted to our care, that they may not suffer neglect, or be cruelly treated. Less all who serve in their behalf, and help us in our care for them to have a deeper understanding of your love for all creation; through Jesus we pray. Amen.

#### 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

“Abundant Life”

by Ruth Duck and Marty Haugen

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

#### Scripture in Context

#### Scripture Readings

Matthew 5:17-26

[Jesus said,] “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore,

whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.”

The Word of God for the people of God.  
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“You Are Strong to Stand”  
“More Than This” Worship Series

Rev. Hope Hutchison

Prayers of the People

LORD in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.

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](http://richfieldumc.org/give) supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church.  
Thank you for your extravagant generosity.*

Offertory

“The Friendly Beasts”

French Carol

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

**Faithful God, we gratefully acknowledge that you are the giver of all things. You call us to share these gifts so that we may experience the joy and humility of giving to others. We pray that this very act of offering our gifts to you will enable us to be obedient disciples of your work. We are blessed to receive and to offer the message of salvation. Jesus Christ is Lord. Praise your holy name! 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

“God Made from One Blood”

TFWS No. 2170

1. God made from one blood all the families of Earth,  
the circles of nurture that raised us from birth,  
companions who join us to walk through each stage  
of childhood and youth and adulthood and age.
4. Give, Lord, each family in conflict and storm  
a sense of your wisdom and grace that transform  
sharp anger to insight which strengthens the heart  
and makes clear the place where rebuilding can start.
5. Then widen that wisdom and grace to include  
the races and viewpoints our families exclude  
till peace in each home bears and nurtures the bud  
of peace shared by all you have made from one blood.

Benediction

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

Postlude

“A Place in the Choir”

by Bill Staines



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

### Worship Team:

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Musicians: Greg Locke, Devon Olson, Victor Zupanc

Liturgists: Rev. Hope Hutchison and Rev. Nate Melcher

Tech: Bill Johnson, TY Moore, Dale Olson

## An Everyday Prayer Life Is for Everyone

You are invited to devote time and energy to God and neighbor every day to pray for:

- Open minds and hearts for “conflux moments.” May all experience God in their lives.
- People in need of a loving church home. May they be embraced as beloved children of God.
- Our fellow MCCI church, Southern Hills UMC. May the Spirit break through.
- Children near and far, all beloved of God. May all be shown safety, stability, and care.
- People facing the brokenness of inequities, poverty, loneliness, racism, toxic politics, complex family systems, and other pressing challenges amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. May all who do justice and love mercy rise up as active, partnered signs of God’s healing love.
- Our church’s people, elected leaders, paid staff, and partners. May the Spirit break through.
- Ourselves in this moment here and now. May we feel God’s creativity, Jesus’s hope, and the Holy Spirit’s call in our struggles, our celebrations, and our whole lives.

### Prayers of Celebration:

- On this Blessing of the Animals Sunday may we find joy with our animal friends both wild and domesticated and rejoice in life together with the God who created us all.

### Prayers for Healing:

Paula Milani, Marybeth Stull, James Wegscheid, Marylee Fithian, Bonnie Freese, Bev Crandall, Elaine Peterson, Maxene Schwanke, Liam B., neighbor of Michele Wegscheid, John Darling, Phyllis Killam, and Jan Falk, Sharon Keen's sister-in-law.

### Prayers for Comfort:

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

### Prayers for Those Who are Grieving:

The family and friends of Margaret Kersteter as they grieve her death. A livestreamed service will be held on Sunday, October 11 at 4:00 pm. The livestream link is [youtube.com/richfieldumc](https://youtube.com/richfieldumc).

### Worship Online

In-person worship and gatherings in the building are suspended through 2020 and we continue on an open-ended timeline. Read the latest information at [richfieldumc.org/statements](https://richfieldumc.org/statements).

### Campus and Administration

Campus is closed, including God’s Hands Thrift Store (no donations as this time, thank you).

Church staff is available by email or phone

[Rev. Nate Melcher](mailto:nate@richfieldumc.org), Senior Pastor | 612.399.6272

[Rev. Hope Bentley Hutchison](mailto:hope@richfieldumc.org), Director of Children and Family Ministries | 626.261.1429

[Catherine Mahler](mailto:catherine@richfieldumc.org), Caring For Children Director

[Garrett Johnson](mailto:garrett@richfieldumc.org), Youth Leader

[Pat Noonan](mailto:pat@richfieldumc.org), Facilities Coordinator

[Nancy Dierauer](mailto:nancy@richfieldumc.org), Organist/Music Director

[Kay Bergeland RN](mailto:kay@richfieldumc.org), Parish Nurse

[Paige Armstrong-Hetterick](mailto:paige@richfieldumc.org), Chancel Choir Director

[Victor Zupanc](mailto:victor@richfieldumc.org), Living Waters Worship Coordinator

[Kathy Gertsema](mailto:kathy@richfieldumc.org), Business and Administration Coordinator

[Linda Schmidt](mailto:linda@richfieldumc.org), Program and Communications Coordinator

## Connect as Richfield UMC

All gathering happen through Zoom online video conferencing unless otherwise noted.

### Today

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**10:45 am | Children's Sunday School**  
Contact [Rev. Hope Hutchison](#)

**4:00 pm | Youth Group**  
Contact [Garrett Johnson](#)

### This Week

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**8:05 am | Early Bird Bible Study**  
Meeting ID: 896-7653-5596, Passcode: 5835  
Led by Pastor Nate, read and discuss the scripture for the upcoming worship service. This is a "drop-in," show up when you can, study.

**7:00 pm | Anti Racism Online Book**  
"I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness" by Austin Channing Brown  
This is an open group. Join us when you can. Click this [video conferencing link](#) to join.

### Coming Up

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**Tuesdays October 6 through 27, 7:00 pm | worship Leader Boot Camp**  
Meeting ID: 819-9039-0338, Passcode: 5835  
Practice writing prayers and reading parts to give you confidence in your delivery and skill in your craft. Please RSVP to [Pastor Nate](#).

**Thurs., Oct. 8, 1:00 pm | Lunch and Learn Bird Migration with naturalist Stan Tekiela**  
Meeting ID: 871 6228 7476, Passcode: 5835

**Thursdays, Oct. 8–29, 7:00 pm | The Requiem Mass**  
Meeting ID: 813-5279-1898, Passcode: 5835  
A lecture series on the musical tradition of the Requiem Mass led by [Paige Armstrong](#).

**Sunday, October 25, 3:00-4:30 pm | Drive-Thru Trunk and Treat**  
An outdoor and socially distant event. You can help. Read more and [Sign-up here](#).

### Ongoing and Open

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**Tuesdays, 9:30 am | Women's Bible Study**  
Contact [Molly Reko](#) to get connected.

**Wednesdays, 9:00 am | Men's Bible Study**  
Contact [Kent Johnson](#) to get connected.

**Saturdays, 8:30 am | Men's Support Group**  
Contact [Kent Johnson](#) to get connected.

**Saturdays, 10:30 am | Brené Brown Study**  
Contact [Gail Johnson](#) to get connected.



### Check-In

Help your church track online worship trends, thank you. [richfieldumc.org/hereiam](http://richfieldumc.org/hereiam)



### Worship by Touch Tone Phone

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.



### Latest from Richfield UMC

Weekly announcements, events, worship preparation, and reflection, [sign up](#).



### Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is available from the clergy team, Parish Nurse, and care ministry volunteers. You don't have to go through times of sickness, loneliness, or hurt alone. If you need prayer or other pastoral care, please contact [Kay Bergeland](#).

### Worshipping from Home

**Prepare your worship space with care and delight.**

Download or print a bulletin and safely light a candle or lamp. Find more tips at [richfieldumc.org/live](http://richfieldumc.org/live).

### Your generous gift

supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church. [richfieldumc.org/give](http://richfieldumc.org/give)

**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).

For more help, reach out: [worshiptech@richfieldumc.org](mailto:worshiptech@richfieldumc.org).

### Permissions and Acknowledgements

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